

**DE KALB COUNTY, INDIANA  
1920 HISTORY**

**by**

**W. H. McIntosh**

**plus**

**Biographies from  
History of Northeast Indiana**

**Lewis Publishing Co.**

**New Index**







DEKALB  
HISTORY  
COUNTY  
1920  
418

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NORTHWEST TERRITORY

DE KALB COUNTY  
FROM  
HISTORY OF  
NORTHEAST INDIANA

This reprint includes DeKalb County History Section  
*plus all Biographical Sketches from*  
*LaGRANGE, STEUBEN, NOBLE AND*  
*DeKALB COUNTIES*

Under the Editorial Supervision of

IRA FORD  
LaGrange County

Also

ORVILLE STEVENS  
Steuben County

WILLIAM H. McEWEN  
Noble County

WILLIAM H. McINTOSH  
DeKalb County

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Index to DeKalb County Biographies

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ILLUSTRATED

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## PREFACE

All life and achievement is evolution; present wisdom comes from past experience, and present commercial prosperity has come only from past exertion and suffering. The deeds and motives of the men who have gone before have been instrumental in shaping the destinies of later communities and states. The development of a new country was at once a task, as well as a high privilege. It required great courage, sacrifice and privation. Compare the present conditions of the residents of Northeast Indiana—La Grange, Steuben, Noble and De Kalb counties—with what they were ninety years ago. From a trackless wilderness of mixed forest and prairie it has come to be the center of a fertile and truly beautiful garden spot of civilized life and culture, with millions of wealth teaming on every hand, systems of intersecting railroads forming a complete net-work covering the whole domain included in the four counties of which this historical work will treat. No reasonable, thinking person can be insensible to the fascination of the study which discloses the incentives, hopes, aspirations and efforts of the early pioneers who so strongly laid the foundation upon which has been reared the magnificent prosperity of later days. To perpetuate the story of these people and to trace and record the social, political and industrial progress of the community from its first inception is the function of the local historian. A sincere purpose to preserve facts and personal memoirs that are deserving of preservation, and which unite the present to the past, is the motive for the present publication. This work has been in the hands of experienced and able writers, who have, after much toil and careful research, produced here the most complete historical record that Northeastern Indiana has ever had compiled.

The publishers desire to extend their thanks to the numerous authors of local and state histories from which our editors have taken the liberty to freely quote, and also to the local supervising editors, Messrs. Ira Ford, La Grange County; Orville Stevens, Steuben County; William H. McEwen, Noble County and William H. McIntosh, De Kalb County, together with the Advisory Boards of the four counties included in this work. To each and all, the publishers are indebted for excellent service in the preparation and revision of manuscripts entering into this work. The local newspaper press, in the various towns and villages, have been ever ready to aid our historical writers, and given us free access to their files whenever requested.

A specially valuable and interesting department is that one devoted to the sketches of representative citizens of these four counties whose records deserve perpetuation because of their worth, effort and accomplishment. Every biographical sketch in the work has been submitted to the party interested, for correction, and therefore any error of fact if there be any, is solely due to the person for whom the sketch was prepared. In placing the "History of Northeast Indiana," before the citizens, the publishers can conscientiously claim that they have carried out

the plan as outlined in the prospectus. Being confident that our efforts to please will fully meet the approbation of the public, we deliver to you our completed work—it is yours to read, appreciate and hand down to a later generation.

Respectfully,  
THE PUBLISHERS.

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## CHAPTER LXXIII

### EARLY SETTLEMENT

Not a century ago the lands now known as De Kalb County were an integral part of a primeval forest, hiding in its deep, somber shade a rich soil reserved for the coming of the pioneers of the generation of today. On every hand, in silent, gloomy grandeur, stood a noble growth of branching beech and majestic oak, of sugar maple and fragrant walnut, with elm, and poplar and tamarack, and many another representative of valuable timber, than which few other localities could make a finer showing, more pregnant with promise for the future. Vistas showed the fallen decaying trunks of trees that had had their day and lay blending their substance with the damp, mouldy soil, while in their season over them wild flowers bloomed unplucked, and about them wild game harbored or passed in their narrow time-worn paths.

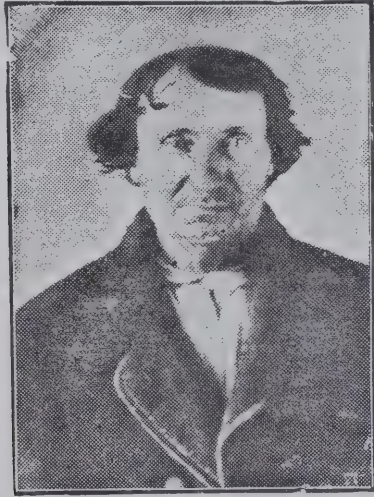
In this wilderness deer ran in droves and wild fowl darkened the air as in immense flocks they came and went. The lake, creek and river swarmed with fish, and in the swamps grew a profusion of berries. Nevertheless, ever westward from the Atlantic coast and overseas came the mighty resistless waves of migration and emigration of the boldest and the best of the families of the East and the Old World.

Early in the nineteenth century the tide had swept across Western New York and Pennsylvania, moved on over Ohio, and came into the new state that was given the name of Indiana. The avant courier and first settler in that territory then a component part of LaGrange and Allen counties, was John Houlton, who with his family located in section 1, Franklin Township, September 4, 1833, and thereon built his cabin and established his home.

Mr. Houlton was then a young man in his thirtieth year. He had been born in Highland County, Ohio, September 21, 1804, son of Samuel Houlton, a pioneer of that county and a soldier of the War of 1812. His early youth had been passed in the wilds of Ohio, with Indian boys and wild animals for his playmates. In 1827 he had come to Williams County, Ohio, to help his elder brother Samuel, and the latter's partner, Isaiah Hughes, build a saw mill on Fish Creek, near its confluence with the St. Joseph River, and for some time he worked in the mill after its erection. During those early years he had various adventures and suffered the usual hardships of pioneer life, including disagreeable experiences with drunken Indians. On February 5, 1833, John Houlton married Sarah Fee, who was born May 12, 1812. An incident of his early acquaintance with her was told by him many years afterwards in a letter to S. W. Widney, who had asked him for his reminiscences. As it illustrates one of the perils to which the pioneer settlers were exposed, and throws some light on his wife's family, the passage is here quoted.

"In the summer of 1831 Samuel Houlton sent me, and the Widow Fee sent her son, John Fee, with me, out to the prairies with two yoke of oxen and a large Pennsylvania wagon to buy a load of provisions. They let Moses Fee, a boy seven or eight years old, go with us. Before this Sarah and Cynthia Fee were working on the prairies to help support the

family, and the old lady sent word for the girls to come home. So we went out and got our load ready to return, when John Fee got a good chance to work awhile and accordingly stayed, leaving me and the girls and the little boy to get home through the woods and swamps, with the teams and wagon as best we could. We were three days and a half getting home, 'miring down' several times on the way. The road being narrow and very crooked, I got fast frequently against the trees, and finally told the girls that one of them would have to drive the forward cattle, so Sarah came and drove the team. As we were thus driving along we came to a dead cherry tree that had partly fallen and lodged on another tree. The wagon ran over one of the large roots of this dead tree, and it broke suddenly about fifty feet from the root. The top part fell back on the wagon, within about six inches of the heads of Cynthia and the boy, smashing the boy's hand severely. The body of the tree fell along the road in the direction in which we were driving. By suddenly throw-



FIRST SETTLER JOHN HOULTON

ing myself back I got barely out of its way and having screamed to Sarah when I first saw it coming, to run for life, she ran with all her speed, the top of the broken tree just brushing her head and clothes. Cynthia Fee married William Bender, and she and the little boy mentioned above are living within a few miles of me and are parents of large families."

In the spring of 1834 John Houlton set out the first orchard in De Kalb County, getting his trees in Constantine, Michigan. His wife Sarah died July 12, 1839, leaving three children: Samuel, who served in the Civil war in a Michigan regiment, was captured by the enemy and died in Libby prison; Margaret, who was the first female white child born in De Kalb County; and Sarah, named after her mother. Margaret married William H. Sleutz. In November, 1839, but a little more than four months after the death of his wife Sarah, if the dates given are correct, John Houlton married Nancy Lewis, daughter of Samuel Lewis, who settled in Williams County, Ohio, in April, 1834, and was the seventh settler on the St. Joseph. By her he had nine children, both sons and daughters, most, if not all of whom, grew to maturity and married. Mr. Houlton died in the old homestead, June 2, 1875. Though reared a Presbyterian, he had later joined the Disciples Church. He was a strict observer of the Sabbath and once refused to shoot at a flock of thirty wild

turkeys, which had strolled into his yard on that day, though urged by his wife to do so. It is said that he would not shoot deer, though he frequently hunted squirrels. His original cabin of round logs, one and a half stories high and twenty feet square, remained standing until 1860, when it was torn down, and the De Kalb County Pioneer Society had a number of canes made from its logs, presenting a cane to each purchaser whose settlement dated prior to 1841. His descendants hold periodical family reunions, the thirty-first of which, which was also the eighty-sixth anniversary of the first settlement of De Kalb County, being celebrated at M. K. Houlton's Grove, a part of the old homestead, in section 1, Franklin Township, on September 4, 1919.

In 1834 John Fee, brother-in-law of John Houlton, entered land to the amount of over 500 acres, partly in De Kalb and partly in Steuben County. He was soon followed by Charles Boyer, and later by Charles Crain, Luther Keep and Peter Boyer. On October 1, the same year, a party of eight pioneers entered Butler Township with a four-horse team and a wagon, having come by way of Fort Wayne. They were Peter Fair, with his sons, Abram and Charles; Charles F. Crouse, George De-long, and Andrus, Jacob and John Surface. It was their intention to select land and build cabins, and then, after returning to pass the winter in their old homes in Montgomery County, Ohio, to bring on their families in the spring. This plan they followed, taking back to Ohio with them twenty-one gallons of honey which they had found partly in a hollow tree on Black Creek, and partly in other "bee trees."

In the following year, 1835, other settlers entered the county, entering land in different locations, and soon the work of brush burning, log rolling, rail splitting and cabin raising was under full way. Here and there, though still at wide intervals, clearings were met with, and the sharp staccatto sound of the pioneer's axe was heard in the forest, accompanied by the frequent crash of a falling tree—the first notes in the grand symphony of human progress and achievement mingling with the wilder music of nature, until then all dominant.

Previous to 1836 the white residents within the area now known as De Kalb County, were: Homer Blake, below Spencerville; David Butler, Samuel Wasson, John Matthews; Mr. Yates, near Spencerville; Mr. Rhodes and sons; Jeremiah Rhodes; Mr. Brandt and Crannel Rood, also near Spencerville; William, George and David Matthews; Mr. Lytle and Jared Ball near Orangeville; Washington Robinson on the present site of Newville, and William Rogers and Jacob Platter, near Newville.

In 1835 came also John Blair, who entered land that now forms the site of the east part of St. Joe. The Blairs were the tenth family to settle in De Kalb County, and the total population of men, women and children was then thirty-nine. The youngest member of the family was William L., then four years old, he having been born in Portage County, Ohio, November 27, 1831. He grew to a vigorous and useful manhood, and was twice married. His first wife died in 1899, forty years after their marriage, leaving two children; Mrs. Lens Corcoran, of Battle Creek, Michigan, and Corwin E. Blair, of Gary. Mr. Blair was a second time married in 1901, and resided on a thirty acre tract south of Butler. He finally passed away at an advanced age, widely known and universally respected.

In the early part of 1836 Charles Wilber and William Burley settled near Orangeville. Joseph Ludwig also arrived, as also did Judge Walden and Ariel Rood, who went further up the river. In the latter part of the year came Judge Samuel Widney, who took land in Concord Township. John P. Widney, Doctor Babcock, Benjamin Alton, the Campbellite



preacher, and Asher Coburn and relatives. During the same season Wesley Park settled on the site of Auburn and laid out the town.

There is no better way of gaining a clear and comprehensive knowledge of the purpose which animated the early settlers of this county, the obstacles they encountered and the hardships they had to endure, together with the indomitable will, courage and patience whereby they won success, than to glance at the career of a typical pioneer. Such a one may be found in James R. Cosper.

James and Mary Cosper came to Chesterville, Knox County, Ohio, from Rochester, New York, in 1835, in the full hopefulness and vigor of early years, for he was only twenty-two years of age and his girl wife was but sixteen. With them and later came relatives on both sides, but from the first James Cosper took and kept an acknowledged leadership. He had learned the carpenter's and joiner's trade, and on coming to Chesterville at once found work in his line, and as employer of labor was of help to others. A report of the probable advantages offered in the new village of Auburn, De Kalb County, Indiana, and the opportunity to own a quarter section of farm land, decided Cosper to go there and cast his fortunes with the pioneers of the county seat. It was in February, 1841, that he left Chesterville for his distant Indiana goal. Such articles as could be had and were sure to be needed were got together, both of goods and provisions. One Enos Gyres was hired with his horses and wagon to take himself and party through. The party consisted of four persons, Cosper, his father David, a veteran of 1812, his wife, Mary, and his son Saxby, a boy of two years. The journey was successful in its early stages, but when they came to the Black Swamp on the western border of Ohio, some trouble was experienced, but promptly met by the immigrant. Shortly after they had entered the swamp snow began falling and continued to fall through the afternoon of that day. Cosper and his father David were walking along behind the wagon when several hogs came from the woods into the road behind them and grouped themselves on the track. It was seen that one of the hogs had in his mouth the skirt of a broadcloth coat which he was savagely trying to tear in pieces. There was natural surmise as to whom the garment belonged and how it had come into the swine's possession. A mile's farther travel brought the party to Bair's tavern, and here lodging for the night was accorded. All night the snow had been falling and the morning showed no cessation. It had become so deep that further progress on wheels had become impracticable. Now, as on many subsequent occasions, when difficulty came up, Cosper proved the man for the hour. While his little family was temporarily housed in the tavern, he made a sled upon which the wagon bed was placed, and it was then loaded with their goods and supplies. The journey was resumed till during a stop at Defiance one of the horses became disabled by a kick and brought the sled to a stand. It was then that the spirit of helpfulness and kindness was shown in the offer by a settler on Big Run, Gorrill by name, to put in his horse with the other. Gorrill was on his return from a trip east, and hitched in his horse, and so they came on via Clarksville, where the use of the horse was loaned to return for the wagon. Auburn was reached February 13th, the party having been nine days on the journey from Chesterville. They stopped at the tavern of Thomas Freeman, and were met by O. A. Parsons, who had care of the home of J. F. Coburn, who had lost his wife and had gone on a visit to his home in Ohio. Parsons gave Cosper the key and directed the family to the house, in which was all Coburn's furniture, to the use of which they were made welcome.

The afternoon of February 22d Coburn returned with his son, and was pleased to find his home occupied. He took board at ten cents a

meal, commencing with supper, and so on the start the interdependence of settlers was shown and the substitution of exchange for cash. Health, strength and skill were invaluable to the family and were promptly made available. Cosper began work for Wesley Park, building a home at \$1.50 a day. He was associated with David Shoemaker in construction of a kitchen, and on April 9 the work was done, and the credit for cash was \$22.87. Meanwhile he was charged with 243 pounds of flour, and Curn's board bill for three weeks was \$5.25. There was little money and little passed. Common labor was \$1.00 a day. Silver was scarce, gold a rarity, and bank notes good one day and subject to varying discount finally or entirely worthless. It did not pay to keep such paper, and it was sensible to pay it out as soon as possible. Many a debt was never paid. Some of this was from intention, but largely of necessity. People met losses like sickness with composure and lived on trusting to better fortune in the future.

The versatility of the carpenter was shown by the character of his work. What wide range! From building fences to dwellings, store buildings and meeting-houses Cosper had been busy back in Ohio. The sums realized were small. He was busy at Auburn. He had built barns, stables, houses, shops, stores and mills, and his work was well done. Working upon a combined saw and gristmill, his earnings were \$1,157.16. This enterprise turned to good account an abundant water-power on a stream easily dammed at slight cost. For building homes his contracts ranged from \$130 to \$312. So was revealed the poverty of owner and occupant. If one thing was rudely crude, so was another. Tools and acres were in harmony. Homespun and corduroy were common. Sales of corn by some pioneer Joseph from his bins showed how every available article in demand had found intelligent anticipation. Skill in carpentry exacted surprise and admiration. Given axe, saw, square, chisel and plane, Cosper worked wonders. Substantial sash and frames were made for windows, weather boarding was planed and good furniture made. He spliced eaves, troughs, shingled roofs, and made doors for cellars.

Wesley Park was a public benefactor. He was the right man for the founder of a city. The best wishes and heartiest cooperation of villages was his right and their duty. It was bad feeling to pull down or disparage the employers by those who sold their labor.

David Cosper bought lot 67, O. P. Auburn, of Thomas Warner, of Ohio, and traded a gold watch on two others to A. and C. Alford, who had bought homes entered in the plat of the village and owned a large number of lots. David Cosper was a soldier of 1812, wounded in a leg in action. He was given a pension of \$8 a month—a full allowance for that time and long after. The relations existing between father and son were intimate and pleasant. When James bought his land four miles east of Auburn, the father bought a mile farther east. His home was humble and comfortable, and there his long life was passed, devoid of care and interested in horticulture. His orchard was the finest, his fruit the best in the county. At his death the white soul of a patriot passed from earth to heaven.

April passed and it was May. Cosper had raised and enclosed Park's house. He put up a cabin on the lot of his father and the family moved in. Here Ann J. Cosper was born in September, and the family of four knew much of hardship. A census of the village taken in October showed seventy-two inhabitants all told. Sickness was an epidemic. L. Ingram and Cosper's daughter were the only well ones in the place. Of supplies brought from Chesterville all came serviceable, but nothing more so than a ten gallon wooden churn full of dried fruit. A barrel

of meat and a bag of coffee came at once into use, as housekeeping was begun. The fruit was a delicacy of great value to the sick, and was freely given them.

In November Cosper moved out to his farm into a log house, well planned and adapted to use. In December, 1841, and January, 1842, he was one of a number of carpenters employed by A. P. Edgerton, agent for the two Hicks brothers of New York, to rebuild a grist and sawmill at Hicksville, Ohio. The mill was of large size timbers and the timbers were very heavy. When this was being done Cosper went from home the first of the week and left for work on the early Monday. During his absence Mary Cosper herself cared for her rude home and little family. Many the lonely night hour. To her the life of the lonely pioneer settler was known in all its varied phases. Cosper built a barn for one Abbott, took a yoke of oxen in payment, and these came most useful in clearing up and putting in crops. A rifle hung in place in the house, and in its use Cosper was an expert. Deer were numerous and crops were in danger from their feeding, and both from this reason and the value of the venison and the pelts, many a fine deer was killed and the carcass put up beyond the reach of wolves till it could be brought home. The forest brought considerable help to the settler in supplying his meat.

The weather in 1843 was very severe; wild animals suffered extremely. Turkeys and deer froze to death, and Cosper, out hunting for a bee tree, came upon the partially devoured carcasses of nine deer.

Sunday schools were interesting in early days, and their conduct was much unlike the present. Verses were memorized, and to incite emulation, prizes were offered. In 1849 Ann Cosper, a child of eight years, a member of a class of Union Chapel, on a single Sunday, recited 300 verses and won the prize over all competition.

Methods of labor were primitive. Strength and skill were valued. There was no hoarding of flour and groceries. There was no money on deposit to run the risk of failure and loss. Flour was more to be desired than silver and gold, and flour was a legal tender that no one ever refused. Moderation in ruling prices was advantageous to all, the hand as well as the employer. A dollar went a good ways. Boarding was \$1.25 a week, \$2.50 was paid for four days in haying, and the charge for the use of a wagon for two days was fifty cents.

Mr. Cosper was located on a traveled road, and partly from necessity, provided occasional entertainment for travelers over night. July 18, 1851, a mail contract was closed. The mail carriers were Miller and Sprague. The price paid for carrying mail was fifty cents per night, seventy-five cents per day. The gain was small, the convenience great, and the advertisement was valuable. It was of advantage to be widely known as enterprising and public spirited. The quantity of mail carried was not burdensome. Letters were few. Postage was a quarter dollar payable by recipient. Few newspapers were taken. After all, conversation took evening hours. Stories of the most startling character were ideally related, not read by installment as now. Woodbury and Watkins of Auburn bought up cattle and drove them through when they had a sufficient herd to an eastern market. They meanwhile pastured them with some farmer favorably circumstanced. Mr. Cosper sold them hay in August, 1852, and during September and October took in the aggregate fifty-six head to pasture temporarily at a shilling per head a week. To corral stock and protect crops rail fencing was necessary. To turn the original furrow, breaking plows were in demand. The wedge and the maul were the equipment of the rail splitter, and a half dozen yoke of oxen were hitched to the plow, which cut roots as



the trip hammer breaks the iron bar. How varied the carpenter's work; one day he forms a handle for a saw, and on another he is employed for a nominal price to make a coffin. Burials did not cost as now. The sober-faced undertaker does the necessary work, and flowers take the place of tears. The hoe was indispensable in planting and tilling of corn. Plow and drag turned and leveled the furrows for grain crop, and when came the harvest time, the yellow fields of wheat, oats and barley were cut by cradles, bound and shocked ready to haul in. Barns were filled, stacks built, and so the farmer's work went on with little intermission so long as the weather permitted outdoor work.

The difficulties of the pioneer commenced, as a rule, almost as soon as he turned his back on the old home and began his western pilgrimage. Not only was the dense forest a serious and increasing obstacle during his journey, but numerous rivers and streams interposed themselves between him and his distant goal. The bridges, if any existed, were of the rudest kind, and generally fording places had to be sought for, except when their location was indicated by the direction of the trail or wagon path roughly marked out through the wilderness. Swamps abounded, and, unless a feasible road or path had been discovered or constructed across them, obliged the pioneer to go some distance out of his way in order to skirt their borders. Occasionally, when flowing in the right direction, the streams were made use of for transportation purposes, but the navigation at certain seasons of the year was difficult and precarious, and accidents were not uncommon. For this water transit large canoes, called pirogues, were used, particularly on the St. Joseph River, which was used as a waterway by many of the settlers who came by way of Fort Wayne. These pirogues, which were cut and fashioned from the huge poplars which abounded along the river bank, were sometimes seventy or eighty feet long and three or four feet wide, and were propelled by means of poles and paddles. Judge Widney, who came to De Kalb County from Central Pennsylvania, made the trip from Fort Wayne on horseback along the Indian trail, which followed the river. He was accompanied in this mode of travel by his wife, but the other members of his family, in care of John P. Widney and wife, came in the pirogue of Judge Walden and Thomas Gorrell, who had come down for provisions, Fort Wayne being the nearest and only practicable market. When the party had arrived in the vicinity of David Butler's home, the pirogue capsized, and its occupants, with their goods were thrown into the stream. Fortunately the water was but three or four feet deep, and all were rescued, together with the luggage, though one trunk, containing a considerable quantity of money, drifted down stream a mile before it was recovered.

But if the difficulties met with by the pioneer in making his way into this county were great, they were usually exceeded by those which he experienced after making his settlement. Food was scarce and hard to procure. In 1836 flour was \$14 a barrel at Fort Wayne and of poor quality; corn was \$1 a bushel in the ear and much of it rotten; salt was \$2.25 a bushel, with other necessities in proportion. Sometimes a family would be reduced to semi-starvation, living for weeks on potatoes, wheat, bran, and, it is said, even on birch bark, with milk. Mills were far distant and practically inaccessible, and most families ground their own corn by means of a home-made mortar and pestle, the mortar being cut from a suitable log and hollowed out by fire with the aid of an auger. The first gristmill in the county was built by William Matthews on Bear Creek in Concord Township. It was a very small and primitive affair, and very slow and imperfect in its operation, its capacity being about eight bushels of corn in twenty-four hours. The crash



of banks in 1837 and 1838 was severely felt and increased the difficulty of procuring food and raiment.

Sickness, too, was common, especially malaria, and accidents were not infrequent, with the nearest physician perhaps twenty miles away. But in spite of these drawbacks some progress was made. The physical wants were first provided for, as was essential, but soon religion and education made their claims felt. Prayer meetings, indeed, had been held from the first and attended by the religiously inclined without distinction of denomination, and in the fall of 1836, Benjamin Alton, who belonged to the sect of Campbellites or Disciples, preached, it is said, the first sermon. In the next year Methodist meetings were held and well attended. The first schoolhouses seem to have been constructed a little later, but it is not unlikely that instruction may have been given the children in some dwelling house before the first of them was erected. That early action was taken may be inferred from the fact that Wesley Park was appointed school commissioner in November, 1837.

Among the noted religious workers in early days was Elder Stephen B. Ward, who, with his wife, was among the first members of the Baptist Church organized in Wilmington Township in 1844. He subsequently succeeded the Reverend Meade in pastoral care of the church. In 1852 he became a member of the newly organized Baptist Church in Auburn, which drew away many members from the Wilmington congregation. He became the first pastor of the church, being succeeded by Elder A. Town. The latter, removing west, took with him a large number of members, which resulted in a suspension of church work and finally to the disbanding of the church.

Alpheus Wheelock was a notable representative of early contractors. His handiwork is yet in evidence in durable bridge construction, not only in De Kalb County, but elsewhere in Indiana and other states. One of the first of De Kalb County's prominent citizens to engage in works of public character, he was the builder of the recently razed court house, and for a time had a monopoly of bridging in the county. He was born at Rome, New York, September 16, 1828, and his youth was largely passed in the mills located upon the banks of the Genessee, where close study of kind and quality of timber was of advantage to him when in 1847 he had married and removed to Coburg, Canada, where he was occupied in the selection of logs for his father's mills. The call of the wild induced him to come West in 1855, and he located near Lintz Lake, Richland Township, De Kalb County, and there, with others, built and operated a steam lumber mill. During the Civil war he was one of eight officers commissioned by Governor O. P. Morton to enroll such as were of age to perform military duty in preparation for drafting, and of those men who performed their difficult duty faithfully, he was the last survivor, and himself died in Auburn at the home of a daughter, Mrs. Clara Showalter, on April 4, 1913, at the advanced age of eighty-four years.

The Indians in De Kalb County at the time the first white settlers arrived here, were chiefly a degraded remnant of the once noted tribes of the Pottawatomes and Miamis. These local aborigines had taken no part in the Black Hawk war of 1832, but their indolence, intemperate habits, and dependence upon their neighbors for the bread of life, due in some degree to their diminished prospects of living by the chase, made their continued presence a nuisance, which was relieved to a large extent when the Pottawatomes were removed in 1837-38 to a reservation west of the Mississippi. But though they never proved really dangerous to the settlers, the latter, especially the newcomers and the women and children, were sometimes in fear of them, and often at night mis-

took the screams of the large owls, which were abundant in the woods, for the war whoops of the savages. On those occasions, however, when the once noble Red Man had been able to procure liquor from some unscrupulous trader, or to beg or steal it, he was capable of putting the owls to the blush in the way of noisy demonstration, though such occasions never in this county resulted in any serious outbreak.

A more annoying foe of the pioneer in this county was the wolf, which existed in considerable quantities and proved a menace to stock, especially sheep, though no attacks on human beings by this predaceous animal were ever reported here. To combat this nuisance, in 1840 initial measures were taken to destroy wolves by the offer of a bounty of \$2 a scalp for each wolf over six months old, and \$1 for each one under that age. The expected hunters were required to produce the scalps before a justice of the peace and to swear that they were the individual cause of the death of the wolves, that they were killed within the immediate bounds of the county, and that they had not spared a she wolf when it was in their power to destroy her. The justice then destroyed the scalps and issued certificates of presentation, which certificates, brought before the commissioners, were valid authority for bounty. Something over \$50 was paid out in 1841 to the Goetschins brothers, James and Dewitt, John Matthews, Elias Smith, Samuel Warren and Lyman Holbrook. From 1842 to 1849 about \$285 was paid in bounties, the largest amount in any one year being \$171.62 in 1849. After that date it became possible to raise sheep, and not until later years did that domestic wolf, the dog, become a menace to sheep raising. The bounty of early years later became a tax, and the surplus fund, after paying for all sheep killed, was paid to the county treasurer and by the auditor apportioned to townships as school revenue. Wolf hunting was a lucrative business and called into action the best skill in the county.

The black bear was also occasionally seen, as also were the "panther" (*Felis concolor*), and two species of wild cat, but had practically disappeared by 1850, as also had the porcupine. The gray fox remained longer, but was only occasionally seen, while the red fox disappeared at an early date. Deer were numerous, and there was evidence that the beaver had once inhabited this region, but it had practically disappeared before the arrival of the first white settlers. Minks, weasels and skunks were once common, but the demand for their furs resulted in their early extermination in the county. Domestic hogs often escaped in pioneer times, and taking to the woods became wild and savage, but the extension of the settlements finally put an end to them. A few of the smaller animals, such as squirrels, are still with us, and there is a considerable variety of birds. As there are no large lakes or streams in the county, the number and variety of fishes are limited, and those are small and of very common varieties. The few reptiles still remaining are harmless and often useful.

In pioneer days no opprobrium was attached to the moderate use of intoxicating liquors. Whiskey, the most easily procured among the stronger liquors, was taken both medicinally and as a beverage. As in more recent times, over-indulgence was characteristic of some individuals, and it is said that one, if not more, of the early judges was occasionally seen "under the influence" while on the bench. For a short time, indeed, the county itself engaged in the trade, for special purposes, as there is a record that in 1855 Valentine Weaver, a druggist of Auburn, was appointed agent for Union Township for the purchase of pure and unadulterated spirituous and intoxicating liquors, and for the sale of these for medicinal, chemical and mechanical use only. Also,

pure wine was to be bought and sold for sacramental use. Mr. Weaver was authorized to invest \$1,000 of his own funds, on which the board was to allow legal interest, and he was to serve as such agent for one year. That the people of the county might share in whatever advantages the novel procedure offered, sub agencies were established in Richland Township, Uniontown, Norriston, Spencerville, Newville and Fairfield Center. The sub-agents were to obtain their stock of liquor at cost prices. The following is a financial exhibit. The first quarterly report gives:

Investment, \$1,114.65; sales, \$432.03; on hand, \$682.62. Profits, \$86.40. The expenses were: Interest and freight, \$10.78; purchasing, \$20.03; leakage, \$9.20; allowance, \$36.39; paid into treasury balance, \$10.00. In March the commissioners settled by allowing Mr. Weaver \$475 of a bill for \$534.34 claimed, and so ended county sales of liquors.

In the winter of 1836-37 the state Legislature passed the act to organize De Kalb County, a portion of which territory had been previously attached politically to LaGrange and a portion to Allen County. Courts were established, officers elected, townships laid out, and the machinery of orderly government set in motion. Wesley Park, the founder of Auburn, the county seat, had been appointed sheriff, and his home was used for a while as court house and jail; also as a hotel and church, in addition to its domestic functions. This made it a place of general resort.



## CHAPTER LXXIV

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT

The Legislative act passed in the winter of 1836-37, organizing De Kalb County, named the boundaries of the county as follows: "Beginning at the southwest corner of township 33 north of range 12 east, thence east to the east line of the state, thence north with the state line dividing townships 35 and 36, thence west to the line dividing range 11 and 12, thence south to the place of beginning. The county was named De Kalb in honor of Baron De Kalb, a German noble who came to this country to espouse the cause of the colonists in the Revolutionary war, aided Washington to drill and train the American army, and who fell at the battle of Camden, South Carolina, August 6, 1780. The length of the county from east to west is twenty and one-half miles, and from north to south eighteen miles. When organized it had a population of nearly 1,000. It is a part of the twelfth congressional district. De Kalb and Steuben counties constitute the tenth judicial district. As elsewhere narrated, the competition for the location of the county seat resulted in the selection of Auburn, the site of which had been chosen by Wesley Park.

The organization of De Kalb County was not perfected until the latter part of the year 1837, but the first election was held in July, when the river settlers voted at the home of Washington Robinson, at Vienna, later called Newville. Three county commissioners, two associate judges, a clerk and a recorder were to be elected. The first meeting of the commissioners took place July 25, at the house of Wesley Park, when Peter Fair and Samuel Widney were the two present. The first official act of the board was to appoint Wesley Park clerk pro tem, also county treasurer. Byron Bunnell was made county agent, John Blair assessor, and Lancelot Ingman collector of taxes. Franklin Township, the first township in De Kalb County was then set off, as follows: "Commencing at the northeast corner of said county; thence west to the corners of ranges 13 and 14 east, townships 35 and 36 north; then south six miles to township 34 north, ranges 13 and 14 east; thence east on the town line to the east line of the said county; thence north to the place of beginning." An election was to be held the first Monday in August following, with Peter Boyer for inspector, Isaac T. Aldrich constable, and John Houlton supervisor.

In addition to Samuel Widney and Peter Fair, Isaac F. Beecher had been appointed county commissioner; Arial Waldon and Thomas L. Yates, judges of the court, and John F. Coburn, clerk and recorder. Judge Yates, who was a somewhat eccentric character wore a coarse hunting-shirt and fox-skin cap when he took his seat on the bench, but for all that made an excellent judge.

The second, but first "regular" session, was held at the same place, September 4, 1837, with a full board present, but an adjournment was taken until the next day, when Samuel Eakwright was chosen road commissioner for the county. It was then ordered that "congressional

township 34 north, range 13 east, be organized as a township for judicial purposes, to be known by the name of Union Township and that townships 34 and 35 north, range 12 east, and townships 33 and 35 north, range 13 east, be attached thereto." Wesley Park was appointed supervisor for road district number one, comprising the above mentioned territory. Wilmington Township, comprising "congressional township 34 north, range 14 east," was organized, with Byron Bunnel as supervisor; and also Butler Township, described as "congressional township 33 north, range 12 east," with Andrew Surface as supervisor. Money was also appropriated for the current expenses of the county, incurred chiefly in the laying out of the Fort Wayne and Coldwater and the Goshen and Defiance state roads. Joseph Miller was appointed the first county surveyor. At the second regular session of the board, in November, Wesley Park was appointed school commissioner for the county.

It was in the fall of 1837 that the regular organization of De Kalb County was completed, and a township called De Kalb created, which



COURT HOUSE, AUBURN

included the present township of Concord, and the two fractional townships of Stafford and Newville. These two fractional townships, together with Troy (then part of Wilmington), were the result of a compromise at the time the boundary line between Ohio and Indiana was established. Stafford was soon detached and temporarily added to Wilmington, while the name of Concord was substituted for De Kalb.

Jackson Township, comprising government township 33 north, range 13 east, was erected in January, 1838, John Watson being named inspector of elections. License laws were established, that for a tavern being \$20. The license for selling wooden clocks was \$60, which would seem to have been intended to discourage the enterprising Yankee peddlers, the quality of whose wares may not always have corresponded with the claims of the vendors. In those days nearly all business men were required to pay licenses according to the nature of the business and the amount of the capital invested. About this time Wesley Park resigned the office of school commissioner, for what cause does not appear. His successor was Robert Work.

At the May session, 1838, the sum of \$2,000 was appropriated for roads, several bridges were ordered built, and the bond for each con-

stable fixed at \$500. The poll tax for 1838 was 75 cents, and the property tax, \$1.35 on each \$100 valuation. Of this, 85 cents was for county revenue and 50 cents for road purposes. Steps were also taken for the construction of a jail, the funds to be procured by the sale of county lots which had been deeded to the county by Wesley Park for that purpose. Byron Bunnel, county agent, was given charge of the work, but having been accused of selling the lots at too low a price and contracting debts before having the money to settle them, he was dismissed by the board, and Thomas J. Freeman appointed in his place. All orders for selling town lots and building a jail were rescinded, and the matter was placed on a new basis by the appointment of Freeman, Wesley Park and Nelson Payne as a building committee for the jail. According to the original plans, it was to consist of one ground room, sixteen feet square inside of the walls, the floor timbers being a foot thick, and the inside wall eight feet high. It was to have a shingle roof and be lighted by one four-light window of eight by ten glass. It was to be secured by iron grates of inch-square bars running at right angles, three inches apart. The jail was completed on time and was used for the purpose designed for about twelve years.

In the fall of 1851, Miles Waterman, county auditor, invited proposals for the building and furnishing of a new jail for De Kalb County, and in December the contract was let to Jefferson Wallace. The building was completed and accepted in December, 1852. It was designed by B. G. Cosgrove, and was a strong building with close, dungeon-like cells. Among the notorious criminals confined in it was Mrs. Knapp, who had brutally murdered her husband, and who created a sensation by a desperate attempt at suicide, making use of the Japanese method of hari kari. Though she actually cut out a portion of an intestine, she survived and lived for some years afterwards. At the June term of 1854 Auburn was granted the privilege of using the county jail as a calaboose when not otherwise in use.

#### THE REGULATORS

The records of De Kalb County Circuit Court for 1858 voice the existence of organized bands of law breakers and a lowered tone of public morality. Case after case of larceny, forgery, and concealment of stolen goods occupied the attention of his honer, Reuben J. Dawson, and fully a score of applications for divorce disclose the baneful influences existing in the community. The crime center was in LaGrange and Noble counties, but the ramifications of lawless men extended through De Kalb County, and for a time the community suffered inactive. To larceny was added arson, horse stealing, passing bad money, robbery, and finally murder.

As early as 1842 William Mitchell and Asa Brown, of Noble County, took the lead in efforts to bring offenders to justice, and secured the arrest of one George T. Ulmer, who was tried in 1858 and given his deserts in the penitentiary. The activity of Messrs. Brown and Mitchell was repaid by the burning of their barns. Following this crime a meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a society for the apprehension of the felons. At this meeting were present Ulmer and others of like character, who posed as the friends of law and order, and endorsed the objects of the society. But it was seen that offenders grew bolder and only by secret organization could the community protect itself and attack the assailants to advantage.

In 1852 an act was passed by the General Assembly legalizing the formation of associations in bodies of not less than ten, nor more than



100, for the purpose of detecting and apprehending felons. In September, 1856, the first organization under the statute in Northern Indiana was effected by a company known as the LaGrange County Rangers, and a public demonstration and grand parade were held at Kendallville, January 16, 1858. About 300 men, all on horseback, moved down in majestic strength through the streets of the town, bearing mottoes and banners one of which displayed a painting representing the capture of a criminal, with the words inscribed over the scene, "No expense to the county." After the parade a meeting was held on the common near the Baptist Church, where several speeches were made, and the determination of the society to run down and punish criminals boldly announced. On January 17, James McConnell, at the head of a band of Noble County regulators, arrested at Rome nine persons, namely: Miles C. Payne, G. McDoughle, Sol Stout, Malcolm Burnham, Davis, French, Joseph Hall, William Hall and E. Kester. These persons were taken to Ligonier and placed in the custody of officers of the committee to await examination. Some of them were released for lack of evidence, the others being placed in charge of the authorities to be dealt with according to law. E. Kester confessed to theft and implicated Ulmer with keeping stolen horses and passing counterfeit money. His statements were valuable chiefly from their relation to other and more dangerous criminals.

The worst of these was Gregory McDougal, who on the night of January 25, made confession, whether voluntary or by compulsion, and was placed under secure guard while a committee of five men was appointed to examine witnesses and make final disposition of his case. This committee found unmistakably proof that the prisoner had committed murder, and recommended that at 2 P. M., January 26, 1858, he be hung by the neck until dead. He was ably defended by counsel before this strange tribunal and great excitement prevailed in the town, orators making public speeches both for and against the decision. The people were plainly divided in opinion, but those who clamored for the death sentence appeared the more violent. To settle the terrible question a vote by mass was finally taken, it being agreed that those who favored the execution should fall back to one side of the street, while those who favored mercy should stand on the other. A careful inspection up and down the line showed that more were in favor of hanging than for a regular trial before a legal court. McDougal was then put in a wagon, and, followed by the regulators and a vast number of people, was taken out to Diamond Lake, about four miles on the road from Ligonier to Albion, and there hanged to a tree.

It may be said that before his execution he rose calm and with self possession confessed to the theft of many horses, justified the committee and hoped that "they will succeed in their undertaking and sort out all thieving, coining, counterfeiting and horse stealing."

Malcolm Burnam, another of the party arrested, criminated others. Wright at Fairfield Center, De Kalb County, was robbed of goods, according to his testimony, by two men, McCoy and Charles Smith. The goods were taken to Hall's corners, four miles east of LaGrange, to a tavern kept by Drake and Woodward, whom he charged with dealing in stolen goods and horses. Burnam was sent to the penitentiary for a term of two years. Miles C. Payne turned state's evidence, and his disclosures were of a startling character. He became a detective for the regulators and by his zeal in bringing to justice his former associates won the confidence of the committee. He confessed to having stolen thirty-six horses, large quantities of goods, and to having dealt to a large extent in counterfeit money.

After many arrests had been made, the leaders had not been taken,

and to share in the responsibility and add to the chances of their apprehension, a central committee was organized and the people were encouraged to form companies in different sections of the county. At Auburn, January 4, 1858, a Horsethief Detecting Society was formed, which was followed by the organization of the Union Regulators, the Richland Rangers, the Fairfield Protectors, and the Stafford Mutual Protection Society, with perhaps others, including many of the leading men in the county.

George T. Ulmer emigrated in 1835 from Ohio to Noble County, and settled on a farm near the present Town of Kendalville. In 1843 he returned to Ohio and appeared in the character of a religious exhorter. Afterward he came to LaGrange County, this state, and as a well to do farmer, was a secret ally of the blacklegs. When the regulators were seen to be in earnest Ulmer fled the county. Perry Randolph was another of the gang, whose home was the rendezvous and trading point for felonious commerce, and the regulators made every effort to arrest him and Ulmer. C. P. Bradley of Chicago was hired to arrest and deliver them to the sheriff of LaGrange at \$500 for each man. Randolph was first found and shadowed to find Ulmer. Early in July both men were arrested at Warren, Ohio. Randolph having taken a change of venue, was tried before Judge Dawson and sentenced to state prison for two years, with the liability of further prosecution when his term was served. Ulmer, who also took a change of venue, was tried in Auburn, found guilty by a jury of having secreted stolen property, and sentenced for five years, but owing to a defect in the indictment, he obtained an arrest of judgment, was held on bail in the sum of \$2,000 for appearance next term at LaGrange Circuit Court. Having been arrested on another charge, he was returned to the LaGrange county jail to await the spring term of court. He was again tried on the first charge and sentenced to seven years, and again obtained a new trial. He finally consented to go on trial on the second indictment, was found guilty and was sent up for a term of seven years. After serving his time he settled down and became a law-abiding citizen in Ligonier, and for many years had a store there. Later he helped build the frame grist mill on the east end of town.

Although a death blow had been struck at lawless practices, evil doers were not wholly suppressed, and down to the close of the war and after, detective organizations were maintained in the county with occasional unexpected and startling arrests. But in time they were disbanded and the regulators of 1858 passed into history.

#### TREASURY ROBBERY

On Sunday, February 17, 1867, a sensational report spread through Auburn and the county that the treasury had been robbed during the night. The report proved true. The safe had been burglarized and nearly \$19,000 abstracted. Everything of money value was gone, and on the floor were scattered orders and papers. A reward was at once offered for the arrest of the burglars and some money paid for ineffective detective work, but it was never ascertained who took the money nor the precise amount taken. The treasurer, Lewis J. Blair, fell under suspicion, and at the instance of a patent safe company was arrested, but released on bail. The case was heard before George Wolf, J. P., at Waterloo, and excited great interest. On both sides were able attorneys, A. Allen and Judge Worden for the prosecution, and James I. Best, James B. Morrison, and A. M. Pratt for the defense. The accused official was vindicated. Then began a suit against bondsmen, ending in a judgment never enforced. These legal proceedings were costly and

further impoverished the county, affecting the schools, also the political supremacy in De Kalb County of the republican party, to which popular resentment ascribed the theft of public funds. The credit of the county sank lower. Warrants on the treasury ran two and a half years before called for redemption and were reluctantly taken at ten per cent discount, while in some townships special school orders were depreciated lower still, and it was a long time before normal financial conditions were restored.

### COUNTY JAIL

In January, 1875, eleven bids were filed with the commissioners for building a new jail according to the plans and specifications prepared by T. J. Toland and approved by the board. The contract was awarded to Messrs. Crane, Duncan & Co., of Waterloo, for \$26,570. After some discussion in regard to a site, it was decided to erect the building on the southeast corner of the public square forming a part of the grounds on which the court house is located. The old jail was removed to a site on the corner lot east of the square on the south, and on its removal the town board rented the building for a needed place of meeting, and for holding municipal elections, and later bought and fitted it up as a place for housing the fire apparatus. On the vacated site the work of construction was steadily carried on. Changes authorized by the commissioners, added about \$2,000 to the contract price, and the structure was finally finished at a final cost of only \$26,647.78. There were triple grates between the cell inmates and liberty, the inner grates being of steel. The interior was supplied with all modern appliances for feeding, heating and locking. To meet the expense incurred in building \$29,000 in ten per cent bonds were issued, the time of redemption being fixed at from two to five years. They were taken at par by home people, and redeemed by means of a light additional tax, and the county had a jail which served its purpose for more than forty years.

The contract for the present De Kalb County jail was let May 28, 1917, to H. H. Achemire, of Auburn, the building to be erected at a cost of \$52,940. As the county council had up to that date appropriated but \$45,000 for that purpose, a further appropriation was necessary, and the amount was accordingly raised to \$55,000. Changes in the original plans, together with extras and fittings brought the total cost up to \$89,535.00. This included the following bills: The Light, Heating and Ventilating Co., of Auburn, \$10,796; H. B. Van Fleet, wiring, \$1,336; and Joseph Miller, architect, \$6,068. The jail was accepted by the De Kalb County commissioners, December 31, 1918, and was occupied by Sheriff Frank Baltz January 15, 1919. It stands across the street east of the court house square, and hardly a stone's throw from the old building, which is still standing. The building contains sixteen cells, there being eight on each floor in two rows of four each, facing a corridor which runs between the cells, and another that faces outside windows. There is also a juvenile ward of two rooms on the first floor, and the warden's office. On the second floor are the women's ward, hospital, and insane wards. Shower baths are provided and there are good sanitary accommodations. The building contains much structural iron and steel work, with tile roof, and the interior is finished in quartered oak, yellow pine, and poplar, with glazed tiling. It is heated by steam.

### COURT HOUSE

The necessity of courts came with the pioneer and their origin was contemporary with settlement. The first court in Auburn was held in



the spring of 1838 in the lower room of the house of Wesley Park. As a makeshift the upper room was utilized as a jail, to which access was gained by a ladder, which was then removed and the prisoner or prisoners, being under orders to remain till called for, made no effort to descend. The court convened with three judges, Charles Ewing, president, and Ariel Waldron and Thomas L. Yates, associates, who took their places with becoming gravity behind the dinner table, with John F. Coburn as clerk. Sheriff Park proclaimed court open. Customs were rude and manners simple and direct. There was no comment on Judge Yates' coarse hunting shirt and fox skin cap when he advanced to take his seat. The population increased slowly, but in time it was decided to build a court house, and the county commissioners in May, 1840, appointed Messrs. Thomas J. Freeman, Wesley Park and Nelson Page to superintend the construction. Provision for payment was made by a contemplated sale of lots donated to the county by Mr. Park, through Riley Jacobs, the agent. A plan of the court house having been examined and approved, the date of July 1, 1842, was set for the completion of the work. The specifications called for a building thirty feet north and south and forty feet east and west, six feet of which were reserved for a portico. The front was to be supported by four pillars of fifteen inches in diameter. Four feet more were left for stairs and wood rooms, leaving the actual court house thirty feet square. There were two front doors, an alley from each of which led to a small circle fronting the judges' bench, which was elevated somewhat above the floor. In the front of the bench was the clerk's seat, and to the right of that the prisoner's box. Eleven windows of twenty-four panes each lighted the rooms above and below. This plan had been drawn by J. F. Coburn. Its execution proving impracticable, changes were required which involved long delay.

Early in 1843 a schoolhouse was built just west of the old Strebel & Wolf store in North Main Street, the room of which was soon after engaged and fitted up to hold court. The fittings were rude; a rough board platform, a fence of unplanned boards for a bar, and an old cracked box stove, which when in use smoked the room so much that judges, jury and lawyers were moved to tears. Court was held here May 1, by James W. Borden, presiding judge, and Nelson Payne and Ariel Waldron. The October term was also held in this building.

The plan for the court house having been amended and accepted, bids were advertised for, it being understood that payment was to be made the builder in county lots at their appraised value, or in money derived from their sale. The successful bidder was James Hite, who took the contract at \$800, and had the frame up by fall, but not enclosed. Then, having sunk the proceeds of lots deeded to him, he ran out of funds, and threw up the job, compromising with the commissioners. The work was completed by other parties, and the spring term of court was opened in the building, April 29, 1844. There being a deficiency of office accommodations, Mr. Sprott, serving as clerk and recorder, 1841 to 1851, was authorized in 1845 to erect a building for his use on the southwest corner of the public square at a cost not to exceed \$200, to which an additional \$50 was later added. In the fall of 1846 an office building was also constructed for the use of the auditor, on the northwest corner of the court house grounds; and in 1847 John Morris was permitted to put up an office, limited to twenty feet square, on the west side of the public square, and to occupy the same until wanted for the public use. He was to pay \$1 annual rent. In the early '50s the northeast room of the first court house was utilized for school purposes.

In the spring of 1863, measures having been taken for the con-

struction of a new court house, the old building was moved some forty feet north to give place for its successor. Court was held in the old room for the last time during the spring term of 1864. In September the building was sold for the sum of \$25 to Daniel Altenburg, Sr., by whom it was dismantled and everything of value removed. When the news came that Richmond, the capital of the waning Confederacy, had been captured by Union forces, and a crowd had assembled to make a jubilee, Mr. Altenburg said, "If you want to make a bonfire, you may burn the old court house." He was taken at his word, and the old building for years the scene of local justice, found a glorious end in the blaze of a national celebration.

On April 20, 1863, the board of commissioners approved the plans and specifications for a new court house, the contract being awarded to Alpheus Wheelock, John McKay and William Valteau, at the price of \$23,372, one half to be paid in cash and the other half in county orders, in monthly installments, in amounts not to exceed eighty per cent of the estimated work done. It was provided no additions to increase the contract price could be made unless presented in writing and approved by the commissioners. The stone work five feet from the ground was to be completed by November 1, following, the court house to be finished by December 1, 1864. A bond in the sum of \$10,000 for the faithful execution of the contract was signed by Samuel W. Sprott, John Ralston, James R. Cosper, J. D. Davis and J. M. Miller. The work was let June 4, and shortly after the shares of Messrs. McKay and Valteau were sold by them to D. W. Silvers of Fort Wayne, who took upon himself their portion of the contract. The Woodbury farm, three quarters of a mile east of the city, was purchased and the manufacture of brick begun. Within one month the foundation pits had been excavated and stone for the walls delivered on the ground. In September the commissioners instructed Messrs. Braden and Sprott, their building committee, to act as agents of the county and issue bonds to the amount of \$10,000, payable in five years, with the right of redemption at any time before maturity. Loans to the county had already been made to the amount of \$4,695.78, and those who held county warrants for this sum were given the option of having them refunded in the authorized bonds, provided they would accept them at no greater discount than three per cent, an offer that was quickly taken up by those interested. The foundation was complete by September 10, and the cornerstone laid on the northeast of the foundation wall, with appropriate ceremonies. The task of constructing the framework of the building was entrusted to Thomas Baldock under a sub-contract, and well and faithfully performed. On July 1, a bell weighing 600 pounds, cast at the Buckeye Bell Foundry, Cincinnati, was brought by rail to Waterloo, and thence by team to Auburn. The court room was built on contract time, and accepted, and the surplus brick was used in the construction of the John Henry property, the corner of Main and Tenth streets. The financial condition of the county, owing largely to the expense for the court house, became bad, and grew steadily worse. The annual settlement sheet for the year ending June 1, 1865, showed an expenditure of \$44,643, including \$3,134 of outstanding court house bonds redeemed. There were orders on the treasury not paid for the want of funds, and drawing six per cent interest, outstanding to the sum of \$20,000, and these orders were slow of sale at a discount of ten per cent. The county tax levied was \$1 on the hundred, but this high rate, on account of low valuation by the assessors, brought inadequate results.

The first floor of the court house was divided into four offices, 21 by 24 feet each. The entrance was by a hallway extending east and

west through the building, with double doors of iron and wood. The windows were guarded by inside iron shutters. Each office was provided with fire-proof iron door vaults. The court room was on the second story, and its original dimensions were 64 by 60 feet, with grand and petit jury rooms on the west end. The roof was of Vermont slate, laid on wood lath. At the west front was an octagonal tower, 22 feet in diameter and 80 feet high. From the second story a spiral staircase led to a balcony commanding a bird's-eye view of the town. From the summit of the dome rose a flagstaff, supporting a metallic eagle at an elevation of 115 feet.

When the county officials took possession of their respective rooms late in the fall of 1864, the shanties so long defacing the public grounds were removed to the west side of Jackson Street. Two courts having respectively two terms a year were then known—the Circuit Court, held in regular sequence in the counties that composed the circuit, and the Court of Common Pleas. Old settlers looked forward to term time when off duty, as grand and petit jurors, they could talk over early days, exchange opinions on public questions, and as spectators or interested parties, listen to evidence and enjoy the eloquence and arguments of attorneys. One fault the original court room had. It was defective in acoustic properties, but its large size made it available for conventions and other gatherings. From time to time changes were made, curtailing its dimensions, reducing seatage and enlarging the railed bar. Three rooms were partitioned from the east end of the court room from that for the petit jury close upon their seats on the north to the consultation and general rooms southward.

After many years of useful service, the second court house, like its predecessor, became unfit for use, and the growth of the county demanded a larger and more adequate building. The first appropriation for the new structure was made September 9, 1910, when \$200 was set aside for use in inspecting buildings in other counties of the state, with the view that a court house best suited to the needs of De Kalb County might be secured. Accordingly the county commissioners visited several leading cities. Several architects were invited to present plans, and on February 15, those of Mahurin and Mahurin of Fort Wayne were accepted and filed with the county auditor. At the August meeting, 1910, a requisition for \$250,000 was made for the construction of the new court house. Bids were asked for on May 4, 1911, and there were ten different bidders for the work. J. B. Goodall was successful, having bid \$185,757, with an allowance of \$300 for the old court house, the demolition of which was begun May 8, and completed in two weeks. The cornerstone of the new building was laid with fitting ceremonies July 27, 1911, a pleasing address being delivered on the occasion by Governor Thomas R. Marshall. The building was completed at an actual cost of nearly \$350,000, including extras and fittings, and was formally accepted by the commissioners March 31, 1914. A crowd of from 10,000 to 15,000 people attended its dedication on June 18, the occasion proving a gala day in the history of the city. The court house dimensions are: North and south, 146 feet; east and west, 132 feet; height 80 feet. The stone used in the construction of the building is Bedford oolitic limestone, quarried near the City of Bloomington, Indiana. The handsome marble used in the interior is Vermont marble of number one quality. Granite floors, composed of cement and marble chips, are laid in the lobbies, and in the rotundas there is a well designed tile floor. The court room, commissioners' room and libraries are laid with cork floors, to heighten the acoustic properties, and at the same time insure silence. The dome is capped with art glass, illuminated with sixty electric lights in a surrounding trough at the base. The woodwork in the building is



all of quarter-sawed oak, including the paneling in the court room. The court room is decorated with pure leaf gold, and is constructed with the aid of the most modern acoustic arrangements with a maximum of silence. Electric light, gas, water, and the latest vacuum cleaning apparatus are installed. Lavatories are on each floor and wash-stands in every room in the building. There are forty-six rooms in the court house, exclusive of lobbies, corridors and rotunda, every want having been anticipated and provided for. One of the rooms is set apart for the Grand Army post, with relics of the Civil war. Two beautiful paintings, one representing "The Spirit of Industry," and the other "The Spirit of Progress," form a part of the decoration, being placed on the walls adjoining the stairway at the third floor. These paintings were executed by Arthur Thomas, an artist of New York City, and were submitted by the William F. Behring Company of Cincinnati being approved by the commissioners May 30, 1913. The extensive lawn surrounding the structure, which occupies the space of a city block, has been beautified by shade trees and supplied with sanitary drinking-fountains. On the southwest corner of the lawn is a tribute to the memory of the soldiers who fought in the Civil war, in the shape of a large cannon mounted on a concrete foundation. The citizens' committee for the erection of the court house was composed of Rev. Augustus Young of Garrett, Sam G. Stone of Butler, and Albert W. Showalter of Helmer.

#### COUNTY ASYLUM

In early days it was the custom to farm out the poor to the highest bidder and, as may be supposed, when the successful applicant was a grasping and penurious person, the paupers received but indifferent food and accommodations. As historical evidence of the poverty of the settlers of Northeast Indiana, one may read in the acts of the state Legislature for 1849 that the residents of De Kalb, Steuben, Noble and LaGrange counties were exempted from payment of state and county taxes on all agricultural improvements, when such improvements were valued at less than \$500, and this practically exempted most, and was an act of needed relief. Even then not a few became hopelessly delinquent, and their lands were sold for taxes on them. Money was indeed scarce, but much that money cannot buy was plenty. Taxes, in the light of our present experience, were light, but all too heavy where there was so little to pay them; hence the long lists of delinquent lots and lands annually advertised in the LaGrange Democrat, by Miles Waterman, the county auditor. Those who had money used it to great advantage in the purchase of these delinquent descriptions, and such men as R. J. Dawson, Robert Work, J. C. Bowser and Alonzo Lockwood were regular purchasers. At the March session of commissioners in 1854, various allowances were made for boarding poor persons. Thus far the expense of their keeping had been light and no steps had been taken to buy ground and erect an asylum.

In 1856 the board of county commissioners examined a number of farms offered for sale to the county for an asylum for the poor, and in April concluded to purchase the east half of the east half of the northeast quarter of section 12 in Butler Township. The land comprised 120 acres and was the property of Mr. Goetchius, one of the members of the board. He sold the farm to the county for \$3,000, and J. N. Lyon was appointed superintendent. His compensation was \$250 for eleven months and supplies furnished for the family. Dr. J. N. Chamberlain was appointed county physician for the benefit of the paupers at the home.

## CHAPTER LXXIV

### COUNTY GOVERNMENT

The Legislative act passed in the winter of 1836-37, organizing De Kalb County, named the boundaries of the county as follows: "Beginning at the southwest corner of township 33 north of range 12 east, thence east to the east line of the state, thence north with the state line dividing townships 35 and 36, thence west to the line dividing range 11 and 12, thence south to the place of beginning. The county was named De Kalb in honor of Baron De Kalb, a German noble who came to this country to espouse the cause of the colonists in the Revolutionary war, aided Washington to drill and train the American army, and who fell at the battle of Camden, South Carolina, August 6, 1780. The length of the county from east to west is twenty and one-half miles, and from north to south eighteen miles. When organized it had a population of nearly 1,000. It is a part of the twelfth congressional district. De Kalb and Steuben counties constitute the tenth judicial district. As elsewhere narrated, the competition for the location of the county seat resulted in the selection of Auburn, the site of which had been chosen by Wesley Park.

The organization of De Kalb County was not perfected until the latter part of the year 1837, but the first election was held in July, when the river settlers voted at the home of Washington Robinson, at Vienna, later called Newville. Three county commissioners, two associate judges, a clerk and a recorder were to be elected. The first meeting of the commissioners took place July 25, at the house of Wesley Park, when Peter Fair and Samuel Widney were the two present. The first official act of the board was to appoint Wesley Park clerk pro tem, also county treasurer. Byron Bunnel was made county agent, John Blair assessor, and Lancelot Ingman collector of taxes. Franklin Township, the first township in De Kalb County was then set off, as follows: "Commencing at the northeast corner of said county; thence west to the corners of ranges 13 and 14 east, townships 35 and 36 north; then south six miles to township 34 north, ranges 13 and 14 east; thence east on the town line to the east line of the said county; thence north to the place of beginning." An election was to be held the first Monday in August following, with Peter Boyer for inspector, Isaac T. Aldrich constable, and John Houlton supervisor.

In addition to Samuel Widney and Peter Fair, Isaac F. Beecher had been appointed county commissioner; Arial Waldon and Thomas L. Yates, judges of the court, and John F. Coburn, clerk and recorder. Judge Yates, who was a somewhat eccentric character wore a coarse hunting-shirt and fox-skin cap when he took his seat on the bench, but for all that made an excellent judge.

The second, but first "regular" session, was held at the same place, September 4, 1837, with a full board present, but an adjournment was taken until the next day, when Samuel Eakwright was chosen road commissioner for the county. It was then ordered that "congressional

township 34 north, range 13 east, be organized as a township for judicial purposes, to be known by the name of Union Township and that townships 34 and 35 north, range 12 east, and townships 33 and 35 north, range 13 east, be attached thereto." Wesley Park was appointed supervisor for road district number one, comprising the above mentioned territory. Wilmington Township, comprising "congressional township 34 north, range 14 east," was organized, with Byron Bunnel as supervisor; and also Butler Township, described as "congressional township 33 north, range 12 east," with Andrew Surface as supervisor. Money was also appropriated for the current expenses of the county, incurred chiefly in the laying out of the Fort Wayne and Coldwater and the Goshen and Defiance state roads. Joseph Miller was appointed the first county surveyor. At the second regular session of the board, in November, Wesley Park was appointed school commissioner for the county.

It was in the fall of 1837 that the regular organization of De Kalb County was completed, and a township called De Kalb created, which



COURT HOUSE, AUBURN

included the present township of Concord, and the two fractional townships of Stafford and Newville. These two fractional townships, together with Troy (then part of Wilmington), were the result of a compromise at the time the boundary line between Ohio and Indiana was established. Stafford was soon detached and temporarily added to Wilmington, while the name of Concord was substituted for De Kalb.

Jackson Township, comprising government township 33 north, range 13 east, was erected in January, 1838, John Watson being named inspector of elections. License laws were established, that for a tavern being \$20. The license for selling wooden clocks was \$60, which would seem to have been intended to discourage the enterprising Yankee peddlers, the quality of whose wares may not always have corresponded with the claims of the vendors. In those days nearly all business men were required to pay licenses according to the nature of the business and the amount of the capital invested. About this time Wesley Park resigned the office of school commissioner, for what cause does not appear. His successor was Robert Work.

At the May session, 1838, the sum of \$2,000 was appropriated for roads, several bridges were ordered built, and the bond for each con-



stable fixed at \$500. The poll tax for 1838 was 75 cents, and the property tax, \$1.35 on each \$100 valuation. Of this, 85 cents was for county revenue and 50 cents for road purposes. Steps were also taken for the construction of a jail, the funds to be procured by the sale of county lots which had been deeded to the county by Wesley Park for that purpose. Byron Bunnel, county agent, was given charge of the work, but having been accused of selling the lots at too low a price and contracting debts before having the money to settle them, he was dismissed by the board, and Thomas J. Freeman appointed in his place. All orders for selling town lots and building a jail were rescinded, and the matter was placed on a new basis by the appointment of Freeman, Wesley Park and Nelson Payne as a building committee for the jail. According to the original plans, it was to consist of one ground room, sixteen feet square inside of the walls, the floor timbers being a foot thick, and the inside wall eight feet high. It was to have a shingle roof and be lighted by one four-light window of eight by ten glass. It was to be secured by iron grates of inch-square bars running at right angles, three inches apart. The jail was completed on time and was used for the purpose designed for about twelve years.

In the fall of 1851, Miles Waterman, county auditor, invited proposals for the building and furnishing of a new jail for De Kalb County, and in December the contract was let to Jefferson Wallace. The building was completed and accepted in December, 1852. It was designed by B. G. Cosgrove, and was a strong building with close, dungeon-like cells. Among the notorious criminals confined in it was Mrs. Knapp, who had brutally murdered her husband, and who created a sensation by a desperate attempt at suicide, making use of the Japanese method of hari kari. Though she actually cut out a portion of an intestine, she survived and lived for some years afterwards. At the June term of 1854 Auburn was granted the privilege of using the county jail as a calaboose when not otherwise in use.

#### THE REGULATORS

The records of De Kalb County Circuit Court for 1858 voice the existence of organized bands of law breakers and a lowered tone of public morality. Case after case of larceny, forgery, and concealment of stolen goods occupied the attention of his honor, Reuben J. Dawson, and fully a score of applications for divorce disclose the baneful influences existing in the community. The crime center was in LaGrange and Noble counties, but the ramifications of lawless men extended through De Kalb County, and for a time the community suffered inactive. To larceny was added arson, horse stealing, passing bad money, robbery, and finally murder.

As early as 1842 William Mitchell and Asa Brown, of Noble County, took the lead in efforts to bring offenders to justice, and secured the arrest of one George T. Ulmer, who was tried in 1858 and given his deserts in the penitentiary. The activity of Messrs. Brown and Mitchell was repaid by the burning of their barns. Following this crime a meeting was called for the purpose of organizing a society for the apprehension of the felons. At this meeting were present Ulmer and others of like character, who posed as the friends of law and order, and endorsed the objects of the society. But it was seen that offenders grew bolder and only by secret organization could the community protect itself and attack the assailants to advantage.

In 1852 an act was passed by the General Assembly legalizing the formation of associations in bodies of not less than ten, nor more than

100, for the purpose of detecting and apprehending felons. In September, 1856, the first organization under the statute in Northern Indiana was effected by a company known as the LaGrange County Rangers, and a public demonstration and grand parade were held at Kendallville, January 16, 1858. About 300 men, all on horseback, moved down in majestic strength through the streets of the town, bearing mottoes and banners one of which displayed a painting representing the capture of a criminal, with the words inscribed over the scene, "No expense to the county." After the parade a meeting was held on the common near the Baptist Church, where several speeches were made, and the determination of the society to run down and punish criminals boldly announced. On January 17, James McConnell, at the head of a band of Noble County regulators, arrested at Rome nine persons, namely: Miles C. Payne, G. McDoughle, Sol Stout, Malcolm Burnham, Davis, French, Joseph Hall, William Hall and E. Kester. These persons were taken to Ligonier and placed in the custody of officers of the committee to await examination. Some of them were released for lack of evidence, the others being placed in charge of the authorities to be dealt with according to law. E. Kester confessed to theft and implicated Ulmer with keeping stolen horses and passing counterfeit money. His statements were valuable chiefly from their relation to other and more dangerous criminals.

The worst of these was Gregory McDougal, who on the night of January 25, made confession, whether voluntary or by compulsion, and was placed under secure guard while a committee of five men was appointed to examine witnesses and make final disposition of his case. This committee found unmistakably proof that the prisoner had committed murder, and recommended that at 2 P. M., January 26, 1858, he be hung by the neck until dead. He was ably defended by counsel before this strange tribunal and great excitement prevailed in the town, orators making public speeches both for and against the decision. The people were plainly divided in opinion, but those who clamored for the death sentence appeared the more violent. To settle the terrible question a vote by mass was finally taken, it being agreed that those who favored the execution should fall back to one side of the street, while those who favored mercy should stand on the other. A careful inspection up and down the line showed that more were in favor of hanging than for a regular trial before a legal court. McDougal was then put in a wagon, and, followed by the regulators and a vast number of people, was taken out to Diamond Lake, about four miles on the road from Ligonier to Albion, and there hanged to a tree.

It may be said that before his execution he rose calm and with self possession confessed to the theft of many horses, justified the committee and hoped that "they will succeed in their undertaking and sort out all thieving, coining, counterfeiting and horse stealing."

Malcolm Burnam, another of the party arrested, criminated others. Wright at Fairfield Center, De Kalb County, was robbed of goods, according to his testimony, by two men, McCoy and Charles Smith. The goods were taken to Hall's corners, four miles east of LaGrange, to a tavern kept by Drake and Woodward, whom he charged with dealing in stolen goods and horses. Burnam was sent to the penitentiary for a term of two years. Miles C. Payne turned state's evidence, and his disclosures were of a startling character. He became a detective for the regulators and by his zeal in bringing to justice his former associates won the confidence of the committee. He confessed to having stolen thirty-six horses, large quantities of goods, and to having dealt to a large extent in counterfeit money.

After many arrests had been made, the leaders had not been taken,

and to share in the responsibility and add to the chances of their apprehension, a central committee was organized and the people were encouraged to form companies in different sections of the county. At Auburn, January 4, 1858, a Horsethief Detecting Society was formed, which was followed by the organization of the Union Regulators, the Richland Rangers, the Fairfield Protectors, and the Stafford Mutual Protection Society, with perhaps others, including many of the leading men in the county.

George T. Ulmer emigrated in 1835 from Ohio to Noble County, and settled on a farm near the present Town of Kendalville. In 1843 he returned to Ohio and appeared in the character of a religious exhorter. Afterward he came to LaGrange County, this state, and as a well to do farmer, was a secret ally of the blacklegs. When the regulators were seen to be in earnest Ulmer fled the county. Perry Randolph was another of the gang, whose home was the rendezvous and trading point for felonious commerce, and the regulators made every effort to arrest him and Ulmer. C. P. Bradley of Chicago was hired to arrest and deliver them to the sheriff of LaGrange at \$500 for each man. Randolph was first found and shadowed to find Ulmer. Early in July both men were arrested at Warren, Ohio. Randolph having taken a change of venue, was tried before Judge Dawson and sentenced to state prison for two years, with the liability of further prosecution when his term was served. Ulmer, who also took a change of venue, was tried in Auburn, found guilty by a jury of having secreted stolen property, and sentenced for five years, but owing to a defect in the indictment, he obtained an arrest of judgment, was held on bail in the sum of \$2,000 for appearance next term at LaGrange Circuit Court. Having been arrested on another charge, he was returned to the LaGrange county jail to await the spring term of court. He was again tried on the first charge and sentenced to seven years, and again obtained a new trial. He finally consented to go on trial on the second indictment, was found guilty and was sent up for a term of seven years. After serving his time he settled down and became a law-abiding citizen in Ligonier, and for many years had a store there. Later he helped build the frame grist mill on the east end of town.

Although a death blow had been struck at lawless practices, evil doers were not wholly suppressed, and down to the close of the war and after, detective organizations were maintained in the county with occasional unexpected and startling arrests. But in time they were disbanded and the regulators of 1858 passed into history.

#### TREASURY ROBBERY

On Sunday, February 17, 1867, a sensational report spread through Auburn and the county that the treasury had been robbed during the night. The report proved true. The safe had been burglarized and nearly \$19,000 abstracted. Everything of money value was gone, and on the floor were scattered orders and papers. A reward was at once offered for the arrest of the burglars and some money paid for ineffective detective work, but it was never ascertained who took the money nor the precise amount taken. The treasurer, Lewis J. Blair, fell under suspicion, and at the instance of a patent safe company was arrested, but released on bail. The case was heard before George Wolf, J. P., at Waterloo, and excited great interest. On both sides were able attorneys, A. Allen and Judge Worden for the prosecution, and James I. Best, James B. Morrison, and A. M. Pratt for the defense. The accused official was vindicated. Then began a suit against bondsmen, ending in a judgment never enforced. These legal proceedings were costly and



further impoverished the county, affecting the schools, also the political supremacy in De Kalb County of the republican party, to which popular resentment ascribed the theft of public funds. The credit of the county sank lower. Warrants on the treasury ran two and a half years before called for redemption and were reluctantly taken at ten per cent discount, while in some townships special school orders were depreciated lower still, and it was a long time before normal financial conditions were restored.

### COUNTY JAIL

In January, 1875, eleven bids were filed with the commissioners for building a new jail according to the plans and specifications prepared by T. J. Toland and approved by the board. The contract was awarded to Messrs. Crane, Duncan & Co., of Waterloo, for \$26,570. After some discussion in regard to a site, it was decided to erect the building on the southeast corner of the public square forming a part of the grounds on which the court house is located. The old jail was removed to a site on the corner lot east of the square on the south, and on its removal the town board rented the building for a needed place of meeting, and for holding municipal elections, and later bought and fitted it up as a place for housing the fire apparatus. On the vacated site the work of construction was steadily carried on. Changes authorized by the commissioners, added about \$2,000 to the contract price, and the structure was finally finished at a final cost of only \$26,647.78. There were triple grates between the cell inmates and liberty, the inner grates being of steel. The interior was supplied with all modern appliances for feeding, heating and locking. To meet the expense incurred in building \$29,000 in ten per cent bonds were issued, the time of redemption being fixed at from two to five years. They were taken at par by home people, and redeemed by means of a light additional tax, and the county had a jail which served its purpose for more than forty years.

The contract for the present De Kalb County jail was let May 28, 1917, to H. H. Achemire, of Auburn, the building to be erected at a cost of \$52,940. As the county council had up to that date appropriated but \$45,000 for that purpose, a further appropriation was necessary, and the amount was accordingly raised to \$55,000. Changes in the original plans, together with extras and fittings brought the total cost up to \$89,535.00. This included the following bills: The Light, Heating and Ventilating Co., of Auburn, \$10,796; H. B. Van Fleet, wiring, \$1,336; and Joseph Miller, architect, \$6,068. The jail was accepted by the De Kalb County commissioners, December 31, 1918, and was occupied by Sheriff Frank Baltz January 15, 1919. It stands across the street east of the court house square, and hardly a stone's throw from the old building, which is still standing. The building contains sixteen cells, there being eight on each floor in two rows of four each, facing a corridor which runs between the cells, and another that faces outside windows. There is also a juvenile ward of two rooms on the first floor, and the warden's office. On the second floor are the women's ward, hospital, and insane wards. Shower baths are provided and there are good sanitary accommodations. The building contains much structural iron and steel work, with tile roof, and the interior is finished in quartered oak, yellow pine, and poplar, with glazed tiling. It is heated by steam.

### COURT HOUSE

The necessity of courts came with the pioneer and their origin was contemporary with settlement. The first court in Auburn was held in

the spring of 1838 in the lower room of the house of Wesley Park. As a makeshift the upper room was utilized as a jail, to which access was gained by a ladder, which was then removed and the prisoner or prisoners, being under orders to remain till called for, made no effort to descend. The court convened with three judges, Charles Ewing, president, and Ariel Waldron and Thomas L. Yates, associates, who took their places with becoming gravity behind the dinner table, with John F. Coburn as clerk. Sheriff Park proclaimed court open. Customs were rude and manners simple and direct. There was no comment on Judge Yates' coarse hunting shirt and fox skin cap when he advanced to take his seat. The population increased slowly, but in time it was decided to build a court house, and the county commissioners in May, 1840, appointed Messrs. Thomas J. Freeman, Wesley Park and Nelson Page to superintend the construction. Provision for payment was made by a contemplated sale of lots donated to the county by Mr. Park, through Riley Jacobs, the agent. A plan of the court house having been examined and approved, the date of July 1, 1842, was set for the completion of the work. The specifications called for a building thirty feet north and south and forty feet east and west, six feet of which were reserved for a portico. The front was to be supported by four pillars of fifteen inches in diameter. Four feet more were left for stairs and wood rooms, leaving the actual court house thirty feet square. There were two front doors, an alley from each of which led to a small circle fronting the judges' bench, which was elevated somewhat above the floor. In the front of the bench was the clerk's seat, and to the right of that the prisoner's box. Eleven windows of twenty-four panes each lighted the rooms above and below. This plan had been drawn by J. F. Coburn. Its execution proving impracticable, changes were required which involved long delay.

Early in 1843 a schoolhouse was built just west of the old Strebel & Wolf store in North Main Street, the room of which was soon after engaged and fitted up to hold court. The fittings were rude; a rough board platform, a fence of unplanned boards for a bar, and an old cracked box stove, which when in use smoked the room so much that judges, jury and lawyers were moved to tears. Court was held here May 1, by James W. Borden, presiding judge, and Nelson Payne and Ariel Waldron. The October term was also held in this building.

The plan for the court house having been amended and accepted, bids were advertised for, it being understood that payment was to be made the builder in county lots at their appraised value, or in money derived from their sale. The successful bidder was James Hite, who took the contract at \$800, and had the frame up by fall, but not enclosed. Then, having sunk the proceeds of lots deeded to him, he ran out of funds, and threw up the job, compromising with the commissioners. The work was completed by other parties, and the spring term of court was opened in the building, April 29, 1844. There being a deficiency of office accommodations, Mr. Sprott, serving as clerk and recorder, 1841 to 1851, was authorized in 1845 to erect a building for his use on the southwest corner of the public square at a cost not to exceed \$200, to which an additional \$50 was later added. In the fall of 1846 an office building was also constructed for the use of the auditor, on the northwest corner of the court house grounds; and in 1847 John Morris was permitted to put up an office, limited to twenty feet square, on the west side of the public square, and to occupy the same until wanted for the public use. He was to pay \$1 annual rent. In the early '50s the northeast room of the first court house was utilized for school purposes.

In the spring of 1863, measures having been taken for the con-

struction of a new court house, the old building was moved some forty feet north to give place for its successor. Court was held in the old room for the last time during the spring term of 1864. In September the building was sold for the sum of \$25 to Daniel Altenburg, Sr., by whom it was dismantled and everything of value removed. When the news came that Richmond, the capital of the waning Confederacy, had been captured by Union forces, and a crowd had assembled to make a jubilee, Mr. Altenburg said, "If you want to make a bonfire, you may burn the old court house." He was taken at his word, and the old building for years the scene of local justice, found a glorious end in the blaze of a national celebration.

On April 20, 1863, the board of commissioners approved the plans and specifications for a new court house, the contract being awarded to Alpheus Wheelock, John McKay and William Valleau, at the price of \$23,372, one half to be paid in cash and the other half in county orders, in monthly installments, in amounts not to exceed eighty per cent of the estimated work done. It was provided no additions to increase the contract price could be made unless presented in writing and approved by the commissioners. The stone work five feet from the ground was to be completed by November 1, following, the court house to be finished by December 1, 1864. A bond in the sum of \$10,000 for the faithful execution of the contract was signed by Samuel W. Sprott, John Ralston, James R. Cosper, J. D. Davis and J. M. Miller. The work was let June 4, and shortly after the shares of Messrs. McKay and Valleau were sold by them to D. W. Silvers of Fort Wayne, who took upon himself their portion of the contract. The Woodbury farm, three quarters of a mile east of the city, was purchased and the manufacture of brick begun. Within one month the foundation pits had been excavated and stone for the walls delivered on the ground. In September the commissioners instructed Messrs. Braden and Sprott, their building committee, to act as agents of the county and issue bonds to the amount of \$10,000, payable in five years, with the right of redemption at any time before maturity. Loans to the county had already been made to the amount of \$4,695.78, and those who held county warrants for this sum were given the option of having them refunded in the authorized bonds, provided they would accept them at no greater discount than three per cent, an offer that was quickly taken up by those interested. The foundation was complete by September 10, and the cornerstone laid on the northeast of the foundation wall, with appropriate ceremonies. The task of constructing the framework of the building was entrusted to Thomas Baldock under a sub-contract, and well and faithfully performed. On July 1, a bell weighing 600 pounds, cast at the Buckeye Bell Foundry, Cincinnati, was brought by rail to Waterloo, and thence by team to Auburn. The court room was built on contract time, and accepted, and the surplus brick was used in the construction of the John Henry property, the corner of Main and Tenth streets. The financial condition of the county, owing largely to the expense for the court house, became bad, and grew steadily worse. The annual settlement sheet for the year ending June 1, 1865, showed an expenditure of \$44,643, including \$3,134 of outstanding court house bonds redeemed. There were orders on the treasury not paid for the want of funds, and drawing six per cent interest, outstanding to the sum of \$20,000, and these orders were slow of sale at a discount of ten per cent. The county tax levied was \$1 on the hundred, but this high rate, on account of low valuation by the assessors, brought inadequate results.

The first floor of the court house was divided into four offices, 21 by 24 feet each. The entrance was by a hallway extending east and



west through the building, with double doors of iron and wood. The windows were guarded by inside iron shutters. Each office was provided with fire-proof iron door vaults. The court room was on the second story, and its original dimensions were 64 by 60 feet, with grand and petit jury rooms on the west end. The roof was of Vermont slate, laid on wood lath. At the west front was an octagonal tower, 22 feet in diameter and 80 feet high. From the second story a spiral staircase led to a balcony commanding a bird's-eye view of the town. From the summit of the dome rose a flagstaff, supporting a metallic eagle at an elevation of 115 feet.

When the county officials took possession of their respective rooms late in the fall of 1864, the shanties so long defacing the public grounds were removed to the west side of Jackson Street. Two courts having respectively two terms a year were then known—the Circuit Court, held in regular sequence in the counties that composed the circuit, and the Court of Common Pleas. Old settlers looked forward to term time when off duty, as grand and petit jurors, they could talk over early days, exchange opinions on public questions, and as spectators or interested parties, listen to evidence and enjoy the eloquence and arguments of attorneys. One fault the original court room had. It was defective in acoustic properties, but its large size made it available for conventions and other gatherings. From time to time changes were made, curtailing its dimensions, reducing seatage and enlarging the railed bar. Three rooms were partitioned from the east end of the court room from that for the petit jury close upon their seats on the north to the consultation and general rooms southward.

After many years of useful service, the second court house, like its predecessor, became unfit for use, and the growth of the county demanded a larger and more adequate building. The first appropriation for the new structure was made September 9, 1910, when \$200 was set aside for use in inspecting buildings in other counties of the state, with the view that a court house best suited to the needs of De Kalb County might be secured. Accordingly the county commissioners visited several leading cities. Several architects were invited to present plans, and on February 15, those of Mahurin and Mahurin of Fort Wayne were accepted and filed with the county auditor. At the August meeting, 1910, a requisition for \$250,000 was made for the construction of the new court house. Bids were asked for on May 4, 1911, and there were ten different bidders for the work. J. B. Goodall was successful, having bid \$185,757, with an allowance of \$300 for the old court house, the demolition of which was begun May 8, and completed in two weeks. The cornerstone of the new building was laid with fitting ceremonies July 27, 1911, a pleasing address being delivered on the occasion by Governor Thomas R. Marshall. The building was completed at an actual cost of nearly \$350,000, including extras and fittings, and was formally accepted by the commissioners March 31, 1914. A crowd of from 10,000 to 15,000 people attended its dedication on June 18, the occasion proving a gala day in the history of the city. The court house dimensions are: North and south, 146 feet; east and west, 132 feet; height 80 feet. The stone used in the construction of the building is Bedford oolitic limestone, quarried near the City of Bloomington, Indiana. The handsome marble used in the interior is Vermont marble of number one quality. Granite floors, composed of cement and marble chips, are laid in the lobbies, and in the rotundas there is a well designed tile floor. The court room, commissioners' room and libraries are laid with cork floors, to heighten the acoustic properties, and at the same time insure silence. The dome is capped with art glass, illuminated with sixty electric lights in a surrounding trough at the base. The woodwork in the building is

all of quarter-sawed oak, including the paneling in the court room. The court room is decorated with pure leaf gold, and is constructed with the aid of the most modern acoustic arrangements with a maximum of silence. Electric light, gas, water, and the latest vacuum cleaning apparatus are installed. Lavatories are on each floor and wash-stands in every room in the building. There are forty-six rooms in the court house, exclusive of lobbies, corridors and rotunda, every want having been anticipated and provided for. One of the rooms is set apart for the Grand Army post, with relics of the Civil war. Two beautiful paintings, one representing "The Spirit of Industry," and the other "The Spirit of Progress," form a part of the decoration, being placed on the walls adjoining the stairway at the third floor. These paintings were executed by Arthur Thomas, an artist of New York City, and were submitted by the William F. Behring Company of Cincinnati being approved by the commissioners May 30, 1913. The extensive lawn surrounding the structure, which occupies the space of a city block, has been beautified by shade trees and supplied with sanitary drinking-fountains. On the southwest corner of the lawn is a tribute to the memory of the soldiers who fought in the Civil war, in the shape of a large cannon mounted on a concrete foundation. The citizens' committee for the erection of the court house was composed of Rev. Augustus Young of Garrett, Sam G. Stone of Butler, and Albert W. Showalter of Helmer.

#### COUNTY ASYLUM

In early days it was the custom to farm out the poor to the highest bidder and, as may be supposed, when the successful applicant was a grasping and penurious person, the paupers received but indifferent food and accommodations. As historical evidence of the poverty of the settlers of Northeast Indiana, one may read in the acts of the state Legislature for 1849 that the residents of De Kalb, Steuben, Noble and LaGrange counties were exempted from payment of state and county taxes on all agricultural improvements, when such improvements were valued at less than \$500, and this practically exempted most, and was an act of needed relief. Even then not a few became hopelessly delinquent, and their lands were sold for taxes on them. Money was indeed scarce, but much that money cannot buy was plenty. Taxes, in the light of our present experience, were light, but all too heavy where there was so little to pay them; hence the long lists of delinquent lots and lands annually advertised in the LaGrange Democrat, by Miles Waterman, the county auditor. Those who had money used it to great advantage in the purchase of these delinquent descriptions, and such men as R. J. Dawson, Robert Work, J. C. Bowser and Alonzo Lockwood were regular purchasers. At the March session of commissioners in 1854, various allowances were made for boarding poor persons. Thus far the expense of their keeping had been light and no steps had been taken to buy ground and erect an asylum.

In 1856 the board of county commissioners examined a number of farms offered for sale to the county for an asylum for the poor, and in April concluded to purchase the east half of the east half of the north-east quarter of section 12 in Butler Township. The land comprised 120 acres and was the property of Mr. Goetchius, one of the members of the board. He sold the farm to the county for \$3,000, and J. N. Lyon was appointed superintendent. His compensation was \$250 for eleven months and supplies furnished for the family. Dr. J. N. Chamberlain was appointed county physician for the benefit of the paupers at the home.

In 1868 it was felt that a new asylum was needed, and in December the commissioners made an appropriation for the purchase of the land. There were twenty-six offers, out of which the Hastler farm, then owned by Moses Gonser, was selected. It was located two miles west of Auburn, on the northeast quarter of section 25, then Richland Township, near the northeast corner of Keyser Township, and contained 166 acres. On the premises was a good frame house of two stories and wing, which was heated by wood stoves. The price was \$9,130, payable in installments. Possession was given April 1, 1869. Subsequent additions of area, drainage, buildings, stock, utensils and improvements brought the total cost to considerable proportions. The first superintendent was Conrad Miller, who remained several years at a salary of \$600 a year. His wife proved a good matron. Dr. J. H. Ford was appointed county physician, and ministers of the gospel were invited to visit the asylum and attend to spiritual needs of the inmates.

In time the growth of the county demanded better and fuller accommodations for the poor, and in 1908 the present fine building was erected, at a total cost of about \$27,000, bonds having been issued of \$30,000 in 1907. The architects were Griffith & Fair of Fort Wayne, and the general construction contract was awarded to Fred J. Rump, also of that city, for \$19,937. Other contractors were: Hipkind & Hipkind, of Wabash, Indiana, for heating, \$1,700; the same firm, plumbing, \$1,567; John R. McDowell, of Auburn, wiring, \$216. The building was accepted by the commissioners in December, 1908. Preparations are now being made for the installation of electric lights, and other improvements, not hitherto put in. It is located on a farm of 320 acres one mile northwest of Auburn. The sale of the surplus products of the farm has reduced the cost of maintenance to less than \$4,000 for the year, which is less than 1 mill on each \$100 of the taxable property of the county. Sixty acres of the land are in timber, while there is an orchard of eight acres. The institution is fulfilling its purpose admirably under the efficient management of Mr. Leighty, the present superintendent. The cornerstone of the building bears the date of 1908, with the names of the commissioners under whom the construction was carried out namely: Sol Shearer, Thomas F. Nelson, Eli Walker, and W. L. Houlton (1907), commissioners, and Emery A. Shook, county auditor.

#### COUNTY FINANCES

The county indebtedness, January 1, 1919, was \$120,000, of which \$80,000 was represented in court house bonds, and \$40,000 in jail bonds. Of this amount \$20,000 was paid January 15, a like amount to be paid every January for the next five years, or until the liquidation of the debt. The balance on hand in the county treasury, turned over to Charles H. Baber by his predecessor was \$94,334.43.

The valuation of the real estate and personal property of the people of De Kalb County, as appraised in 1919 was almost double the amount assessed in 1918. The appraisement for 1918 by the board of review was \$20,588,420. The township assessors' reports for 1919 total \$37,664,525, being divided as follows: Land and lots, \$21,806,565; improvements, \$8,190,390; personal property, \$7,405,755.

For 1920 the running expenses of the county will total nearly \$200,000. An order received from the State Board of Tax Commissioners in August, 1919, made large increases in the assessment on personal property in towns and townships, amounting to a 20 per cent average.

The tremendous part the corporations play in taxation in De Kalb County is realized perhaps by only a small percentage of the population.



In 1920 the railroads alone will pay taxes on almost \$12,000,000 worth of property in the county, and the Pullman Company is assessed for almost \$4,000,000 more. These taxes are divided as follows: Fort Wayne & Northwestern, 18.90 miles, \$386,310; Baltimore & Ohio, 20.72 miles, \$3,378,270; Grand Rapids & Indiana, 1.10 miles, \$56,165; New York Central, main line, 20.33 miles, \$5,645,635; Fort Wayne & Jackson branch, 19.80 miles, \$726,735; Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago & St. Louis, Butler branch, 19.18 miles, and over Wabash, 5.16 miles, \$501,320; Wabash, 16.56 miles, \$1,162,245; Pullman Company, 58.71 miles, \$3,816,150.

The express, telephone and telegraph companies also pay a considerable quota, the valuations being proportioned for each city, town and township according to the mileage in the particular unit.

In order that the public may see how important a factor the corporations, including railroads, banks, express, telephone, telegraph, and gas companies, and domestic corporations, are in the payment of the cost of conducting business through the medium of taxes, the following figures (for 1920) are submitted:

Auburn—corporation, \$2,170,660; total personal, \$3,279,510.

Garrett—corporation, \$705,023; total personal, \$1,311,573.

Butler City—corporation, \$608,755; total personal, \$1,154,075.

Waterloo—corporation, \$589,415; total personal, \$930,560.

Corunna—corporation, \$201,380; total personal, \$292,460.

Altona—corporation, \$158,385; total personal, \$175,385.

Ashley—corporation, \$11,275; total personal, \$166,285.

St. Joe—corporation, \$143,725. Troy Township—corporation, \$232,030; total personal, \$477,700. Wilmington Township—corporation, \$1,982,625; total personal, \$2,603,665. Keyser Township—corporation, \$562,275; total personal, \$944,215. Union Township—corporation, \$325,120; total personal, \$636,750. Franklin Township—corporations, \$16,835; total personal, \$523,285; Butler Township—corporation, \$436,810; total personal, \$705,510. Fairfield Township—corporation, \$37,140; total personal, \$764,070. Smithfield Township—corporation, \$262,960; total personal, \$787,970. Grant Township—corporation, \$1,455,650; total personal, \$1,763,160. Stafford Township—corporation, \$730,645; total personal, \$946,005. Newville Township—corporation, \$356,740. Spencer Township—corporation, \$162,760; total personal, \$480,560. Richland Township—corporation, \$1,834,830; total personal, \$2,264,520. Concord Township—corporation, \$1,116,095; total personal, \$1,372,115. Jackson Township—corporation, \$1,094,285; total personal, \$1,734,455.

## CHAPTER LXXV

### AGRICULTURE

The first settlers of DeKalb County relied upon the cultivation of the soil as their means of support. The land was well adapted to the purpose, the soil being very fertile and tillable, and enriched by a heavy loam formed by successive deposits of the forest leaves through unnumbered centuries. But the trees were still there and their removal entailed heavy labor on the pioneer, to whom for many years the axe was as necessary as the plow. The scientific farming methods of today were unknown; the tools and implements were of primitive fashion, the hoe, hand-rake, scythe and small sickle taking the place of modern machinery, and the physical labor involved was excessive. But courage, patience and muscle accomplished their task, and the second generation profited by the labors of its sires. John Houlton, the first settler within the limits of the county, planted potatoes in 1834, and it is probable that was the first crop planted by white men in the county. At a later period the grain that the pioneer farmer could not use was transported by wagon and ox-team to Fort Wayne, Toledo and Hillsdale, a long and difficult journey in each case, with oftentimes but a poor pecuniary reward for the hardship and trouble involved. One great drawback to profitable farming was the large areas of swamp land and the lack of drainage. To remedy this difficulty hundreds of ditches have been laid and many thousands of dollars expended by land holders. In 1859, under an act of the Legislature, abortive attempts were in progress looking to the drainage of these lands. In accordance with the act, the wet lands in DeKalb County were advertised and sold by the county auditor. The purchase money was paid into the county treasury, and the treasurer sent this money to the treasurer of the state, in whose hands it constituted a fund to pay for reclaiming swamp lands. A commissioner was appointed by the governor to locate ditches, to let the job of digging them, and to certify to the state auditor when any money was due to contractor, commissioner, or his assistants. The amount of the certificates was paid by the state treasurer out of the swamp land funds. The system was theoretically sound, but in practice the result varied with the integrity and executive ability of the commissioners. By the system now in vogue the surveyor has superseded the commissioner, the county auditor, the county treasurer and the state officers, and the county fund has hitherto borne the heavy burden of the enormous expense, just and unjust, of drainage.

In 1917 there were in DeKalb County 225,278 acres in farm lands, or about 2,100 farms. Of the total acreage, 64,120 acres were leased or rented, the percentage of rented farms having increased within recent years. The number of acres in permanent pasture was 34,106; acres of timber land, 19,465; acres in orchards, 4,036; acres of waste land, 2,409. The amount of wheat harvested was 22,120 acres; sown in the fall, 24,647 acres. There were 1,399 acres of rye harvested, while 2,072 acres were sown in the fall. The amount of corn harvested was 35,828 acres; oats, 23,343 acres; barley, 1,878 acres; buckwheat, 54 acres; timothy hay, 23,464 acres; clover hay, 11,194 acres; alfalfa, 632 acres;

white potatoes, 1,290 acres; onions, 255 acres; tomatoes, 24 acres; tobacco, 5 acres.

Of bearing fruit trees there were: apple, 34,200; peach, 5,927; pear, 3,590. The apple industry has long been an important one in the county, and within recent years the product has increased both in amount and quality. One of the pioneers in this line was David Altenburg, who at a very early day started a nursery on his farm east of Auburn, and later David Cosper planted a second. From there the villager of Auburn, as well as the early settlers generally, obtained a fine variety and great abundance of apple trees, from which many of the present-day trees have been derived. One of the largest growers and shippers is H. M. Widney, of St. Joe, known throughout the state as the "Apple King," and whose orchard contains thirty acres. Mr. Widney travels during a part of the year as a speaker on fruit culture. He raises perfect fruit and people from many miles round attend the gathering. The Jacob Leighty estate in Concord Township, has sixty-five acres in orchard, under the management of Ray Reasoner, and here also fine fruit is grown. In many parts of the county there are also good peach, pear and cherry trees in large or small orchards.

Here, as elsewhere, more or less trouble has been experienced at time from chinch bugs, army worms, onion thripss, and the various insect pests that annoy the farmer and horticulturist, but prompt measures have reduced the consequent loss to a comparatively small amount. In the work of showing the farmers the readiest and most effectual methods of exterminating these pests, the present county agent, A. J. Archart, has been active and efficient. Under his direction also a war campaign for increased food production was carried on, and much additional seed for various crops was produced or procured and distributed. In this work he had the co-operation of Purdue University.

### STOCK

DeKalb is not a dairying county. There is but one creamery in the county, and that is located in Butler Township. There is also but one cheese factory, which is situated on the southern border of the county. The amount of stock raised, kept, or sold, is shown to a large extent in the following statistics. The number of horses on hand December 31, 1917, was 7,459; horses sold during 1917, 653. The number of mules on hand, December 31, 1917, was 125; mules sold, 20. The number of milch cows on hand, December 31, 1917, was 7,623; all other on hand, 8,692; total number sold during 1917, 6,580; the number that died of disease was 240. The average number of quarts of milk per day per cow was seven. The number of hogs on hand December 31, 1917, was 21,123; the number sold during 1917 was 29,323; the number that died of disease was 755. The number of sheep on hand December 31, 1917, was 12,916; the number sold during 1917, 7,690; the number killed by dogs, 96; the total number sheared, 11,122. The total number of laying hens in the county was 142,699.

### BEEES

The honey bee preceded the white settlers in De Kalb County. One of the earliest white settlers, Andrew Surface, discovered honey in a hollow tree on Black Creek in 1834, and about the same time it was found elsewhere both by him and others. Bee hunters were successful, though for a time the bee moth threatened to exterminate the insect. Later S. Rogers and I. Diehl of Butler, established large apiaries and made bee



culture a success, others following in their footsteps. In March, 1919, the De Kalb County's Beekeepers' Association was organized, with O. P. Eldridge, of Richland Township, president; O. W. Berry, of Auburn, vice president, and George Boren, of Keyser Township, secretary-treasurer. It was arranged to hold annual meetings the first Saturday in March. The names of seventy-five bee keepers had been obtained, and it was believed that there were as many more in the county. The object of the association was stated as: "To improve bee keeping methods by general study and discussion, and comparison of better bee keeping practices of the best bee men everywhere; to assist in eradicating foul brood from the county; to aid the members of the association to secure a good price for their honey, and to establish an even and equable market locally." In 1917 the total number of bee colonies in the county was stated as 308; the total number of pounds of honey produced as 4,988.

#### FAIRS AND FARMERS' ASSOCIATIONS

Realizing the advantages to farmers of association, and the benefits naturally to be enjoyed by Auburn of a fair ground, and an annual fair, at which competitive exhibits could be held, and improvement in stock, machinery and handiwork encouraged, Wesley Park, on April 2, 1859, leased to the directors of the De Kalb County Agricultural Association about seven acres of ground lying north of Park's addition to the town plat, and just west of the public road running from Auburn to Waterloo. The lease was for a period of eight years, and it was stipulated that the society should within sixty days build a good and substantial board fence seven feet high along the north and east sides of the grounds, and the residue within one year. Also that the annual fair should be held on the premises, and that pens, sheds and a hall be built, and a track laid out on which to train stock. At the expiration of the lease the ground and fence were to be given up, the society reserving lumber, sheds and such fixtures. At this time J. N. Chamberlain was president and M. F. Pierce secretary. Mr. Chamberlain was succeeded as president by Wyllis Griswold, who held the office until the expiration and the dissolution of the society. Among the officers of the society were A. B. Park and Frank Willis, secretaries, and T. R. Dickinson and S. B. Ward, treasurers. The fair was good for a time and exercised a strong emulative and educative influence, the results of which have been largely permanent. Premiums were paid largely in muslin, part in books and a part in lumber, and amounted to \$20.86. A novel expenditure of resources was a subscription on time for ninety-five Ohio cultivators at 60 cents each per annum. The first fruits of the fair were evidently a desire for knowledge in improved methods in farming. The membership in 1860 was 126, the fee \$1.

In 1871 leading citizens of Waterloo and elsewhere organized the Northeastern Indiana Agricultural Association on the stock plan. A tract of land near Waterloo, containing  $31\frac{1}{4}$  acres was bought and fitted up for holding fairs, which were held there annually in October until the early '90s. Prizes were given for exhibits, races held, and a large general attendance was the rule.

The De Kalb County Free Fall Fair, which has taken the place of earlier associations, is held in Auburn each autumn, about the courthouse square and in the main streets, except that in 1911 it was held in Garrett, and was omitted in 1918 on account of the war. It is promoted by Auburn business men, merchants and manufacturers, and is maintained and supported by the Commercial Club, being absolutely free. It is a real county fair, and the Purdue Agricultural Experiment Station and School

of Agriculture sends an exhibit. The premiums range in value up to \$100. Many amusements are provided and on the closing day a Mardi Gras parade is held. The fair is attended usually by a crowd of 6,000 to 10,000 people daily.

The Grange movement showed itself in 1874 and had a wonderful growth. A county council of Patrons of Husbandry was organized at Waterloo May 8, 1874, and granges were established at various places in the county. They had a brief but brilliant career and taught the farmers their strength and the value of co-operation.

On June 14, 1919, a permanent organization in De Kalb County, as a part of the Indiana Federation of Farmers Associations, was perfected at a mass meeting of farmers. J. W. Mertz, of Fairfield Township, was elected president; Harry Shull, of Union Township, vice president; L. W. Yeiser, of St. Joe, secretary, and Silas Nugan, of Auburn, treasurer. Chairmen were appointed for each of the townships, and ladies were made eligible as members of the Association. The De Kalb County Corn Growers' Association comprises a large number of farmers.

## CHAPTER LXXVI

### EDUCATION

The Middle West was settled chiefly by people from New England and those states lying close to the Atlantic seaboard, and to their new homes they carried the customs and traditions inherited from law-abiding and self-governing ancestors. No small part of this priceless heritage had to do with religion and educational development. The school went side by side with the church, and its interests were not only safe-guarded by popular opinion, but were from time to time, as the occasion arose, promoted by appropriate legislation. The famous Ordinance of 1787, providing for the government of the Northwest Territory, contained a clause which set apart one section in each township—usually the sixteenth—as a provision for educational necessities, and what is known as the Congressional Township Fund is derived from the proceeds of these reserved sections, which have been sold for school purposes, and the money put out at interest. Various other funds have been applied to the same purpose, yielding in the aggregate no inconsiderable revenue, especially when united with direct taxation; yet it has seldom happened that the entire income thus derived has been found too much for the demands of the hour, so great has been the expansion of educational requirements in all those communities that have kept up with the march of modern civilization.

The first settlers in De Kalb County arrived here with very little money, being for the most part people who had found the conditions of life in the older settled communities from which they came too onerous to admit of their making any rapid or great material progress. Food and shelter were their first and most necessary requirements, and these took hard labor to procure. Hence, it was several years after the county was opened that any mention of schoolhouses is found in the early records. It is not necessary to suppose, however, that in the meanwhile the children were neglected. Undoubtedly there were among the pioneers some men or women who had taught school in the eastern states, and to practice for a part of their time, at least, their old occupation, would have meant for them not only an increase of income, or better material comforts, but might have been in some cases a labor of love. It is likely, therefore, that instruction in the elementary branches was available before any money was spent for the erection of school buildings.

The first of these which appeared was doubtless a source of pride to the community whose enterprise had called it into being, and may well have been regarded by them as the first milestone on the road of progress. It is said to have been in the Handy settlement, three miles south of where the town of Butler now is, and as it was a fairly representative type of others erected during the earliest period of the county's history, its description, as given by J. E. Rose, in an address before the Old Settlers' Association, on June 15, 1882, is here repeated:

"It was built of round logs, that is, of unhewn logs, and was sixteen feet wide and twenty-four feet long, with a puncheon floor and a sled-runner chimney; a fire-place extended across one end of the building,



and there was a door near the corner in the side. The chimney was made of mud and sticks, and was so large at the top that much of the light that illuminated the literary path of the students during the weeks, or the spiritual path of the church-goers on Sunday, came down the chimney through the smoke. At the end of the room opposite the fireplace, was the window, which consisted of a row of 7 by 9 glass, occupying the place of a log that had been left out when the building was raised. The window was 9 inches high and 16 feet long, and when a snowball passing through the air without the aid of human agency (for no boy ever threw a snowball that hit a window), and a pane of glass was broken, its place was supplied by a piece of oiled paper. These were usually supplanted with glass at the commencement of a term; the number of accidents of that mysterious nature that transpired during the term could be determined by the number of greased papers in the window, and were not exceedingly translucent during cold cloudy days; when the door must be kept shut, the whole school literally groped in darkness. The writing-desk was a huge puncheon placed against the wall at an angle of 45 degrees, in front of the window, and a seat at the writing-desk was a post of honor enjoyed only by the large scholars, and those who occupied it were envied as bitterly by the balance of the school as the senior class in college is by the freshmen. The cracks between the logs were chinked with pieces of wood and daubed with mud outside and in. The ceiling was made of round poles extending from one side of the room to another, the ends resting in cracks, made large for that purpose on each side. Over the poles mud was spread in copious profusion, which, when dried, formed a ceiling that bid defiance alike to piercing winds of winter and the scorching heat of the summer sun. The roof was made of clapboards held to their place by logs laid on top of them, called weight-poles. The seats were made of sassafras poles about six inches in diameter, split in two, the heart side up, and wooden pins or legs in the bottom or oval sides. These were made to suit the comfort of full grown men, and hence were so high from the floor that the aid of the teacher was necessary to place the small scholars on their seats and when there, no little care was required on their part to prevent their falling off."

Such was the earliest type of the pioneer schoolhouse, where the grandfathers and grandmothers of many of the present generation acquired all the book-learning they ever gained to aid them in the struggle for existence. As to the sources of this knowledge, Mr. Rose further says: "The text books used were the Western Spelling Book, and, for advanced scholars, the old English Reader. The scholars who ciphered used such arithmetic as they could procure, but Dabold's predominated; and when an industrious and studious scholar had reached the "rule of three," the teacher, to avoid an exposition of his ignorance of the mysteries beyond, prudently required a review, and the mathematical ardor of the ambitious youth was cooled by being turned back to notation and compelled to memorize the fine print and foot-notes. As there was not a uniformity of books, there were no classes except spelling and reading classes, and each student studied arithmetic 'on his own hook.' None of the modern improvements and discoveries to aid in the cause of a practical education were then known in this county. No graded reading books or spellers, no blackboards, steel pens or mathematical frames, no globes or varnished pointers. Then, we had pointers, fresh hickories cut from the adjacent thicket with the jackknife of the teacher. They were applied to the backs of the wayward youth to demonstrate the propriety of searching for the most direct road to obedience."

Not all the early schools, however, were destitute of blackboards.

The Husselman school in Union Township, or that part of Union that is now Grant Township, had one, 2 by 3 feet in size, and it is stated, "boards to write on were placed on pins in the walls." Goose quill pens were used, and the ink was made by boiling maple bark in copperas. Sessions were from 8:00 until 4:30, with three-quarters of an hour for noon, and no other recess. The school term was three months in duration, and the teacher received 50 cents per day, with the privilege of boarding around. That schoolhouse had "two windows, one door, mud in the walls, clapboard roof, with weights to hold it on, no nails being used." It burned down about 1848 or '49, four years after its erection.

The old log schoolhouses, after they had fulfilled their mission, or when the community had become more prosperous, were replaced by frame buildings, and the latter in turn by more substantial and durable ones of brick. Prof. Barnes, in a centennial article on education, published in the Waterloo Press, illustrated this progress in school architecture as follows: "In one district in Butler Township may be seen within a few rods of one another, the three representative schoolhouses of the county. On the east side of the Fort Wayne wagon road, is the old log schoolhouse, on the west side of the road is the old frame house that succeeded it, and a few feet west of the latter stands the new brick schoolhouse erected in 1875."

Before a uniform school system was introduced, the text books were of mixed character; each family had its own book. Among these were Cobb's readers and the Testament. In Auburn the children of Judge Egbert Mott constituted a class in Kirkham's grammar, and the discipline of the school was severe compared with the present.

The happy-go-lucky system of instruction was at length brought to an end, the inauguration of a new era in things educational being marked by the passage, June 14, 1852, of an act providing for a general and uniform system of schools. This school law was in force by August of that year, at which time its provisions were circulated in pamphlet form in the different counties of the state by authority, but it did not become practically operative until the first Monday in April, 1853 (April 4th), when township trustees for school purposes were elected in the townships of the counties. The first duties of the trustees were to establish and locate a sufficient number of schools for the education of all the children with respective limits. By provisions of the new constitution each township was made a municipal corporation of which every voter was a member.

By this time thirty-one schoolhouses had been built in De Kalb County, nine of them mostly of logs, in Concord Township. The others were classified as "bad, poor, and very poor," and the language scarcely gives an idea of their real condition and lack of adequate facilities. No authority had been given to levy a special school tax without the consent of the voters, to be given at a general or special meeting, and this latitude in localities defeated the ends sought; for while the many freely or reluctantly gave this consent, there were localities where no meetings were held, and there were others where the vote was adverse. The authorities of Auburn were progressive men, and most favorably inclined to the new law, and at the proper time ordered the clerk to post notices of an election for school trustees, and for a vote on tax or no tax for school purposes in and for the said town. On May 14th the polls were open, and the apparent lack of public interest was shown by the few votes cast.

At this time, when the conservatives were allied with the opponents of free schools, the greatest difficulties were encountered. It is well to make honorable mention of the names of Auburn townsmen who, to

the number of twenty-five, voted at this meeting. As twenty-two votes were for the tax, two opposed, and one voted blank, we will leave it an open question as to who the last were, and give them the benefit of the uncertainty. The voters were W. Griswold, G. W. Stahl, J. T. Bliss, T. R. Dickinson, W. W. Griswold, M. Waterman, J. Morris, T. J. Freeman, W. McDonnals, E. Berry, W. K. Straight, S. W. Dickinson, John Palmer, S. B. Ward, G. B. Baker, A. Hutchinson, A. Hall, J. Brinkerhoff, T. Finney, G. W. Teeters, J. McCune, J. P. Widney, A. Sanders, G. Brandt and J. Johnson.

On June 14, 1853, there was formed in Butler Township, at the farm house of Orrin C. Clark, an organization known as the Union Schoolhouse Educational Society. Three trustees were elected, namely: Henry Clark and Harris and Jacob Dahlman.

The average monthly wages in 1853 were for males \$18 and for females \$10. There were some schools in which the teachers received but \$6. The state superintendent, W. C. Larrabee, met a great difficulty in seeking to carry out the law, for few applicants for license could pass any examination, and there were places at which no grade could be established, and examinations were of necessities a farce.

The original law required the appointment of deputies in each county to make examinations, and to grant license for one or two years, but no common statement of qualification could be made. The Legislature of 1853 amended the law and transferred the authority to appoint examiners to boards of county commissioners, and at the same time created a standard of qualification. It was rightly thought that to license only such as could pass in all six branches, less than half the schools would be supplied with teachers, and hence it was left optional with the examiners to omit one or more of those branches.

The first board of school examiners appointed in 1853 by the commissioners was composed of Edward W. Fosdick, Samuel W. Dickinson and Lewis D. Britton. These men were well qualified for their duty, which they performed to the best of their ability under difficult conditions. They respectively licensed during the year, twenty-two, forty and seven, or a total of sixty-nine teachers. In 1857 L. D. Britton, W. C. McGonigal and Rev. Randall Faust March, appointed examiners for the ensuing year, who were recommended by the commissioners to hold two public examinations at such times and places as the majority of these schools agreed upon. This may be taken as a progressive step as contrasted with the private examination. The examiners of 1859 were James D. Morrison, W. C. McGonigal and Milton F. Peace. Thus to the lawyer, the publisher and the county auditor was given office that was perfunctorily regarded and did not seemingly interfere with their professional and official position.

Under the law of 1861 the number of school examiners in a county was reduced from three to one. A fee of \$1 was required of each applicant for a license. On June 4th the board of county commissioners appointed the Rev. Edward Wright to fill the important office of county school examiner for three years. In June, 1864, Guy Plumb received the appointment and served one year. In 1865 Spencer N. Dills was appointed, and so far as opportunity was given him, he performed his limited duties in a creditable manner. In 1868 William H. McIntosh succeeded Mr. Dills and in 1871 he was in turn succeeded by James A. Barns. The later county superintendents were Professor Barns, William H. McIntosh, C. M. Merica, Henry E. Coe, Mrs. Lida Leasure and Francis M. Merica.

The text books in use in 1866 were McGuffey's readers, Ray's arithmetic, Mitchell's and Monteith's geographies, and Pinneo's grammar.



In the advanced classes, the books used were Cutter's physiology, Wilson's History of the United States, Mahew's bookkeeping, Ray's algebra, Davies' geometry, and Andrews and Stoddard's first book in Latin. Physiology and history had been recently added to the branches in which teachers were expected to be examined.

#### REV. EDWARD WRIGHT

The Rev. Edward Wright, appointed sole school examiner under the new law of 1861, was the pastor of the Auburn Presbyterian Church. Though advanced in years, he was a man of comprehensive ability, and his long experience as an educator enabled him to work a revolution in De Kalb's schools. He brought order and system out of confusion and chaos. He advertised and held public examinations at Moore's Seminary at Waterloo, Faurot's Academy at Newville, at Spencerville Schoolhouse and at Auburn Academy. Applicants were divided according to grade sought for into two classes. The lower grades were orally examined, but those desiring license in either of the two higher grades were expected to come provided with pen and paper to answer questions in writing.

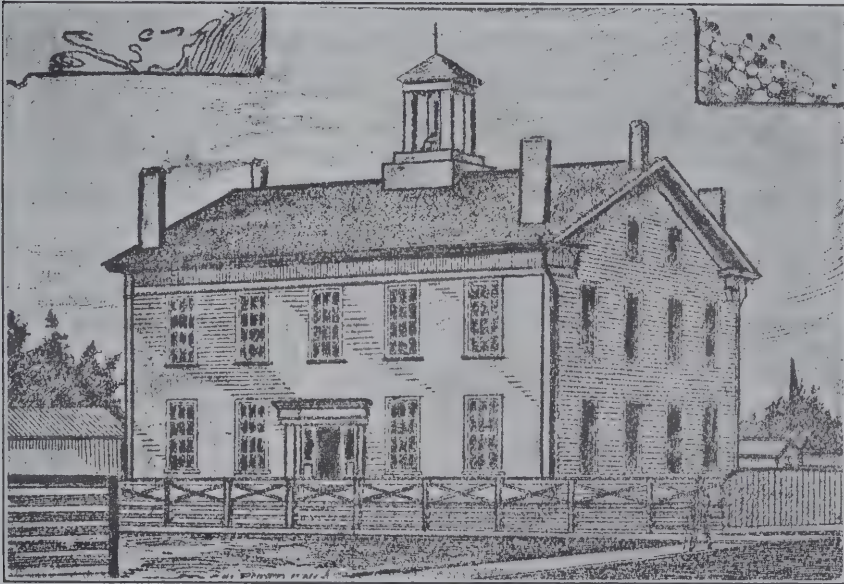
The schools opened, he visited them, conversed with teachers, advising them and encouraging their presence at educational meetings. He invited Miles J. Fletcher, state superintendent of schools, to visit De Kalb County in his official capacity. Superintendent Fletcher accepted the invitation, and on Monday, November 11, 1861, delivered a lecture at the old courthouse to a small assembly of teachers, taking as his topic, "Education and Common School Instruction." Notwithstanding much apathy to instruction on the part of the teachers, Mr. Wright continued his tireless efforts, visiting the schools, holding institutes, examining teachers, and creating and fostering an educational interest whose effects have proved substantial and far-reaching. He recommended that the Sacred Scriptures be daily read in our public schools as a help to moral instruction. He advised teachers to attend normal schools, and urged their subscription to standard educational publications. It is safe to assert that no successor, however energetic, has done more work with low pay than did Examiner Wright.

At the close of his first year he presented a statement of service to the county commissioners at their regular session. The report was approved, and it was ordered that he be paid for such service as county examiner the sum of \$100 out of the special fund of the various townships and towns. Thankful for the aid, Mr. Wright also received from the county an appropriation of \$20 to apply on payment of lecturers hired for the annual institute, which in 1862 was held the first of December in Newville Academy. At the close of his term Mr. Wright removed elsewhere, leaving behind an honored name and a healthful influence.

#### AUBURN ACADEMY

On July 19, 1853, a futile notice was given for a school meeting called for August 9th at 4:00 P. M. for the purpose of voting on building a schoolhouse. The call was premature, and a room in the old courthouse, and shabby small buildings were temporary makeshifts. Two years later the necessity of better school accommodations became pressing, and accordingly the necessary preparations were made. September 20, 1855, Messrs. Long, Berry and Spangler, a committee on site, chose lots 56 and 57, West Auburn, and paid for them \$150. All funds that came into the town's treasury were pledged in payment of building

expenses. Plans and specifications were prepared by Messrs. Barney & Houghton, and an invitation for sealed proposals was advertised in the Democratic Messenger. Those of O. C. Houghton were accepted and to him the contract was awarded to do specified work, including the building of a cupola, for \$1,325. He gave bond in the sum of \$2,000 to have a building up by January 1, 1857. Payment was to be paid by orders on the town treasury, less \$225 due on acceptance of the building by the board. Mr. Houghton grubbed and cleared the ground, then got out the lumber and put up the frame, but the close of December, 1856, found the work incomplete and an extension of time was granted. On July 11, 1857, William A. Lowery was given the contract to do the inside work for \$775. Messrs. Brandt, Houghton and Dickinson were appointed a committee to supervise the work. Mr. Lowery was in turn obliged to ask for further time, but finally completed his contract, and



AUBURN ACADEMY

in the first suit of law in which Auburn was a party, he was successful and secured his full contract price. The first floor being available, Messrs. Weldon, Griswold and Dickinson employed as the first corps of teachers, for a twelve weeks' term, John H. Moore as principal, assisted by Miss Maria Gray and Mrs. Vesta M. Ward. On August 22, 1858, the school opened and inaugurated the graded free school system in the Town of Auburn.

In the following November a contract for the completion of the second and third stories of the school building was given to James W. Case for \$670, the work to be done by July 1, 1859. This made the cost of the Academy \$2,770 to that date. In March, 1859, Andrew Larimore applied for use of the schoolhouse, and consent was given, on condition that no interference would be permitted with the tools or material of Mr. Case, who was at work finishing the upper rooms.

The Academy when completed was three stories. One outer door gave access to all rooms. From an entry within this door, two inner doors opened, one on the right to the primary department, that on the left to the intermediate room. Winding stairs, right and left, led up to the sec-



ond floor, where there were two rooms, that on the right being the grammar, and that on the left the high school department. The third story was arranged as a rhetorical room, having raised platforms at the east and west ends. There were recitation rooms on the first and second floors at the north end of each school room, and in them a small part of the south wall was utilized as a blackboard. The seats were old-fashioned, cumbrous and unstable. Outline maps in colors hung upon the walls of the school room, and the space before the teacher's desks were occupied in each department by recitation seats, to which classes invariably came. By an ingenious device it was so arranged that whenever it was desired on public days to unite the high school and grammar rooms, the panels which separated them could be swung up. Prior to its destruction the third story of the building had been partitioned into two rooms, with new improved furniture, and these rooms were occupied by advanced classes.

In August, 1859, Mr. Larimore was hired for a fall and winter term, and was assisted by four teachers. The school became known as the Auburn Union School, and gave bright promise of a prosperous future. In the spring of 1860 the school trustees granted Mr. Larimore the use of the schoolhouse for a third term of fourteen weeks. The close of the school year showed an attendance of 240 pupils, many of high grade of scholarship, and the Auburn Institute, as it was termed, began to attract notice with an increased patronage.

The first school board elected on a municipal ticket engaged Chester P. Hodge as principal of the "Auburn Seminary," as it began to be called, for the fall and winter terms, with three assistants. Prior to the opening of the winter terms, a teachers' institute was held in the seminary. In the fall of 1861, V. F. Wise taught a select term, followed by a regular engagement for the winter. His successor in 1862 was James E. Rose, who had four assistants. In 1862 and 1863 Mrs. V. M. Swarts taught both regular and select terms with marked success. Charles A. Munn organized the school at the fall session of 1863 as the Auburn Male and Female Institute, with three departments, primary, junior and senior. The trustees in the fall of 1864 engaged Spencer Dills as principal, with three able assistants, and the territory tributary to Auburn's educational interests was widely extended. In June, 1865, Mr. Dills was appointed school examiner for three years, and in August opened a home normal school of especial benefit to proposed district school teachers. He was again employed in 1866, and in April, 1867, he and T. J. Saxton conducted a select term, at the close of which was issued the only catalogue published up to that time of the teachers and students of the different institutes.

In June, 1868, William H. McIntosh succeeded Mr. Dills. He taught a fall and select term, and was engaged as superintendent and principal for the regular winter term, aided by three assistants. Charles M. Hertig was engaged for the winter term of 1869, but remained only ten weeks, being succeeded in December, 1870, by Publius V. Hoffman, who conducted a four months' term. His successor was Herman P. Colgrove, and in 1871 William H. McIntosh again took the helm, with Calvin P. Houser, Laura Clark and Emma Hull for assistants. The term was so successful that all the teachers were retained for the winter. The fall term of 1872 was marked by the attendance of eighty young people in the high school alone, who showed great assiduity and proficiency in their studies. Mr. McIntosh taught the winter and spring terms of 1872-'73.

In the summer of 1873 the school engaged a new corps of teachers, headed by Mr. A. R. Hoffman, who proved a good teacher and manager. All the teachers were retained until the close of the spring of 1875. In the fall increase of enrollment, owing to municipal growth, required the



use of the third story of the building and two additional teachers were engaged. During the fall and final term, on the night of October 6th, the old academy was discovered to be on fire, and with no appliances to extinguish the flames, the congregated population of the town saw the pioneer structure destroyed, together with all its furniture, text books and apparatus, with the exception of a few books. It had performed its mission well and has become an historical incident in Auburn's history. The building had been insured for \$3,000, and the furniture for \$500, and the insurance being promptly paid, was a great help in rebuilding. In the meanwhile three rooms were secured on the second floor of Ensley's block, and on November 15th, the public schools were reopened. To meet the imperative demand for a new school, the town board issued \$10,000 of eight per cent bonds, the last payable in nineteen years from date, with no promise for shorter redemption. These bonds were taken by New York parties and the proceeds turned over to the school board.

Work was begun on the first Auburn high school building in the spring of 1876. The site was well chosen, the structure was of brick, two stories high, the dimensions 61 by 75 feet, and the highest point was sixty feet above ground. The foundation walls were of freestone and supplied a roomy basement. James W. Case was the successful bidder, and the contract was awarded him at \$9,670. The plans and specifications had been prepared by Moser & Gibbs, of Toledo, Ohio, and S. B. Gibbs, of the firm, was engaged by the board to supervise the work. Owing to several changes, the cost was increased by several hundred dollars. The schoolhouse was substantially built at a personal loss to the contractor, who erred in making his bid too low. The furniture cost \$800, and the building was heated by two hot air furnaces costing \$400. The entire cost of that first building was \$12,332.

Michael Seiler, of Fairfield Township, a graduate of the state normal school, was the first superintendent, and his salary of \$1,050 per annum was well earned, his system and management being thorough and effective. He was succeeded by B. B. Harrison and others, and an excellent school was conducted until the building was destroyed by fire on the evening of Tuesday, November 30, 1880. The fire was first seen near the heating apparatus in the basement, where it undoubtedly originated. It was of very small proportions when first seen, and with proper facilities could have been extinguished. However, the building was a total loss.

Undaunted, the citizens and authorities at once took measures for the construction of a new building, which was erected on the site of the first, and in accordance with the same plan. It was a graded school, with the addition of a high school department, and was so conducted up to 1893, when a regular high school was erected. Since then it has been a grammar school only, and is known as the Harrison school.

In 1893 the contract for the high school was let, the building to cost \$16,000, and to raise the amount, bonds were issued to the extent of \$10,000, the other \$6,000 to be met by current taxation. The building was completed and occupied in 1893. It is still in use as a high school, though now overcrowded, but the congestion will be relieved on the completion of the fine new high school now in process of erection, and to be known as "The McIntosh School," the site for which was donated by William H. McIntosh, formerly principal in the old Auburn Academy and county superintendent, who by his timely gift came to the rescue when the school board had been unable to find an available site. The site donated by Mr. McIntosh consisted of four lots on South Main Street, on which stood his private residence. The property was deeded in fee simple to the school board of Auburn, April 7, 1916, the school board at the time being composed of Michael Boland, president; Stanley E. Van

Fleet, secretary; and I. O. Buchtl, treasurer. This board accepted plans and specifications prepared by Ard Ellwood, and advertised for bids for construction. Four bids were filed, ranging from \$88,000 to \$117,000, and all were rejected, as the smallest amount was beyond the constitutional 2 per cent limit. A levy was made of 50 cents on the \$100 on the valuation of \$1,129,000. A conference was held by the school board with Harry H. Achemire, an Auburn contractor, and it was decided to defer temporarily the construction of the east wing. This reduced the cost so that a bid by Mr. Achemire of \$77,000 was accepted, and he contract for material and secure men. It was agreed that Mr. McIntosh should vacate his home October 12, 1916, and some time afterward were engaged in clearing away the trees and preparing to demolish the building. In December, 1915, Mr. Achemire had contracted with the Monticello Brick Company for the necessary brick, and the plumbing was contracted for at a cost of \$20,000. On July 2d the first brick was laid by Mr. McIntosh himself—and it may be here said that he also laid the last one. September 15, 1917, passed and there had been no bids for the advertised school bonds issued to the amount of \$46,000. Mr. Boland, the president of the board, called Mr. McIntosh to his aid, and the latter formed a syndicate of people in Auburn, Butler and St. Joe, bought the bonds, and money was thus obtained. On April 23, 1918, Mr. Van Fleet died, and W. H. Willenar was appointed in the place. He became president of the board, but resigned January 3, 1919, and Dr. J. E. Graham was selected to fill the vacancy. Mr. Boland had previously resigned on account of ill health, and his resignation was followed by his death November 24, 1918. His place was filled by James Pomeroy. The work on the school building has been steadily going forward and will be completed probably by January 1, 1920. The new high school will be thoroughly modern in every detail. The gymnasium and auditorium, with its gallery and stage will mean a great saving for the school in rent now paid out for the use of buildings for basketball games and high school entertainments. On the ground floor are the domestic science and vocational training rooms. The assembly room on the main floor will accommodate the entire high school. There are separate recitation rooms for each class, and on the top floor are special accommodations for the physics and chemistry classes and the commercial department. Rest rooms for the boys and girls, and offices for the principal and superintendent have been carefully planned and provided. On the southeast corner of the grounds a power-plant has been added at a contract price of \$29,000, and which is connected with the school building by a tunnel.

In addition to the schools already mentioned, the growth of Auburn has necessitated the building of two others. One of these, known as "the Riley building," named after James Whitcomb Riley, the Indiana poet, is located in the northwest part of the town, and is an artistically designed, one-story building. The other, known as the De Soto building, is located in East Auburn, and was recently erected. It is a two-story building which cost \$16,000. To meet the expense, bonds were issued for \$14,000, provision being made for early payment, and the entire amount was paid off within three years. The principal is Isaac M. Cosper. The present superintendent of the Auburn schools is G. W. Youngblood.

#### NEWVILLE ACADEMY

Auburn was not the only town in De Kalb County which at an early period made the attempt to provide opportunities for higher education. About 1855 or '56, a few enterprising citizens of the village of Newville, after consulting together, put up what was for that time quite a preten-



tious frame building, with an adjoining small building for dormitories for those pupils who came from outside localities. Two quite prominent educators were employed: James Colgrove, now an aged man residing at Pasadena, California, and Joel Lee Hendricks, a fine mathematical scholar. These two men united to conduct the Newville Academy, which for some years was the leading educational institution in the county. Mr. Hendricks had classes in field surveys, his pupils being largely from the country territory. Early in the '60s these gentlemen were succeeded in the management of the institution by Rev. Randall Faurott, a minister of the Christian church, who on leaving the school, went south on work connected with the Freedmen's Aid in Mississippi, and died there. After that, the school began to decline and by and by faded out of existence. The building, which was substantially constructed, stood there a long time after its mission had been fulfilled.

#### MOORE'S SEMINARY, WATERLOO

In 1860, J. H. Moore, who had taught in the Auburn school a year or two previously, went to Waterloo, where he erected a building and estab-



HIGH SCHOOL, WATERLOO

lished a school that was called Moore's Seminary. In this work he associated himself with J. B. York, to whom he sold a half interest in the building. In April, 1862, Mr. York bought the remaining share and carried on the school, while Mr. Moore enlisted as a soldier in the One Hundredth Indiana Infantry. The seminary lasted a few years until Mr. York finally gave it up. The building was later converted into a candy factory.

Previous to the erection of the present schoolhouse, school was held in a small frame building, which stood on the site of the present M. E. Church. Subsequently this building was twice moved, and served various purposes, being used for an M. E. Church, town hall and armory. The present building was erected in the early '70s, and is a large and well constructed schoolhouse. Until quite recently it has afforded



adequate facilities for the pupils, but owing to over-crowding, the primary class has been transferred to the town hall, in which it occupies two rooms. The Waterloo school is today one of the best in the county. It has a capable superintendent in W. Scott Forney, the members of the school board being V. W. Lowman, Herbert C. Willis and Dr. W. R. Newcomer. Mildred C. Kroft is principal, while there are five grade teachers and three high school teachers. Professor Forney is a De Kalb County man, and a graduate of Indiana University. He taught several years in the Philippine Islands, and was re-elected superintendent of the Waterloo schools for the year 1919-1920. The teachers, of whom Clarence Green is assistant principal, are all capable and successful. The high school has an exceptional reputation in music and art, and the course of study includes everything required in a commissioned high school. There is also a library of about 800 volumes, of which about 600 are for reference purposes, the remainder being fiction. The student body is equally divided into two literary societies—the Ciceronian and the Zedalethean. In these societies the students elect their own officers and choose their own program committees. Each society gives several programs during the year and their work in debates, orations, recitations, essays and original stories is of a high order. These societies provide practice in the very things which the various communities expect of high school graduates. This work helps to develop more useful citizens. Basketball, baseball and tennis are the forms of athletics indulged in, and the school has excellent teams. The basketball games are played in the town hall, which is adjacent to the school park, and has a floor admirably adapted to the purpose. The first high school class was graduated in 1879.

The total number of high school graduates up to the present time, including the class of 1919, is 341, and among them are represented almost every profession and business, with a high record of success.

#### BUTLER SCHOOLS

From the earliest days the pioneer and settler of Butler and the vicinity, down to the present, have shown and confirmed a laudatory interest in education. The first school building upon the site of what is now the beautiful and thriving town of Butler was erected in 1841. It was a log structure, large for a building of its kind, and for sunlight had upon each side a long and narrow window made by part of a section of a single log. It stood just north across the street from the road, which it faced broadside. In this rude structure L. Harding was the first teacher, and of those who learned therein to read, to write, and to spell, none survive, and very few have personal knowledge of its history. Interest in education was constant from the beginning. Half a century ago the Butler graded school stood unrivalled in De Kalb County, and many other counties of the State of Indiana, for fine site and building, high personality of pupils, of whose attendance, deportment, and scholarship parents and the public had good reason to be proud. The schoolhouse, located upon beautiful and spacious grounds in the northeast part of the town, was a three-story brick structure, admirably planned, with large study and recitation rooms, comfortable double seats and desks, and exceptionally fine blackboards. A monitor clock struck the hour and division of classes to and from the recitation benches, and a bell rope suspended at the desk placed the opening and closing of the other departments, with the intermissions, at the principal's control.

The first to teach in this building was Dexter Ladd Thomas, next James G. Bowersox. About 1870 the latter became principal at Waterloo, and then again at Butler. Prior to his departure from Butler in Novem-

ber, 1869, he heartily recommended his friend, William H. McIntosh, the county school examiner, and resident of Auburn, to fill the place vacated. The Butler school board was composed of David Fay, Stephen Olmstead and John A. Campbell, all happily interested in the work. Mr. Campbell was himself a teacher of ability. Invited by the board, Mr. McIntosh accepted, and on December 6, 1869, school opened with Mrs. Marilla Snively in the primary, Clara Gilmore in the intermediate, and William H. McIntosh in the high school department. In order, study and recitation, an ardor that reflected honor to teacher and taught, the members of the high school here, not only from Butler and adjacent farms, but other sections of the county, were young ladies and gentlemen in the full acceptance of the term, who could be depended upon to give their whole attention to their studies whether the teacher was present or not. Many



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of these scholars have realized the bright promise of their youth, but all are now scattered through various parts of the country.

The old school building, having served its day and its generation, has been replaced by a larger and finer structure, in which the highly valued work of educating the city youth finds staunch support as ever with the citizens.

#### GARRETT SCHOOLS

In the spring of 1876 the first school trustees appointed for the town of Garrett—Dr. A. S. Parker, Dr. S. M. Sherman and N. W. Lancaster, made preparations for the construction of a schoolhouse. Plans were proposed calling for a building to cost \$16,000. This brought forth objections from the town trustees and many of the citizens, as the “boom” of the new town was just then on the ebb, and the country had not yet recovered from the financial panic of 1873. Public meetings were held and so much opposition manifested that the trustees let the contract at a greatly reduced figure to J. W. Harvey, a Chicago contractor, who had just finished the Baltimore and Ohio shops. During the construction of the new building there were two schools opened. The first was a select school, which was opened about September 1, 1876, in the new Catholic Church, with Josephine Bisset as teacher. About that time Frank Moody

was trustee of Butler Township, and he had furnished new seats and desks for a district school, so he turned the old seats and desks over to the Garrett school trustees. They put them in the News printing office building on the corner north of the Baptist Church, where in the fall a school was opened, with Mrs. A. S. Parker as teacher. Work was rushed on the new building, so that the first public school was opened in January, 1877, to fill out the unexpired term of that year. There were 120 pupils enrolled in September, 1876. In 1900 a new schoolhouse was built on the north side at a cost of \$5,000, and in 1906 a magnificent and modern high school building was constructed at a cost of \$20,000.

#### SCHOOL STATISTICS

The schools in De Kalb County, January 1, 1919, were as follows: Auburn, McIntosh High School (in construction, now nearly completed), graded, 3; Butler, high and graded; Garrett, high school, graded, 2; Ash-



HIGH SCHOOL, GARRETT

ley, high and graded; Altona, grammar; Corunna, high and graded; Waterloo, high and graded; Butler Township (district), 6; Concord Township, St. Joe consolidated, high and grades, rural, 3; Fairfield Township, 7; Franklin Township, 9; Grant Township, 4; Jackson Township, 9; Keyser Township, consolidated, rural, 4; Newville Township, consolidated, rural, 2; Richland Township, consolidated; Smithfield Township, 7; Spencer Township, Spencerville consolidated, high and grades; Stafford Township, 1.

Of the seven commissioned high schools during the 1918-19 term, the average cost per pupil was: Garrett, \$37.09; Spencer Township, \$38.44; Concord Township, \$47.00; Waterloo, \$53.21; Butler, \$53.65; Auburn, \$55.24; Ashley, \$70.23; general average, \$51.03.

The respective number of pupils was: Waterloo, 247; Ashley, 156; Corunna, 99; Altona, 64; Butler Township, 128; Concord Township, 238; Fairfield Township, 206; Grant, 64; Jackson Township, 178; Keyser Township, 182; Newville Township, 104; Richland Township, 121; Smithfield Township, 185; Spencer Township, 173; Stafford Township, 74. The total number of pupils in the elementary schools was 3,549, and in the high schools, 747, or a grand total of 4,296.

The average cost per pupil in the elementary schools was \$25.22.

In the township schools there are 76 buildings, including 66 one-room buildings, 6 two-room buildings, 3 of more than two rooms, and 1 build-



ing in Altona. The total value of the public school property in the county is estimated at \$560,800.00.

On October 1, 1918, there were 183 teachers employed, including 141 grade teachers and 42 high school teachers.

The growth of the school system of De Kalb County has been one of evolution. From time to time an impetus has been received through state legislation, but such changes were made when the time was ripe for them, and the people in general recognized their necessity. Early restrictions have been removed for the good of the schools and the interests of professional teachers. Once forbidden to visit schools, it is now a duty. Assemblages once voluntary, are now obligatory and compensated. School attendance is compulsory, terms are long, and teachers are paid according to the grade of license. The question of cost has arisen with the burden of heavy taxation. Small schools have been discontinued. Central grade schools are vetoed. There are fewer houses to maintain and fewer teachers to pay. The largest possible number of the same grade in a township is taught in classes, and so the largest possible educational influence is acquired with the least possible expense. This is a problem of the present, and vital to the interests of the free school system.

## CHAPTER LXXVII

### RELIGIOUS DEVELOPMENT

The church and school have been called the two main pillars of civilization, and in every established community may be found co-existent. The earliest settlers in DeKalb County, however, enjoyed no religious privileges save such as they could derive from the occasional ministrations of some wandering preacher; but the preacher followed close upon the heels of the pioneer settler, and hence it is on record that the first sermon was preached in DeKalb County in the fall of 1836 by Benjamin Alton, of the Disciples' or Campbellite Church. He, like the other early settlers, had to work with his hands for his own support, but each Sunday he was to be found in the pulpit, clad in a black coat—perhaps his only presentable garment—and listened to eagerly by those who hungered for the bread of life. Previous to his coming, prayer meetings had been occasionally, if not regularly, held by people of religious convictions, without much regard to denominational differences, and this was especially the case on Sunday, when some of the settlers threw open their houses for this purpose.

In 1837 N. L. Thomas and Joseph Miller, both of whom then resided on the Maumee, held a two days' Methodist meeting near Orangeville; and in the following year classes were organized in several places by the Reverends Coleman and Warner, of the Methodist Episcopal Church. A Methodist Protestant class of sixteen persons was organized early in 1839 at the house of Samuel Tarney on Bear Creek, and Lewis Hickman came on as a missionary and organized several classes and finally a circuit, he being, it is thought, the first Methodist Protestant preacher in Indiana north of the Wabash River. Each of the denominations above mentioned established churches in the county. A little later came two United Brethren preachers, Jonathan Thomas and Bishop Kumler, who labored as missionaries through the county in 1841 and 1842. Succeeding ministers up to 1844 were S. B. Ward, Baptist; Elders Cherry and Miner, Free-Will Baptist, and James Cather, Lutheran.

#### EARLY CHURCHES

The Methodist Episcopal denomination erected the first church edifice in the county in 1841. It was located on the farm of Robert Work in Butler Township. A log building was erected near the same site at an early day by the Lutherans. Addison Coleman, a Methodist, and Elder Staley, a Baptist, were among the early preachers in Franklin Township. The latter preached his first sermon at the house of John Houlton in 1837. The first church organization in Franklin took place in 1843, at Kepler's, later known as Haverstock's Corners. Here the Evangelical Lutheran denomination flourished, under the pastoral care of Rev. James Cather, meetings being held in the schoolhouse. A church building was erected in 1851 by Elisha W. Beard. The Rev. John McCurdy was the first local minister. From time to time successful revivals were conducted, which increased the membership. In 1883 the place of

worship was removed to College Corners schoolhouse and the society reorganized as a Methodist Episcopal Church. At the same locality, in 1885, a Church of God was organized, with about 20 members. Belle Fountain United Brethren Church, situated on section 2, was organized in 1858, at the close of a series of meetings held by the Rev. Mr. Crosslin, and a commodious house of worship was erected in 1862. In 1882 Jerusalem United Brethren Church was organized at Jerusalem schoolhouse, on section 24, by Rev. Alonzo Gaff, who in the following year was succeeded in the pastorate by the Rev. Aaron Lilly.

The Newville Christian Church was organized in Newville Township in the fall of 1851 by the Rev. James Hadsell, the society starting with twenty-seven members. Previous to this, in 1842, the Rev. H. Kumler started a United Brethren class with four members, a house of worship being erected in 1855. In the '80s the church was enlarged and otherwise improved. In Richland Township the Baptists were the first religious organization, erecting a log church at Calkin's Corners. Both the United Brethren and the Methodists had early organizations in Smithfield, the former holding regular services at the Smith schoolhouse, under the direction of the Rev. Samuel Chaplin. The same denomination has now a neat frame church at Charles Corners, the society having over 100 members, and a flourishing Sunday school.

Richland Center Lutheran Evangelical Church was organized in 1855 by Rev. W. Waltman, with twenty-five charter members. In the following year the Rev. J. Cather organized the Fairfield Center Church, with fourteen charter members. Sedan Church was organized in 1860 by Rev. J. Waltman, with twenty-eight members. The Rev. Mr. Cather also founded the first Lutheran Church in Concord Township, in October, 1849, the society starting with twelve charter members. Among the early pastors were John Sidel, W. Waltman and C. C. Caskey. In 1859 the church pastorate was split into that of Spencerville, St. John's, Salem and Richland. Rev. S. Kelso, a later pastor, organized the St. Joe Church and erected an edifice at the cost of \$3,000. Another pastor, S. P. Fryberger, founded the church at Spencerville, also belonging to the Evangelical Lutheran denomination. This society in 1887 erected a good church and parsonage. The Lutheran Church in Troy Township was founded in 1843 by that indefatigable church builder, Rev. James Cather. The society at first met at the house of John Zimmerman, on section 30, but later a house of worship was built on section 28.

In Stafford Township the Rev. Jonathan Thomas in 1843 organized the Big Run United Brethren Church. The society met in the house of Jacob Gunsenhouse, but five years later changed their meeting-place to the schoolhouse which stood on his land. A church building was begun in 1861 and completed during the war. This church also laid out the first cemetery in the township. In Wilmington Township United Brethren meetings were held at the house of Abraham Eakright, on section 20, in 1854. The Rev. Mr. Benton and wife, both preachers, conducted the meetings. In 1861 the society began to use the log schoolhouse on section 19, where in March of that year a remarkable revival added seventy persons to the congregation. The society was known as the Eakright class until 1870, in the fall of which year Mount Pleasant Chapel was erected on section 22, and the society grew in numbers and activity. The United Brethren had a class at Wilmington Center as early as 1850, but it was continued for but a few years. The Methodists also had a class at an early day at the Center. In 1882 the Rev. Aaron Lilly organized a United Brethren class of twenty-seven members at Moore station, services at first being held in the Mooresville schoolhouse. In



the summer of 1883 they built a fine large frame church, costing \$1,400, at Moore station.

The Church of Christ built a brick structure in 1870 at Waterloo, at a cost of \$3,500. The Rev. N. N. Bartlett, who remained two years, was the first pastor, and after him there were several others. This church, however, went out of existence some twenty years ago. The old brick building was used later as a schoolhouse, but about three years ago was condemned as being no longer safe. It is still standing.

The early Methodists in Smithfield Township met at Barker's and formed a class of which Mr. Barker was the leader. The society continued to grow, and at the later date "Barker's Chapel" was built which was burned down in December, 1914. The Disciples also organized a society and church at Cedar Lake, and held services under the leadership of the Revs. Bartlett and Hadsell.

The first religious service held in Jackson Township was at the home of William Watson in 1839, and the preacher was the Rev. James T. Robe, of the Methodist Episcopal denomination. In 1841 a Methodist Protestant Church was organized in the same township by the Rev. Lewis Kicklan. They were the principal religious organizations in the county during pioneer days, and from the seed thus planted have developed some of the largest and most active churches in it today, which will be more fully mentioned on the following pages.

#### PRESBYTERIAN

The Presbyterian society in Auburn was organized conjointly in December, 1844, by the Reverends Wolff and Bliss. James T. Bliss moved to Auburn in October, that year, and was ordained by the Fort Wayne Presbytery in the December following. He supplied the Auburn Presbyterian Church for twelve years. Services were held every Sabbath, and Nelson Payne conducted the Sabbath school as superintendent. In 1850 Samuel W. Ralston deeded to the society conditionally part of a lot on which the little frame church was erected the following year. In September, 1851, the wife of the minister died and interment was made in the old cemetery. In 1856 the Reverend Bliss had practically ceased to minister to the Auburn society. He was succeeded in the summer of 1857 by Rev. Edward Wright, who conducted his ministerial labors until 1863. In the fall of 1876, during the pastorate of the Rev. Henry Johnson, a brick structure was erected, costing \$6,000, and the old frame church was sold to the society of the Church of God. The present parsonage was built in 1902, during the pastorate of the Rev. Asher H. Brand. The present pastor, Rev. A. P. Bourns, assumed charge in April, 1915, succeeding the Rev. R. I. Platter. The church has now a membership of nearly 200, with a Sunday school enrollment of about 160. During the last three or four years improvements have been made in the property, including the church and manse, amounting to about \$2,000.

In 1903 and 1904 an attempt was made to organize a Presbyterian society in Garrett, by the Rev. E. F. Knickerbocker, now a missionary in China. He found the task a hard one, but after locating about seventy people who at some time or other had been members of a Presbyterian Church somewhere, or who had attended services, very few of whom were associated with any other church in the town, he hired a dance hall, rented a stove and a few lamps, and after making other preparations, began a two weeks' series of meetings. It was bitter winter weather, and the attendance was small, a few coming one night and others the next, until one night nobody came. Rev. Mr. Knickerbocker was finally obliged to discontinue his efforts to establish a church, and

upon the coming of the next pastor the society disbanded. The next attempt was made in the fall of 1907 and in the following year was successful. Charles G. Sterling was the first pastor called, and was followed by W. A. Service and E. L. Buchanan. By 1914 the society had 120 members and worshipped in the German Methodist building, later renting St. Matthew's Reformed Church. About May, 1919, a merger was effected with the latter society, the Presbyterian buying one-half interest in the church property, and the name of the Reformed-Presbyterian Church was adopted. The combined membership numbers about 200, with a considerable preponderance on the Presbyterian side. The Rev. Fred M. Newlin, who came as pastor to the Presbyterian Church in October, 1916, is serving the congregation. The principles of the Presbyterian New Era movement and the Reformed Forward movement are being applied in this church.

Some fifty-six years ago, on June 5, 1863, the Rev. C. Ford organized a Presbyterian Church at Waterloo. It was started with twenty-three members, P. B. Nimmons, Robert Lockhart and A. A. Howard being ruling elders. A frame building was erected on Maple Street in 1867, at a cost of \$3,000. The Rev. Edward Wright was the first pastor, and he has had a number of worthy successors. In the fall of 1917 the Rev. John E. Jones assumed charge, but he resigned June 1, 1918, to go overseas in Y. M. C. A. work, and the pulpit is being supplied. At present there are about fifty members. The church is active and has a good Sunday school.

#### REFORMED

The St. Matthew Reformed Church in Garrett was organized in 1888, the first pastor being the Rev. B. Ruff. Other pastors succeeded to the pulpit, and in 1904 a brick church building was erected at the corner of Keyser and Franklin streets, at a cost of \$2,500. In the spring of 1919 this church became merged with the Presbyterian society, and the combined societies are now known as the Reformed-Presbyterian Church of Garrett.

St. John's Reformed Church of Auburn has a small membership, and since the departure of the Rev. Otto Sherry, who was pastor in 1918, the congregation has been dependent upon occasional supplies.

#### METHODIST

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Auburn was organized in 1839 by the Rev. Samuel Reed, with the assistance of Wesley Park, and was first known as the St. Joe Mission. Rev. George M. Beswick was the presiding elder, and Mr. Park formed the first class in 1841. The class in full membership numbered six persons, viz.: Wesley and Sophia Park, Fannie Smith, and James, Mary and David Cooper—the last three joined by letter in February. It was Mr. Park who also organized the Sunday school, and he was all his life one of the most active members of the church, aiding in many ways. In 1848-9 the first church edifice was erected, at the northeast corner of the court square. With the increased growth of the town it was thought better to secure a location farther from the business center, and accordingly, in 1878, under the pastorate of Rev. J. E. Ervin, the building was moved to the back part of a lot on the northeast corner of Van Buren and Seventh streets. In 1890, under the pastorate of the Rev. H. M. Lamport, the present fine brick building was erected at a cost of near \$20,000. Since that time various improvements have been made at additional ex-

pense. In 1896, after the old church had been sold and removed, the old parsonage was moved to the rear of the new church and repaired, and was used until 1905, when a new parsonage was purchased at the corner of Fifth and Van Buren streets. The church has had a long succession of pastors, most of whom have been active and efficient workers. The present pastor is the Rev. H. L. Overdeer, who in 1919 succeeded the Rev. F. A. Hall. The church has now a membership of nearly 1,000, while connected with it are several active societies, including the Ladies' Aid, Woman's Foreign Missionary, Home Missionary, Epworth League and Junior League.

The Auburn Methodist circuit includes three churches, now under the care of Rev. John S. Denbo, of Auburn. These are the Meese Chapel, located  $4\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Auburn; Norris Chapel, four miles northeast of Auburn, and the church at Auburn Junction. Meese Chapel was founded by William Meese, a local preacher of the Methodist denomination, about 1880. The society owns its own building. In 1878 William Meese, the father and founder of Meese Chapel, began to hold meetings in Culler schoolhouse, and from 1879 to 1881 conducted a class, and in 1880 Norris Chapel was built. The Auburn Junction Church originated in meetings, which were held in a wooden tabernacle on Ensley Avenue. A United Brethren class was organized, the members of which afterwards bought the present church building, which formerly was a Dunkard Church. In 1916, or early in 1917, the Methodists took charge of the church property and organized a class. The average membership of each class is about thirty-five.

The First Methodist Episcopal Church of Garrett was organized in 1875 by the Rev. J. W. Welch, who at that time was pastor of the church in Auburn. The early meetings were held in a rough building known as the "Tabernacle," standing just east of the present church site. In 1876 the Rev. George Adams became the first regular pastor, and in the same year the congregation occupied an old frame building on Cowan Street that had formerly been used as a saloon. During the pastorate of the Rev. Beneville Sawyer, who came in the spring of 1877, the congregation grew and many helped the church who were not members. Before he left the front part of the church building was erected and dedicated. During the pastorate of the Rev. W. R. Jones, 1886-1891, the building was enlarged to its original design. Other pastors followed and the church continued to grow. During the summer of 1911, Rev. Charles Tinkham being pastor, it was decided to build a new and larger edifice. By January 1, 1912, the pastor had taken subscriptions amounting to nearly \$17,000. A site on the corner of Cowan and Huston streets was purchased June 1, plans were considered, and the architect and contractor selected. The entire cost of the building when completed was nearly \$30,000. The first services were held in the new building April 11, 1913, the Rev. Charles Tinkham still being pastor. The church is provided with a fine organ, and immediately adjacent to the building is a large brick parsonage. The church edifice is now the finest in DeKalb County. The trustees were H. W. Mountz, Dr. M. E. Klinger, Job C. Smith, Christopher Reyher, Dr. I. F. Thompson, O. O. Stoner, J. H. Creager, H. S. Wright, W. B. Hays and U. S. Zerkle. The building committee was composed of H. W. Mountz, Dr. M. E. Klinger, Dr. J. F. Thompson, R. N. Miller and C. W. Camp. The present pastor is the Rev. Otto A. Trabue. There are several active societies connected with the church, which has a large membership, and is taking a prominent part in Christian work.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Waterloo.—The early Methodists at Waterloo at first held services in the discarded seminary building but



in 1885 they erected a brick church. The new building burned in October, 1886, but was rebuilt in 1887, at a cost of \$55,000, under the pastorate of Rev. W. D. Parr. The present society is doing active work under the direction of the Reverend Lamport. The Ladies' Aid and Epworth League are the auxiliary societies.

The Methodist Episcopal society at Butler is one of the oldest in the county, having been organized about 1839, before any town had been established. Four years later meetings were being held at the home of John McCurdy, one mile north of the present site of the town. After eighteen months removal was made to the original place of meeting, at "the corners," services being held in the schoolhouse, and the membership almost immediately increased from fifteen to ninety. In 1855-56 a frame church was built at a cost of \$1,000. The first pastor of the society was the Rev. Jesse Sparks. The present brick church, valued at over \$15,000, was erected in 1889, the parsonage being constructed during the pastorate of the Rev. T. F. Frech, 1890-1893. The church has a membership of about 300, the present pastor being the Rev. R. J. Burns. The Ladies' Aid Society, Woman's Foreign Missionary Society and Epworth League are also active.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Spencerville has a membership of about 200, with a flourishing Sunday school. The Rev. Glenn Bryan (1918) is efficiently carrying on the work of upbuilding inaugurated by former pastors, and the church is a power in the community.

The Methodist Episcopal Church at Corunna did good work under the direction of Rev. Earl Coe, who in April, 1918, succeeded the Rev. R. R. Detweiler. The pastor of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Ashley is the Rev. Darrell Stoker, and here also good Christian work is being done. St. Joe has also an active Methodist Church, which adds to the strength of the denomination in the county.

The Rehoboth Methodist Protestant Church was organized in 1840 at the home of Samuel Tarney. There were sixteen people in the society, which constituted what was known as the Bear Creek class. The early services were held at the homes of the settlers, and later in a log schoolhouse on the farm of Amariah Johnson. Special meetings were also held at intervals in groves or barns. A few years later a church edifice was erected a short distance north of the log schoolhouse. It was a frame building, somewhat pretentious for those days, and was in use until 1881, when it was considered unsafe and abandoned. Meetings were then held for a while in the Bear Creek schoolhouse, half a mile west. During the winter of 1881-82, under the pastorate of the Rev. F. M. Hussy, preparations were made for the erection of a new church home, and after some difficulty in finding a suitable location, the site of the present Rehoboth Church was selected, and the church built. It was named Rehoboth at the desire of John S. Boots, one of the donors. It has since been repaired and improved, and the society is still flourishing.

At an early date there were a few German Methodists residing in the Town of Auburn. Services were held in private houses whenever ministers of this denomination came to the neighborhood, but for some time there was no attempt made to organize a society. In 1858 the Rev. F. Ruff organized what was known as the Kendallville circuit, of which Auburn was an appointment, the meeting-place at first being located north of the town. The society began with thirteen members, and was served by the Rev. Mr. Ruff for about two years. In the early '70s the assistant preachers on the Kendallville circuit lived mostly in Auburn, Joseph Kern being the first, and after him G. Weiler, of Fort Wayne, J. Lamprecht and Rev. Mr. Meyer. In 1872 a revival resulted in ten conversions, and in the same year a Sunday school was organized, which was

conducted until 1880, when it was discontinued for a while. In 1874 a committee was appointed to select a lot on which to build a church. In the meanwhile the quarterly conference at Kendallville had elected five members of Emanuel Methodist Episcopal Church as trustees, who in August bought the lot selected, on which a frame meeting-house was built at a cost of \$2,740. Two hundred dollars of this amount was paid by the Church Extension Society of the Central German Conference. In 1892 a parsonage was built for \$1,400. The Sunday school was reorganized in 1890 by the Rev. D. Dobbick. The church was served for a number of years by visiting and resident pastors, but the congregation remained small, and the society has recently gone out of existence.

The First Methodist Protestant Church at St. Joe was organized in St. Joe in 1884, and a building costing approximately \$5,000 was erected the same year. The class was organized by the Rev. W. W. Lineberry, who was then pastor of Spencerville circuit, and its charter list numbered 38 members. Its membership growth has been steady since that date, at present numbering 126 members. The Sunday school has an enrollment of 132, with an average attendance of 84. The St. Joe church, together with the Concord church, own a parsonage valued at \$4,000, purchased in 1912.

Concord Church, a part of this charge, was organized in 1857, but the date relative to the organization and membership was lost in a fire. The present membership is 128; the Sunday school enrollment 100. The present building, a brick, was erected in 1886 at a cost of \$5,000, and was later remodeled until the plant is worth at present \$10,000.

#### CHRISTIAN CHURCH

On March 1, 1870, twenty-one persons, men and women, met in the Lutheran Church at Butler, and were organized into the Church of Christ Society of Butler, by John Ailsworth. Elder J. E. Harris served the congregation as the first minister. Under the ministration of the Rev. T. P. Sutton, 1873-8, the lot on which the church now stands was purchased; the church was erected, and dedicated February 7, 1875. The church has continued to flourish and has taken a prominent part in Christian work, having a membership now of over 200. There is also a Ladies' Aid and Christian Endeavor societies connected with it.

The Disciples Church, or Christian Church, of St. Joe was organized May 2, 1886, by the Rev. L. L. Carpenter. Elder J. A. Thomas was the first pastor of the church, which has grown to a membership of over 100. There is an active Sunday school, and the Christian Endeavor Society and the Martha Society do good auxiliary work. In 1888 a church edifice was erected at a cost of \$2,500.

The Church of Christ (or Christian Church) in Auburn was organized in the winter of 1902 by the Rev. J. N. Wilson, who was the first pastor. In 1907 a building was erected at the cost of \$3,200. The large growth of the society, however, has made a new edifice necessary, and ground has been recently purchased and plans made for the erection of a new church building, to cost \$16,000, the work on which will soon begin. The pastors since Rev. J. N. Wilson have been, Revs. J. A. Brown, C. H. Earenfight, John Lennox, Frank Nixon, Fred Thomas, C. W. Mahin and Oscar Grimes, the last mentioned of whom resided in August, 1919. There are several active societies, including the Ladies' Aid, Ladies' Auxiliary, Christian Endeavor and the Christian Woman's Board of Missions.

The Christian Church of Garrett originated in the year 1907, a society of twenty-eight members being organized by the Rev. O. L. Hull. He remained three years as the pastor, at the end of which time the congrega-

tion numbered over 250 people. A hall on King Street was purchased, wherein meetings were held for a number of years, but in 1916, under the pastorate of the Rev. J. M. Small, the present large brick building was erected, which is one of the handsomest churches in the city, and cost \$5,000. The trustees were A. C. Cobler, H. C. Breece and Fred Ohaver. The building was dedicated March 4, 1917. Mr. Small remained as pastor until June of that year, being succeeded in July by the Rev. Mr. Nauss, who served until September, 1919. The church has a present membership of about 420, with a Sunday school enrollment of nearly 350. The Christian Woman's Board of Missions, Ladies' Aid, Ladies of the Church, and Christian Endeavor ably supplement the work of the pastor, and the church is a vital force in the community.

#### UNITED BRETHREN

The United Brethren Church at Newville, which has been already briefly mentioned, originated in a class organized in 1842 by the Rev. Jonathan Thomas, a pioneer preacher. The early meetings were held in a small log building about two miles west of Newville, on the farm of Solomon Woodcox. There were eleven charter members, the last survivor of whom, Maria Delong, died in 1912 at the age of ninety years. About 1842 the place of meeting was changed to a frame schoolhouse which stood on the site of the present parsonage barn. In 1855, during the pastorate of the Rev. J. Fink, a fine frame building was erected. This edifice, about 1880, was moved back from the road and set on a brick foundation, various other improvements being made. In 1885, under the pastorate of the Rev. R. T. Martin, extensive repairs were made, and in 1914 the building was thoroughly renovated at a cost of about \$3,500. The church enjoys a good membership, with a strong Sunday school enrollment. The society has now existed for seventy-six years, and has had a long succession of devoted pastors. Its members are earnest and active and strive to make the church a power for God in the community. The present pastor is the Rev. L. G. Bears.

The United Brethren Church at Waterloo, originated, it is thought, about 1852. For some time the society was ministered to by traveling evangelists, and revivals were held which increased the membership. In 1862 the first church building was erected, George W. Trout and wife, having deeded a lot to the trustees. This was the first church in Waterloo, and during its early history it was used for union worship. In 1879 it was rebuilt and veneered with brick. The society was strong and aggressive up to 1889, when the division of the church in the general conference held that year at York, Pennsylvania, resulted. The Waterloo class at that time was very nearly equally divided, both numerically and financially, on the subject of the church rule on secrecy and the right of the majority to rule. Many of the older members seceded from the church and society and took with them what records the church then had. However, the society took on new life, and in June, 1912, the old church was torn down and the work of constructing a new edifice begun. The new building, which cost \$15,000, was dedicated April 6, 1913. The congregation now has more than 280 members, with a Sunday school enrollment of about 225. The present pastor is the Rev. H. C. Beauchamp, who is serving in his fifth year. In 1915 a Woman's Missionary Association was started and is doing active work.

The United Brethren Church in Butler was organized in January, 1884, with a membership of forty people. A frame church building was erected in the fall of 1883, at a cost of \$2,300, and was dedicated in December, that year. The Rev. Joseph Brown was the first pastor. The



society has been earnest and active and has prospered. The old building having become inadequate to the needs of the congregation, a fine edifice of red brick, costing over \$14,500, was erected, and was dedicated April 22, 1917, the pastor at that time being the Rev. W. H. Rittenhouse. The present membership of the church is about 210, and there is a flourishing Sunday school, with an enrollment of about the same size. The Ladies' Aid, Woman's Missionary and Christian Endeavor are valuable auxiliary societies. The present pastor is the Rev. W. E. Stanley. In the Butler Circuit are the Big Run, Jerusalem and Zion churches, with a combined membership of about 300. The present pastor is the Rev. S. Simon.

#### CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN

For some years the Church of the Brethren has been one of the active religious organizations of Auburn. About 1917 the congregation bought the old German Methodist Church on South Jackson Street, in which they now worship. The Revs. C. C. Cripe, C. W. Warstler and Walter Gibson have been recent pastors.

#### BAPTIST

The first regular Baptist Church in DeKalb County was organized about 1841 or 1842, and was known as the Cedar Creek Church. Deacon Conley, who afterward became a minister, Calvin Calkin, T. D. Daily, and their families, were among the prominent members of the society, which in time was disbanded.

The next Baptist Church was organized in Wilmington Township in 1844, the most active workers in the movement being A. Town and R. Speer. James R. Cosper donated land for a church site, and a log meeting-house was accordingly erected on the ground. Among the early pastors were S. B. Meade and S. B. Ward. The organization of a church in Auburn in 1852 drew away many of the members, and the Wilmington Church was abandoned in 1861.

The organization of the Baptist Church in Auburn was decided upon at a meeting of brethren in the old courthouse, August 13, 1852, and the organization was effected September 15th, the same year. Elder Ward became the first pastor, and was succeeded by Elder A. Town. For over ten years no building was erected, and services were held in the courthouse or in the Methodist or Presbyterian churches. In the fall of 1873 a building was completed, which is still standing. In 1914 the church had seventy-three members, with a Sunday school enrollment of over seventy, but more recently the membership has decreased, and is now small. The Rev. H. S. Morril resigned the pastorate January 8, 1919.

The Baptist Church in Garrett was organized December 15, 1885, by seven ladies, the first pastor being the Rev. Mr. Davies. In 1888-89 the present brick church building was erected. The church has a membership of about 225; also a good Sunday school, and several active societies are connected with it, engaged in auxiliary work. The present pastor is the Rev. C. H. Sheick.

#### LUTHERAN

At an early date two German societies, of Auburn, the German Lutheran and the German Reformed, united their forces under the name of the German Reformed Lutheran Church. Having come into possession of lot No. 154, which had been donated by John Spencer for re-

ligious purposes, a frame meeting-house was built, which was completed and dedicated by February, 1865. Later the German Reformed Church of St. Johns bought out the interest of the other society, and on January 1, 1866, a meeting was called and a consistory chosen. Peter Durmer and Jacob Kandel were elected elders and John Otto and Ernest Myers, deacons, to serve two years. The Rev. Isaac Motzinger, the first minister, served the church acceptably until 1872, after which came a succession of other preachers. Shortly after the church had been built the Evangelical Lutheran Society sold their interest and for several years were without a house of worship. Services, however, were continued, the Reverend Reichard, of Avilla, and Reverend Steinback, of Fairfield, preaching for the society alternately every fortnight. In 1873 the society applied for and obtained a lot which had been set apart for church purposes by Mr. Spencer, and a small church was built, in which, at intervals, services were held by the Reverend Searing, for a time also by the Rev. Lewis Pullman, who was the only resident preacher, and later by Rev. C. B. Preuss. From these early beginnings several churches have developed which have for a number of years taken an active part in the religious work of the community. Of these, St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church is the most flourishing, having a membership of about 350, the baptized members numbering over 375. The recent pastors have been the Rev. A. B. Garman and the Rev. S. E. Slater, the latter of whom assumed charge May 1, 1916. There is a Sunday school enrollment of 360 or more, and all branches of church work are in an active and healthy condition. Trinity Lutheran Church has a small congregation, and at present (October, 1919) its pulpit is being supplied.

#### EVANGELICAL

The Evangelical Association at Waterloo was organized previous to the Civil war. In 1877, under the pastorate of the Rev. Mr. Geist, a good frame building was erected, which in recent years has been remodeled and fitted up with new pews, furnace and electric light. The membership was varied numerically from time to time, and is now about forty, with a Sunday school enrollment of ninety. The Rev. J. M. Kistler, who came to the church in the spring of 1917, is still the pastor.

#### EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN

The German Evangelical Lutheran Church of Garrett, of the Missouri Synod, was organized in 1888, with thirteen voting members. Rev. C. B. Preuss, of Avilla, served the congregation for two years as visiting pastor, after which the Rev. F. J. Keller became the first resident pastor. His successors have been the Revs. Otto Schumm, H. B. Kohlmeier, C. W. Geise and G. Bloedel, the last mentioned of whom took charge in July, 1913, and has since remained. The society numbers some 375 souls. There is a parochial school and a well organized Ladies' Aid Society. The church edifice, a frame building, was dedicated October 27, 1889, and cost \$1,800.

The Evangelical Lutheran denomination has churches at Butler and Spencerville, and the Lutherans at St. Joe. These organizations are doing their part in the religious development of the county, aided therein by the various church societies.

The Butler Pastorate includes St. Mark's Lutheran Evangelical Church of Butler, and the Wittenberg Church, situated five miles distant in the rural district. St. Mark's was organized in 1864 by the Rev. J. W. Henderson. The church was built about 1867, and was a brick

building costing about \$5,000. Subsequent repair and remodeling increased the cost by \$3,000. The society has continued its work since early days and has today an active membership of eighty or ninety persons, with the Dorcas Society and the Luther League as auxilliary forces. The Wittenberg Lutheran Evangelical Church is one of the oldest in the county, the original society having been organized by Rev. J. Cather in 1843. The membership has never been very strong numerically, but has done good service in the cause of Christ.

#### CHURCH OF GOD

The Church of God in Auburn was organized at a very early date, and has had a long succession of pastors, the most recent having been the Revs. C. W. Mahin, Oscar Grimes, H. F. Collins and Argyl E. Houser. On the latter's resignation, the Rev. I. M. Thomas, a retired minister and loyal member of the local church, acted as pastor, until the services of the Rev. Davis Fisher, of Buffton, could be secured, the latter coming to the church in October, 1919. The church has a membership of over ninety, and there is a well conducted Sunday school, a Woman's Missionary Society and the Christian Endeavor. The Church of God has also an organization in Butler, which is active among the religious denominations of the county as a force in moral and spiritual advancement. The original society was formed three miles west of town, in Wilmington Township, but in or about the year 1886 the older members moved to Butler and put up the present edifice. The church has a membership of about twenty-seven, with a Sunday school enrollment of forty, and a Christian Endeavor Society.

#### CATHOLIC

In August, 1872, Father August Young, a Catholic priest, on visiting the City of Auburn, found here nine Catholic families, and arranged to hold services in the house of Engelbert Ashley. In the meanwhile lots were secured on the corner of Fourth and Railroad streets, and on June 1, 1874, the foundation of a church was laid. It was a small frame structure, costing \$3,000, the full amount of which was paid the day after the dedication, the latter event having taken place October 18, the same year, with Bishop Joseph Dwenger, of Fort Wayne, officiating. In April, 1874, a residence for the priest, adjoining the church property, was purchased for \$1,900. In November, 1886, Father Young, at the suggestion of the bishop, changed his residence to Garrett, but continued to visit Auburn until November 1, 1891. In the meanwhile the Auburn congregation rapidly increased, and after Father Young gave up his regular visits the church had resident pastors. Father Angermaier, who took charge in July, 1910, made important improvements in the church property, a new building being started in August, 1912. The old frame building—a substantial structure—was raised and remodeled so as to provide a seating capacity of 300, and an outside coating of stucco added greatly to its substantial appearance. The church is handsomely decorated, and is provided with a Packard organ, having a pipe organ effect. It was dedicated April 6, 1913. The present pastor is Rev. Father M. J. Aichinger, an able man and active worker, who has proved a power in the community.

While Father August Young was caring for his flock in Auburn, a number of Catholics had located in Garrett who needed spiritual ministrations. The task of building a church fell upon Father Young, and in May and June, 1876, the building was erected, the cost being \$2,000.



To this he added a sacristy, costing \$300. He also opened a select school, which was the first school in Garrett, and which was conducted until the public school was opened. In 1886 Father Young enlarged the church, to which he added a belfry and steeple, and in the same year he built a parsonage. In 1888, he caused to be erected a fine and commodious school building, to accommodate 200 pupils, the cost of which was \$6,000. The remodeling of the church in 1893 cost \$3,300 more. In 1897 Calvary Cemetery was purchased and laid out, and in 1902 the Sacred Heart Hospital was built. In 1906 Father Young built an addition to the school building, enlarging it from four to eight rooms and doubling its pupil capacity. For a number of years longer he continued as active pastor of the congregation, continuing the work of up-building, until he finally retired to become chaplain of the hospital, the Rev. Father King relieving him of the work of the parish. The Catholic Church in Garrett is large and prosperous.

The first Catholic Church in De Kalb County was built at Waterloo in 1867, and was attended by Catholics from Auburn and other places. In 1880 St. Michael's Catholic Church was built at Summit, in Smithfield Township, by the Rev. Augustus Young, and was dedicated August 28, 1881, by Bishop Dwenger. Father Young attended to the charge until June, 1882, when he was relieved by the Rev. Peter Fanzas, but from May, 1883, to July, 1884, he was again the pastor. In 1895 the church was enlarged to its present size. In July, 1900, the church became a mission, attended from Auburn. The congregation numbers about sixty families.

#### EPISCOPAL

In 1876 a Protestant Episcopal Church was built in Garrett, and was dedicated the following year. The land was purchased, building erected and furnished by John King, Jr, and William Keyser, the first and second vice presidents respectively of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company, and presented as a free gift to Bishop Talbot of the Indiana diocese. The first pastor was the Rev. B. L. Trimble. After two other pastors had come and gone the church was closed for a period, but was reopened in the winter of 1883-4, the Rev. S. M. C. Orpen, of Lime, Ind., preaching every two weeks. The church failed to grow, however, and the building and land have been recently sold to the Catholics.

#### OTHER SOCIETIES

The Auburn Ministerial Association was organized in the spring of 1910 to create a closer relationship between the pastors and congregations of the different churches in the city. It has done good work to that end. The president is now the Rev. A. P. Bourns. The Auburn Young Men's Christian Association is a strong organization having a paid membership of 400. The Nazarene Church and the Christian Scientists also hold meetings in Auburn, as also do the International Bible Students, who effected an organization here in 1911. In Garrett the Macedonia Church (colored) is presided over by the Rev. D. A. Doster.

## CHAPTER LXXVIII

### THE BENCH AND BAR

As civilization depends upon the establishment and maintenance of law and order, one of the first necessities of a civilized community is the creation of courts. Hence, the lawyer follows close upon the heels of the pioneer settler. When DeKalb County was organized the law provided for a probate court of the county, having "original and exclusive jurisdiction in all matters relating to the probate of wills and testaments, granting of letters testamentary, and letters of administration and guardianship—the settlement and distribution of decedents' estates, the examination and allowance of the accounts of executors, administrators, or guardians," and also "concurrent jurisdiction in all suits at law, or in equity upon all demands or causes of action in favor of or against heirs, executors, administrators, or guardians, and their securities, and representatives when the amount in controversy shall exceed fifty dollars, and in partition of real estate; and the assignment of the widow's dower; and the appointment of a commissioner to make deed on title bond given by deceased obligor; and to authorize the guardian to sell or convey the real estate of his ward in certain cases." The judge of the Probate Court was elected by the voters of the county and commissioned by the governor of the state to serve for a term of seven years. It was necessary, however, for any candidate for the office of probate judge to first obtain a certificate from some one of the judges of the Supreme Court, or some one of the president judges of the Circuit courts, that he was qualified to discharge the duties of said office of Probate Judge, though it was not necessary for the applicant to be a "professional character."

### COURT OF COMMON PLEAS

In 1852 the Probate Court was abolished by the Legislature and its jurisdiction transferred to the Court of Common Pleas, then established. This district was composed of the counties of LaGrange, Steuben, DeKalb, Noble and Whitley. At the October election, that year John Morris was chosen judge of the Common Pleas Court for the term of four years. His successor was Egbert B. Mott, who served one term. These judges were pioneer lawyers of DeKalb County, and were able and conscientious members of their profession. Lott B. Herrick and John C. Wood at different times were elected and presided as judges of the Common Pleas Court of DeKalb County. The last judge of this court was William M. Clapp, of Albion, Noble County, who continued to serve until the court was abolished by the Legislature of 1873. Its business and jurisdiction were transferred to the Circuit Court.

### CIRCUIT COURT

Since the organization of the state and, in particular, since the Common Pleas Court was abolished in 1873, the Circuit Court has been the court of general, civil and criminal jurisdiction; and it also exercises

the functions which formerly pertained to the Probate Court. In the early days of Indiana, when the settlements were small and scattered, many counties were grouped together in one judicial circuit, and the judge of the circuit rode from one county to another accompanied by the lawyers, and held court in each county until the business was disposed of. With the growth of the counties came a corresponding increase in the business of the courts and more circuits were formed, with fewer counties in each. At this time each of the larger counties of the state comprised one judicial district. By the act of 1873 the thirty-fifth judicial circuit was made to consist of Noble, DeKalb and Steuben counties, but since 1888 DeKalb and Steuben have constituted the circuit. Until the adoption of the state constitution of 1852 the Circuit Court consisted of a president judge of the circuit, who went from county to county and held court with two associate judges elected in the county. The president judge could alone hold the court in the absence of the associate judges, or with either of them, if the other was absent, and in the absence of the president judge the two associate judges could hold the court except in capital cases and cases in chancery. With few exceptions the judges of Circuit Court of DeKalb County have been able and honest lawyers. The president judges (serving previous to 1852) were Charles Ewing, E. A. McMahon and J. W. Wright. The associate judges were Ariel Walden, Thomas L. Yates, Samuel Widney, Nelson Payne, Robert Work, David Martin, Abraham Cope and G. C. Mudgett. The judges since 1852 have been: E. R. Dawson, then living at Bluffton; James Borden, of Ft. Wayne; Reuben J. Dawson, of Spencerville; Robert Lowery, of Goshen, but later of Ft. Wayne, where for many years he presided ably as judge of the Allen Superior Court, and who later represented this district in Congress; Hiram S. Tousley, of Albion, an able judge and a veteran of the Civil war; James I. Best, then living at Waterloo, an excellent trial lawyer, who resided his seat on the bench to return to the bar; Joseph A. Woodhull, of Angola, appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Judge Best's resignation; Hiram S. Tousley, elected for the second time, who died in office; Charles A. McClellan, of Waterloo; R. Wes McBride, also of Waterloo, who served ably for six years, then removed to Elkhart, soon after became judge of the Supreme Court of the state, and later removed to Indianapolis, where he resumed law practice; Stephen A. Powers, of Angola; William L. Penfield, of Auburn, who resigned during his term to accept a position as solicitor in the department of assay at Washington, D. C.; Frank S. Roby, then of Auburn, appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Penfield, until the next election; Ezra D. Hartman, who died while in office; James H. Rose, of Auburn, appointed, who made an excellent judge until the next election, leading attorney resident of Fort Wayne; Emmet A. Bratton, of Angola, who served ably and conscientiously for six years; Frank M. Powers, of Angola, elected in November, 1910, a successful lawyer and excellent judge, who resigned office in 1914 to take up the duties of appellate judge, deceased; and Daniel M. Link, of Auburn, who was appointed by Governor Ralston, in December, 1914, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Judge Powers, and who is still serving. The business of the court was badly interfered with by a fire which occurred February 1, 1913, destroying a part of the records.

Among the earlier lawyers of DeKalb County who ranked high at the bar, and some of whom worthily occupied the bench, were: Egbert B. Mott, of Auburn, also judge of the Common Pleas Court; Timothy R. Dickinson, of Auburn, afterward of Waterloo; Reuben J. Dawson, of Spencerville, judge of Circuit Court; John Morris, of Auburn, later of Fort Wayne, judge of the Common Pleas Court and afterward Supreme



Court commissioner; William H. Dills, of Auburn; Abner F. Pinchin, of Hamilton, then of Butler, who at an early day served as district attorney; Guy Plum, of Auburn; Charles O. McClellan, of Waterloo and Auburn, judge of Circuit Court and representative in Congress; James I. Best, of Waterloo, judge of Circuit Court and Supreme Court commissioner; Lewis J. Blair, of Waterloo; James E. Rose, of Auburn; Ezra D. Hartman, of Auburn, judge of Circuit Court; R. Wes McBride, of Waterloo, judge of Circuit Court and of Supreme Court, who removed to Indianapolis; Edward W. Fosdick, of Butler; Joseph L. Morlan, of Waterloo; Charles E. Emanuel, Price D. West, Frank C. Baxter, of Auburn; William L. Penfield; James M. Sommers, of Waterloo; Frank S. Roby, of Waterloo and Auburn, and later of Indianapolis; William T. Bope, of Butler, who removed to Bad Axe, Michigan; Andrew J. Baxter, of Butler; Edward B. Dunton, of Butler, who removed to Mississippi; Daniel Y. Husselman, of Waterloo and Auburn; Hubert C. Hartman, of Auburn and Detroit, Michigan; James H. Rose, of Auburn and Fort Wayne, and Walter Penfield, now in Washington, D. C. Many of the above named are now deceased, but some are still living and engaged in the active practice of their profession.

The active members of the DeKalb County bar at the present time are: In Auburn, James H. Rose, James E. Pomeroy, Publius V. Hoffman, Willis Rhoads, C. M. Brown, Charles O. Borst, L. B. Gatten, Charles S. Smith, E. W. Atkinson, J. Glenn Miller, Winthrop W. Ketchum and Frederick O. Shearer. In Waterloo are: William H. Leas, Curus M. Phillips, Henry J. Spackey, George W. Crooks. In Garrett are: Howard W. Mountz, J. D. Brinkerhoff, Lewis J. Gengler, Edward M. McKennan, Willard W. Sharpless. In Butler are: Frank A. Brink, William P. Endicott and Forest H. Ritter.

## CHAPTER LXXIX

### THE MEDICAL PROFESSION

In an age when, in the combat of man against man, heroes are worshipped according to the number they slay in battle, it is inspiring and elevating to be able to pay a tribute to the men who have won glory in fighting disease, and through whose devotion and skill thousands of useful lives have been saved and been made happy. It is about 2,300 years ago that the practitioners of the art of healing began to take an oath emphasizing the responsibilities which the nobility and holiness of the art imposed upon them. Hippocrates gave the oath his name. When a Greek physician took the Hippocratic oath, and when a graduate of the modern medical school takes it, the act is one not only of obligation for himself, but of recognition of a great benefactor of mankind. The Hippocratic oath assumes that when a man has learned the art of restoring the sick to health he has passed into a realm in which the rules of personal selfishness are immediately abridged, if not expunged, and recognized in a system of principles and rules governing all licensed physicians, and enforced and respected by high-tones and cultured gentlemen—a standard of professional honor so sacred that no graduate or regular practitioner will ever presume or dare to violate it.

The noble and exalted character of the ancient profession of medicine is surpassed by no sister science in the magnificence of its gifts. But though the noblest of professions, it is the meanest of trades. The true physician will make his profession no trade, but will be accurate in diagnosis and painstaking in prescribing. He will allow no prejudice or theory to interfere with the relief of human suffering and the saving of human life; and will lay under contribution every source of information, be it humble or exalted, that can be made useful in the cure of disease. He will be kind to the poor, sympathetic with the sick, ethical toward medical colleagues and courteous toward all men.

It is the lot of the successful medical practitioner to be invaluable when alive, and to be forgotten soon after he is dead. However, the work of the pioneer physician is not wholly forgotten. He was an integral part of the primitive social fabric. As such he shared the manners, the customs, the aims, and the ambitions of his companions, and he with them was controlled by the forces which determine the common state and the common destiny. The chief concern of himself and his companions was with the problem of existence. The struggle to survive was at best a competition with nature. Hard winters and poor roads were the chief impediments. Long and dreary rides, by day and night, in summer's heat and winter's cold, through snow and mud, and rain, were his common lot. He trusted himself to the mercy of the elements, crossed unbridged streams, made his way through uncut forests, and traveled the roadless wilderness. He spent one-fifth of his life in his conveyance, and for all his labor and anxiety received but poor compensation, as measured in worldly goods. Dr. Oliver Wendell Holmes has graphically described the old doctor's daily routine: "Half a dollar a visit—drive, drive, drive all day; get up in the night and harness your own horse—drive again ten

miles in a snow storm; shake powder out of a vial—drive back again, if you don't happen to be stuck in a drift; no home, no peace, no regular meals, no unbroken sleep, no Sunday, no holiday, no social intercourse, but eternal jog, jog, jog in a sulky."

He always responded to the call of the poor, and gave freely his services to those who could not pay without hardship. Who can narrate the past events in the life of such a man. His deeds were written on the tablets of loving and grateful hearts, and the hearts are now dust. The long and exhausting rides through storm, or mud, or snow; the exposure to contagions; the patient vigils by the bedside of pain; the kindly deeds of charity; the reassuring messages to the despondent; the numberless self-abnegations that cannot be tabulated—all form a part of the history. Wealth did not flow into the old practitioner's coffers. In fact, he needed no coffers. He was a poor collector, and with all his efforts he obtained but little, and never what was his due. Often content with the sentiment of apparent appreciation of services rendered to his patients, of sufferings



SACRED HEART HOSPITAL

assuaged, and of health restored, he hardly realized that, though he had a very noble profession, he had a very poor trade.

It would be impossible within the limits of this chapter to enter into a detailed history of the pioneer physicians of DeKalb County. Their lives varied but little, and were in accord with the conditions already depicted. A few of the more prominent, however, may be briefly mentioned. The first of whom any mention can be found was William Sheldon, who followed close on the heels of John Houlton, the first settler in the county, and remained for a year or so in Franklin Township, residing on section two. A few families had arrived soon after Mr. Houlton, and doubtless the prevalent malaria, coupled with the hardships inseparable from pioneer conditions, made some work for the doctor, but his reward was probably small and his livelihood precarious, and he soon disappeared from the locality. The next physician, Dr. William Pink, an Englishman from the State of New York, came soon after, and resided with John Fee, a brother-in-law of John Houlton. Doctor Pink was a man of good manners and intelligence, and of positive opinions. He had, however, a weakness, too common in those days, being too much addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors; but it is said that, when under their influence, he also declined to treat patients. In accordance with the necessities of time and place, he often took pay for his services in board and lodging; and it is said, that if the board suited him, the claim was large, but if otherwise, small, as, in the latter case, he moved as speedily as possible to better quarters. He died at the home of Samuel Boyer, in Franklin Township, in 1836. Dr. Peter LaDue, of French descent, arrived in



Franklin Township, not long after the arrival of Doctor Pink, and settled a little northeast of the center of the township. Of an unsympathetic disposition, pedantic, and often ill tempered, he failed to achieve popularity, and in the early '40s moved to Steuben County, where he soon died from an injury received when his horse fell through a bridge. Dr. William Joice, from Pennsylvania, who located near John Houlton on Fish Creek in 1842, was an agreeable contrast to Doctor LaDue, and was much respected and even loved by the pioneers. His removal to Orland, Steuben County, in 1848, was greatly regretted.

Early settlements were made along the course of the St. Joseph River, which formed a natural highway from the southeast part of the county to Fort Wayne, where most of the pioneers obtained their supplies. At Vienna, now Newville, one of the little villages which sprang up in the territory mentioned, Dr. John Tatman settled about 1834 or 1835. For a portion of the time, however, he made his home at Orangeville, a rival village one mile down the river from Vienna. He was an active man who seemed always in a hurry. After practicing in the locality for a number of years, he met his death by drowning, being carried over the dam in a boat of which he had lost the control. It is said that the manner of his death was revealed to a lady, one of his patients, two weeks before it occurred.

With the speedy growth of the settlements from 1837 to 1842, a number of other physicians came in, most of whom found plenty of work, as the cutting away of the timber had exposed more undrained soil, and increased the mosquitoes and malarial fevers. Among them was Dr. Solomon Stough, from Ohio, who located on Fish Creek, in Troy Township, in 1845. In addition to the practice of his profession, Doctor Stough managed to accumulate 200 acres of good land, of which he made an excellent farm. In the early '60s he moved to Waterloo. He enjoyed an extensive practice for over sixty years, but at last fell a victim to one of the many perils of the early doctor, being struck by a Lake Shore train while crossing a street in the night.

Dr. Jonas Emanuel, who was also from Ohio, located at Spencerville in 1843. He was a man of energy and for a number of years enjoyed an extensive practice. Dr. William H. Madden, another native of Ohio, located at Norristown, now Butler, where he practiced his profession until old age compelled him to retire. He was a kind and unselfish man, and was both loved by his patients and respected by his competitors. He once said to his friend, Dr. A. B. Darby, "I have had much more joy out of my efforts, and their results, in relieving the sufferings of humanity than I ever have had from the money my profession has made for me." and the remark was a key to his character. Another early physician in Butler was Dr. James Milligan, who settled there in 1853, having come from Pennsylvania. He preferred agriculture to medicine, however, and after alternating between the two occupations, finally retired to a fine farm in Troy Township, on which he lived to a good old age. Dr. Noyce Coats, who was born in Pennsylvania, but who resided as a boy in Wilmington Township, near Butler, served as a surgeon in the Union army in the Civil war. He was "a man of fine culture, companionable and sympathetic," and his death in 1877 was deeply mourned.

In the year 1850 Dr. Hiram Jones located in Uniontown, now the first ward of Waterloo. He was an old bachelor, with a tall and angular physique, addicted to somewhat antiquated clothing, and he always wore a high silk hat. He was a good story teller and fond of society, and the young ladies were especial favorites with him. Whether he was with them or not, has not been related, but the young men were evidently jealous, for, one winter's night, when the doctor had arranged to take

two young ladies home from a spelling match, the boys slyly removed the bolts which fastened the box of his sleigh to the running gear, and the two parts of the vehicle separated at the first snow drift, the horse trotting home with the runners, while the doctor and his young lady friends were left behind in the box, without power of locomotion save on foot. Of course, the incident was made the subject of jokes, and the doctor once remarked concerning it, "It was the most chilling and perplexing case in all my professional career." In the early '60s Doctor Jones married a Miss Johnson, of Steuben County, and removed to Missouri. A contemporary of his at Waterloo was Dr. Isaac Hornberger, who was well liked, but who retired from practice in the early '60s on account of ill health, and died about the close of the Civil war period.

Another early physician of Waterloo was Dr. William Bevier, who came from Steuben County in 1862. He had already built up a reputation throughout the northern part of DeKalb County, and after coming to Waterloo his practice increased. He was an honored member of his profession for fifty years, and died at Waterloo at the age of eighty. He was noted for his remarkable memory which retained an exact impression of every patient he had tended, every remedy he had used, and its results, throughout the period of his professional career.

During the early history of the county, prior to 1856, there were a number of physicians who settled at Auburn, and who, in general, were men of more than ordinary ability, whose everyday lives were convincing proof of their unselfish interest in humanity. They were Doctors Ross, Haynes, Cooper, Prichard, Oliver, Roe, J. H. Ford, W. B. Dancer, Hendricks and J. N. Chamberlain. They have passed to their reward, but their deeds are not forgotten. The construction of the railroads gave rise to new towns, and furnished opportunities for other medical practitioners, who came from various places, and who, for the most part have remained and successfully established themselves. Some have been young men, fresh from colleges and universities, energetic and intelligent, and with a good groundwork of scientific knowledge, which, united with practical experience, has rendered them valuable members of the respective communities in which they have settled. The pioneer doctor, owing to the conditions under which he lived, sometimes met a sudden and accidental death, as already illustrated in this article. A more recent tragedy occurred October 24, 1917, when Dr. F. L. Rhodebaugh, health officer of Garrett, was brutally murdered by a negro, D. B. Dickenson, who killed the doctor with an axe while the latter, accompanied by two officers, was trying to persuade him to vacate a room in the home of a negro family by the name of Doerster. The murdered man was sixty years of age and had been health officer of Garrett for several years. After killing the doctor the negro Dickenson committed suicide by shooting himself.

In 1882 the doctors most interested in the advancement of their profession, met in Auburn to organize a medical society. After some discussion, properly qualified women doctors were declared eligible, and laws and rules for the government of the society were adopted. The organization was completed and fifteen doctors signed the constitution and by-laws at a meeting convened at the office of Dr. W. P. Carpenter, in Butler, July 27, 1882. The society was organized as an auxiliary of the Indiana State Medical Society under the name of the Medical Society of DeKalb County. It has now 28 members; four in Waterloo, one in Corunna, five in Butler, one in Newville, one in Spencerville, two in St. Joe, five in Garrett, and nine in Auburn. In Auburn there are four physicians who are not members of the society, and in Garrett, two. One of the Auburn members is a homeopath. The president of the society is now Dr. W. F. Shumaker, of Butler.

## CHAPTER LXXX

### FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

The pioneer settler of DeKalb County, and of this section of the state generally, had little or no money when he arrived here, and it was a number of years before his labors produced more wealth than he could conveniently take care of himself. When money was obtained it was soon expended for necessary supplies in the form of food, clothing, or household furniture, or perhaps for the enlargement of his farm by the purchase of additional acres; and even the merchant found it no hard task to find a reasonably secure hiding place for such small amounts of currency as remained temporarily in his hands after his daily transactions in trade had been completed. His security was perhaps rendered more effective from the fact that much of the money in use during the early period was hardly worth the stealing. There were no strict laws in regard to banking. Any man could become a banker by merely announcing himself as such, and the extent of his business depended upon his reputation for probity, which might be better or worse in his own community than it was at a distance, and as the issue of paper money for circulation as currency was free and open, there were unbounded opportunities for deception on the part of those dishonestly inclined. Such commercial pirates preyed heavily on the communities throughout the new West, issuing bills at par value which were never intended to be redeemed, and which depreciated in value in a direct ratio with their age and their distance from the place of issue. The question of distance was one which affected even strong and honestly conducted institutions, their bills being subjected to a discount which increased the farther they wandered away from home, the paper money being redeemable only over the counter of the issuing bank. Moreover, counterfeiting was common, the crudely printed or engraved bills being easy to imitate, and detection was correspondingly difficult except in the community where the money had been issued. The establishment of the state banks in the early thirties was a decided improvement over the "wild cat" system which had previously prevailed; and the exigencies caused by the war for the Union gave the people the best paper money yet known, good for its face value always and everywhere. From that time down to the present the improvement has been progressive, and has resulted in the admirable system of state and national banks, subject to strict government supervision, which aid and protect the business man of today.

The earliest bank in DeKalb County was established in Waterloo in May, 1873, by W. C. Langan, of Lima, Ohio, O. T. Clark, J. I. Best, and C. A. O. McClellan, of Waterloo. It was called the DeKalb County Bank, and started with a capital of \$50,000. A safe weighing 14,000 pounds was installed, and, with Mr. Langan as cashier and business manager, the enterprise gave general satisfaction.

The Citizens Bank of Waterloo was organized July 21, 1875, with John Leas, Joseph Roger, W. C. Langan, Jacob Kahn and Artemas Corbett as directors. Mr. Langan was cashier. This institution has had a long and successful career, and is today the only bank in Waterloo. Its capital is



\$25,000; surplus, \$21,355; deposits, \$302,930. H. K. Leas is president and cashier, with Grace Wilcox, assistant cashier.

The proposition for establishing a bank in Auburn was first broached in March, 1874, by two men named respectively Riley and Mots, from Wabash. Conversation with leading business men developed a sentiment in favor of such an institution, an office was engaged, and it was proposed to begin business within one month, with a capital of \$50,000, of which sum the people of Auburn were to have supplied two-fifths. No further action was taken, however, and the original promoters seem to have dropped out of sight. The subject was renewed toward the close of the year, when George Hazard, from Newcastle, made his appearance and sounded the citizens on a similar proposition. It was decided to establish a bank with a capital of \$50,000, the citizens to subscribe \$15,000. After some discussion as to whether it were advisable to make the institution a state or a national bank, the latter was decided upon, and on December 19, 1874, the First National Bank of Auburn was organized. The directors were William McIntyre, Nicholas Ensley and Orrin C. Clark, of Auburn, and George and James V. Hazard, of Newcastle. A small frame building on Seventh Street was occupied. The bank opened for business April 1, 1875, and for some time matters went on auspiciously, but faulty investments and the misuse of money made trouble for the institution. Moreover, it was discovered in 1878 that George Hazard, who was the heaviest stockholder, had hypothecated his stock with other banks; drawn heavily on the bank on worthless notes, accepted by his brother, the cashier; sold the bonds of that bank and replaced them with others drawing a lower rate of interest, and replaced the worthless notes with others of leading citizens. Seventeen out of \$20,000 was recovered.

The City National Bank of Auburn was organized in 1902, and is a well managed and conservative institution. The president is F. M. Hines; vice president, I. M. Zent, and cashier, Willis Rhoads. The bank has a capital stock of \$50,000; surplus, \$25,000; deposits (September 12, 1919), \$315,651.71. The institution became a member of the Federal Reserve Branch Bank in November, 1914.

The Savings, Loan and Trust Company of Auburn was organized in the year 1903, and was re-organized July 23, 1913, when Morris Eckhart, Jonas Schloss, Simon Strauss and Abe Ackerman took over the interests of the P. D. West estate. The president is Jonas Schloss; vice president, C. A. Schaab; secretary, P. E. Schilling; assistant secretary, Myrtle Showalter. The present capital is \$50,000; surplus (September 12, 1919), \$4,000; total deposits, \$216,520.

The Auburn State Bank was organized in the year 1904, with a first capital of \$50,000. The present capital is \$75,000; the surplus (September 12, 1919), \$17,500; undivided profits, \$1,406.78; deposits, \$600,000. The president is Jonas Schloss; vice president, Isaac D. Strauss; cashier, Miss P. M. Sprott.

Knisely Brothers and Company State Bank was organized in Butler in the year 1882 as a private bank. On April 1, 1907, it was reorganized as a state bank governed by the present corporation. An excellent bank building was erected in 1903 at a cost of \$20,000.

The First National Bank of Butler was established in 1909. The capital stock of the bank is \$25,000; deposits, \$171,500. A good building was constructed some five years ago. E. A. Farnum is president; W. J. Mondbank, vice president; E. A. Farnham, Jr., cashier, and L. Brant, assistant cashier.

The Garrett State Bank was organized as the Garrett Banking Company on January 3, 1893, with a capital of \$25,000. The originators were H. N. Coffinberry and the Kniselys of Butler. Mr. Coffinberry was the

first president, and Thomas Mitchell the first cashier. In 1907 the capital stock was increased to \$35,000, and a surplus of \$15,000 was created. In 1912 the institution was reorganized as a state bank, the new charter being dated November 25th. The present capital is \$50,000; deposits, \$600,000. In 1915 a fine new building was erected at the corner of King and Randolph streets, at a cost of about \$30,000. Charles W. Camp is president; H. W. Mountz, vice president; H. M. Brown, cashier, and H. E. Wert, assistant cashier.

The Garrett Savings, Loan and Trust Company, located at Garrett, was established in November, 1908, by Monte L. Green and J. N. Ritter. The original capital was \$25,000, which was subsequently raised to \$35,000 and is now \$40,000. The surplus (September 12, 1919) was \$1,500; deposits, \$111,158.37. The present building, near the corner of King and Randolph streets, has been occupied by the bank since 1909. This institution is a 4 per cent bank, and writes insurance, rents and sells property, and does a general high grade banking business.

The Thomas Exchange Bank of Corunna was organized in 1897 by Milo J. Thomas, with an original capital of \$5,000. The present capital is \$10,000, the surplus, \$125,000, and deposits, \$148,000. Milo J. Thomas is president, and M. A. Miser, cashier. A handsome bank building was erected in 1909.

The St. Joe Valley Bank, located at St. Joe, was established in 1888 by J. D. Leighty, E. Case and W. C. Patterson. The institution is a state bank and was incorporated in 1913. The original capital of \$6,000 has been increased to \$25,000; the present surplus is \$3,370, and deposits, \$115,740. Emillus Case is president; William Curie, vice president; F. B. Bowman, cashier, and M. M. Maxwell, assistant cashier.

The Commercial Bank of Ashley had its origin in 1910. Its capital is \$10,000. E. F. Mortorff is president; Josiah Miller, vice president; A. W. Gonser, cashier, and G. W. Clark, assistant cashier.

## CHAPTER LXXXI

### JOURNALISM

The village newspaper is in general a true exponent of the sentiments of the community which gives it support. It voices business enterprise by the variety, size and number of its advertisements, and measures party political zeal by the tone and quality of its editorials. Where the paper succeeds, judged by this standard, the publisher is in touch with his patrons, and stability with prosperity is assured. The early newspapers of De Kalb County were in all respects in an embryotic state, and their editors bravely contended with many difficulties and met with much to discourage them. One will look in vain in the De Kalb Times or Democrat, the New Era, or the Waterloo Press, for patent insides or Associated Press dispatches. The sheets were small, the four pages were all home-set, and the annual President's message involved much labor and delayed issue.

In the makeup personalities were common that would not now be tolerated. A brief story on the first page was not uncommon, and political discussion, national and county, was fiercely aggressive. Business sagacity was evidenced by numerous and well framed advertisements occupying much of the limited space in the sheet. "Padding" was unknown and paid locals were far in the future. At Auburn the De Kalb County Times lacked advertisements, but when the paper appeared on the first Thursday in February, 1859, as the Waterloo Press, it abounded in them, and the fact spoke volumes for the people of the young village scarcely exceeding 200 inhabitants.

The pioneer journalist, generally poor in pocket, had to make the best of primitive conditions. His press was small, and operated by foot-power, and, with the assistance of his office force, seldom exceeding one journeyman printer and the office "devil," he made his own rollers. A new subscriber was always welcome, though the subscription price was usually paid in a load of wood, a gallon and a half of apple butter, or some other useful commodity, for nothing that could be made use of was refused. Successes were few and failures were many, and even at the present day a successful newspaper evidences a high degree of business acumen and skillful management. The facts given on the following pages in regard to the newspapers which exist or have formerly existed in De Kalb County, are derived chiefly from an article written a few years ago by Herbert C. Willis, the veteran editor and publisher of the Waterloo Press.

In 1852 S. E. Alvord, who was then publisher of the Observer at Albion, in Noble County, conceived the idea of establishing a paper at Auburn. Not receiving sufficient encouragement, he soon after sold his outfit to Messrs. Berry & Milton J. Pierce, who began the publication in Auburn of the Democratic Messenger. Within a week after the first issue had appeared Mr. Berry withdrew from the venture, and shortly after this, in December, 1855, the office was destroyed by fire. This closed up the enterprise, as in the following year Mr. Pierce was elected auditor of De Kalb County, and the county was without a newspaper.



Two other attempts to start papers at Auburn were made in 1856, one by W. C. McGonigal, who became editor and publisher of the *De Kalb Democrat*, and the other by J. M. Bromagem, who started the *Auburn Republican*. Both attempts were failures, and were soon given up, so far as Auburn was concerned. At the close of the exciting presidential campaign of that year the *Republican* was moved to Angola, where it appeared in a new form as the *Steuben Republican*, which has since been the leading newspaper of Steuben County. Mr. McGonigal, who moved his paper to Wabash in 1859, there began the publication of the *Wabash Plaindealer*.

In spite of previous failures to start a successful newspaper at the county seat, in August, 1858, William T. and John M. Kimsey, began there the publication of the *De Kalb County Times*, which they conducted for a few months. Then, finding they had made a mistake, they sold their printing outfit to Timothy Y. Dickinson, a son of Hon. T. R. Dickinson, then an attorney at Auburn. The *Times* plant was moved to Waterloo, then a larger place, and on February 4, 1859, appeared the first issue of the *Waterloo Press*, a paper that has since been continuously published, and is today one of the leading newspapers in the county. Mr. Kimsey and C. K. Baxter, another printer, worked on the paper until the breaking out of the Civil war, when they entered the army. Early in 1862. Mr. Dickinson, being appointed assessor and internal revenue collector for the county, leased the *Press* to J. F. Radcliffe, though retaining the ownership of the paper. In the fall of 1864 Mr. Baxter returned from the army and bought the paper from Mr. Dickinson. He conducted it until the spring of 1865, when he sold it to J. F. Radcliffe and Henry J. Long. Mr. Long soon sold his interests to Benjamin F. Kennedy, and the paper was published by Radcliffe and Kennedy until September, 1868, when C. K. Baxter again became connected with it through the purchase of Mr. Radcliffe's interest. The *Press* was then published for several years by Baxter and Kennedy, and during that time, in 1868, the office was destroyed by fire, but publication was resumed with but slight interruption. In 1873 Mr. Kennedy retired from active participation on account of ill health, though retaining his interest in the paper until 1875. On January 1, 1884, Mr. Baxter sold out the *Press* to his brother-in-law, the late Frank W. Willis, and his nephew, Edward P. Dickinson, the only surviving son of the founder of the paper. A short time afterwards Mr. Willis became the sole owner, and so continued until the office was destroyed in the great fire of February 12, 1896. Although the fire occurred on the morning that the paper was to go to press, it made its appearance the same day in full size, seven columns, eight pages, the work having been accomplished in Fort Wayne. This enterprising feat was a matter of much surprise to the citizens of the town, who had expected the paper to miss at least one issue. At the time of the fire Mr. Willis formed a partnership with his son, Herbert C. Willis, which was continued until the death of Frank W. Willis, May 19, 1913. Since then the *Press* has been conducted by his son, and today stands foremost for the best principles of good citizenship, enjoying a wide circulation. It has now been printed continuously for some sixty years, and the first copy that was ever printed is now framed and occupies a place in the office. A complete set of bound files exist for the last forty-nine years.

#### OTHER AUBURN PAPERS

Several journalistic ventures were made in Auburn following the early failures there. The *New Era* was started in 1859 by George Kuhl-

man, and was later continued by Joseph C. Loveland until 1865 as the Observer and Reporter, when he removed with his paper to Clyde, Ohio. In 1864 William H. Dills started the De Kalb Democrat, and was succeeded as editor by Howard Coe. Another paper known as the Democrat was published for a year in Auburn by H. D. Carroll, publication being suspended in 1868.

The Auburn Courier, which has proved a success, had its origin in a newspaper called the Air Line, which was started as an opposition paper at Waterloo in December, 1868, by J. F. Radcliffe. It soon passed into the hands of James A. Barnes, but in 1870 was suspended for lack of patronage. Tom Mays, who bought the plant, removed it to Auburn, where, on January 1, 1871, he launched the Auburn Courier. Mr. Mays was an experienced newspaper man, who had been previously connected with the Fort Wayne Sentinel. He continued the Courier until July 1, 1878, when he sold it to Theodore Reed. The latter soon formed a partnership with Robert J. Lowry, who, in 1880, became sole owner. In the same year Mr. Lowry died and the Courier fell into the hands of James A. Barnes and Daniel Y. Husselman who published it in partnership until January 1, 1882, when Frank P. Blair bought Mr. Husselman's interest, which he disposed of in March to Mr. Barnes. The latter continued the publication until about 1899, when, on account of poor health he took as partner Coxey Miner, of Garrett, and later the Courier Company was formed, of which Mr. Barnes was a member until he died. During the time that Mr. Barnes was connected with the Courier he established the first daily paper in De Kalb County, and the publication of the Daily Courier continued until February 7, 1913, when the office was destroyed by fire. W. H. McIntyre was then the owner, and a merger was formed with the Auburn Dispatch, daily and weekly, and the two daily papers suspended. By the combined force of the former publishers of the two papers, the Auburn Evening Star was launched, both the Courier and Dispatch continuing their weekly papers, issued semi-weekly. The first proprietor of the Star was J. E. Buchanan, who died August 19, 1913, when his son, V. E. Buchanan, succeeded him and is now the manager and editor. The Star is published by a stock company of thirty members. It is a seven-column daily of from six to eight pages and is non-partisan. The Courier is democratic and the Dispatch republican. Karl Gerner, who started the Silver Dawn in Waterloo, which he sold in 1909, and who was connected with the Waterloo Dispatch till 1912, was editor and manager of the Auburn Courier until his death in September, 1916.

The De Kalb News was established in Auburn in January, 1918, by the De Kalb Printing Company, consisting of 100 representative citizens of the county, the company having stockholders in every precinct in the county, with L. G. Whitten, president, and John C. Lochner, manager. The projectors came to Mr. Lochner and suggested the enterprise, the latter at first holding one-half of the stock. Later a redistribution was made, each stockholder being assigned but one share. A job printing plant was established in March, 1919. The enterprise has proved successful, paying a ten per cent dividend the first year. The paper does part of the county printing and has a good circulation. The manager, Mr. Lochner, is an experienced newspaper man, and was formerly proprietor of the Auburn Bee, established by him January 1, 1911, the circulation of which he raised to a high mark, but which failed in other hands in December, 1916. The News is a clean and attractive eight-page, seven column weekly paper, being published Thursdays. Its first issue bore the date of January 9, 1919.

## BUTLER NEWSPAPERS

The first newspaper in Butler was the Herald, started in 1866 by W. T. Kinney, and which lasted but one year. In 1868 the Banner of Liberty appeared, published by Emory Higley, who soon moved the paper to Auburn, changing its name to the Auburn Times. There it had but a brief existence. The Butler News was started in 1874 by Harry R. Weamer, but he soon moved the plant to Auburn, where he launched the De Kalb County Republican, which he published for awhile in partnership with his nephew. The paper later passed through the hands of Calvin P. Houser and George Weamer, the latter being owner from May, 1878, to March, 1881, when Mr. Houser and Joseph Rainier bought it. In November the same year Mr. Rainier sold his interest to Mr. Houser, and in June, 1884, the latter took as partner M. H. Hoisington. The Republican was then secured by M. E. Smith, who continued it a short time, when Wallace B. Campbell, with a partner named Stevens, secured it and changed its name to the Auburn Dispatch. In the early '90s, Mr. Campbell, who had become the sole owner, sold the Dispatch to George W. Gordon, who later took in as a partner George Spake, his foreman printer. Later Mr. Spake started a job printing office, and the Dispatch came again under the control of Mr. Gordon. The latter, who was advanced in years, and who had in the meanwhile started a daily paper known as the Evening Dispatch, found himself unequal to the task of carrying on the paper, and it was sold to James E. Buchanan, who was editing the Albion New Era. Mr. Buchanan continued at the head of the Dispatch until his death in 1913, since which time the paper has been managed by his son Vern E. Buchanan.

The Epworth League Quarterly, established in 1903, was conducted in Butler up to 1917 by L. H. Higley, having a circulation of 30,000. It was then taken over by the Methodist Episcopal Church by arrangement with and compensation to the publisher, Mr. Higley, who, on January 1, 1918, started the No-Tobacco Journal, the official organ of the No-Tobacco League of America. Another paper conducted by L. H. Higley is Zion's Watchman, undenominational, and published Saturdays, which was established in 1878.

In March, 1877, W. M. Kist established a paper known as the Butler Record, and conducted it until 1880, when he leased the plant for a year to R. H. Weamer. On the expiration of the lease, Mr. Kist having died in the meanwhile, his estate sold the paper to W. F. Garrison, a brother of Mrs. Kist, by whom the paper was conducted for a number of years. The paper then passed through several hands, until it came into those of Luther H. Higley, the present editor and publisher.

The De Kalb County Herald, now published in Butler, is the offspring of the Butler Review, which was established by R. H. Weamer in opposition to the Record. Mr. Weamer was a staunch republican, but believing it to his interest to make the new paper democratic, he engaged the services of John Baxter to write the editorials. In 1884 the paper was bought by Edmund Calkins, who edited it until March, 1885. His successor for three months was George Lautzenheiser, and after that the Review was published for several years by John J. Higgins. The latter sold the plant to O. H. Downey, who sold it in a short time to M. E. Gardner. Later Mr. Downey again became editor of the paper and changed its name to the De Kalb County Herald. In time Mr. Downey disposed of the paper to W. H. Keenan, who conducted it until about 1899, since which time its proprietor has been A. S. Powers. It is published Fridays and is a good democratic paper.

The first newspaper published in Garrett was launched by C. W.



Wing & Co. in October, 1875, and was called the Garrett News. Thomas Malony was the editor. Being found unprofitable, it was soon discontinued. In 1877 Otho J. Power started the Garrett Herald, which was republican in politics. It was also strongly religious, and as it gave more space to religious subjects than it did to news or politics, public sentiment favored the establishment of another paper. This opened the way for the Garrett Clipper, established in 1884 by Henry E. and A. J. Little. In 1897 the Little brothers sold out to Solomon Ellis, of Chicago, who conducted the Clipper for one year, when he sold it to Henry E. Little and his son, Tracy C., now deceased. By them it was conducted as a live wire until 1905, when Mr. Little senior died. The son subsequently conducted the paper on a very profitable basis until 1908, in which year he sold it to C. B. Hamilton, the present owner. The Clipper is democratic and is an ably conducted newspaper. The Garrett Herald was finally purchased by C. W. Miner and was conducted by him and his son for a number of years, being finally closed out about 1900. The Garrett News was a paper conducted for a short time by Alfred Kist, but unsuccessfully.

The St. Joe News was started at St. Joe by Mort E. Olds in 1887, and was conducted by him successfully for several years. It later passed into the hands of Lloyd Yeiser, who sold it to its present proprietor, Fred J. Leighty. The News was published Thursdays and was a bright and well managed paper, independent politically, but discontinued publication in the latter part of December, 1919, because of the high cost of production.

The Ashley Times.—When Ashley was made a railroad division point, George W. Strayer, one of the new arrivals in the place, started a newspaper which he called the Times. After several years the office was destroyed by fire, but Mr. Strayer organized the Ashley Printing Company and resumed publication of the paper. After his death in 1903 the business was continued by his widow, with the assistance of Charles F. Kettering, who eventually leased the plant. Mr. Kettering got into financial difficulties, and after some legal proceedings, Herbert C. Willis, of the Waterloo Press was appointed as editor and receiver, with instructions to get the paper into such shape that it might be sold at a receiver's sale. This work was well done and the paper made self-supporting. At the sale in November, 1904, Mrs. Strayer, widow of the former proprietor, bid in the plant. From her hands it passed into those of J. F. Coss, who, after awhile sold out to the Angola Herald. The proprietors of the Herald failed to conduct the Times successfully, and after some litigation, the sale was annulled. In the meanwhile John L. Gillespie had started another paper in Ashley called the Ashley News, but, as Mr. Coss was again conducting the Times, there was not sufficient support in the town for two papers. Finally Mr. Gillespie sold the News to A. C. Wolf, who, Mr. Coss having left town, conducted the paper for a short time until financial difficulties caused the business to be closed up.

Among the short lived newspapers were the Corunna Headlight, established by Joseph Loveland in the '80s; the De Kalb County Democrat, established at Waterloo in 1890 by Joseph Loveland, Jr., and his aunt, Miss Mary Loveland; the Advocate, launched by O. S. Davison, who had purchased the hand outfit of the Democrat, and conducted his paper during the campaign of 1892 as an organ for the Patrons of Industry; the Auburn Times, established by Charles Spake as an opposition paper to the Auburn Dispatch, but which, after a short existence was consolidated with the Dispatch; another Auburn paper called the Times, intended to be a revival of the preceding, of which Fluke and Frank Cline were editors and publishers, and later R. H. Weamer; the Silver

Dawn, a brewers' paper, launched as a "silver" paper by Karl Gerner in July, 1896, which passed through several hands, finally coming under the control of the Indiana Brewing Association, with Alfred Kelley as local proprietor and publisher, but which died in April, 1910; the Corunna Star, conducted for about two years by Rex B. Wood, and the Corunna News, established in 1914 by Clyde F. Wilsey, which ran intermittently for two or three years until it finally went out of existence.



OLD COURT HOUSE



## CHAPTER LXXXII

### POLITICAL HISTORY

The political sentiment of De Kalb County, as marked by the result of presidential elections, has been in the main strongly democratic, though, since the organization of the republican party, several republican candidates have been given a majority or plurality of the votes cast, and on some occasions the two principal parties have been nearly evenly balanced. The preponderance of anti-slavery opinions in 1860 gave to Abraham Lincoln 271 votes more than were cast for Stephen A. Douglas, the leader of the conservative democracy who made an unsuccessful effort to "straddle the fence;" while in 1864, when the prospects of Northern success in the war seemed dubious to many, and all but the staunchest patriots were weary of the great struggle, the patient, enduring and firm hearted Lincoln received in De Kalb County but twelve votes more than George B. McClellan, the democratic Northern general, whose lack of initiative in the field had caused many to suspect him of sympathy with the South. The final success of the North, however, strengthened patriotic feeling and brought some accessions to the republicans, and the popular general, U. S. Grant, was given a small majority over Horatio Seymour in 1868, and a somewhat larger one over Horace Greeley in 1872. After that the county went democratic until 1904, when Theodore Roosevelt's great popularity caused him to receive the largest number of votes. The democratic candidates since then, William J. Bryan, in 1908, and Woodrow Wilson, in 1912 and 1916, have been victorious in the county.

The first presidential election in which De Kalb County participated was the notable one in 1840, when William Henry Harrison and Martin Van Buren were the opposing candidates. The "log cabin and hard cider campaign," as it was called, was a time of great enthusiasm. John Tyler was nominated as running mate with Harrison, and the slogan of "Tippecanoe and Tyler, too," having reference to Harrison's victory over the Indians at Tippecanoe in 1814, was loudly sung by marching throngs. Harrison, the whig candidate, was successful in this county, as he was in the country, receiving a majority of ten votes out of 334 cast. Harrison died one month after his inauguration, and John Tyler became president and served out the term.

The campaign of 1844 was also a memorable one. Martin Van Buren was again the choice of the democrats, while James K. Polk, after some political jockeying among the different candidates, secured the whig nomination over Henry Clay, who was for the third time defeated. Polk was a strong advocate for the annexation of Texas, to which Van Buren was opposed. It was made the main issue of the campaign, and Polk, who carried the state of New York by 5,000 votes, thereby securing its 36 electoral votes, won the election. The "Liberty," or abolition party ran James G. Birney, who polled 15,000 votes that would otherwise have gone to Clay and elected him.

In 1848 the slavery question was the issue, but both parties fought shy of it. The democrats nominated Cass and Butler, the whigs Taylor

and Fillmore, and the free-soil men, Van Buren and Adams. Lewis Cass received the largest number of votes in De Kalb County, but the election went to Taylor and Fillmore.

In the 1852 campaign there were three candidates before the country: Gen. Winfield Scott, whig; Franklin Pierce, of New Hampshire, democrat; and John P. Hale, abolition. De Kalb County favored Pierce, who won the election. This was the last campaign in which the whig party appeared in national politics. The "Compromise Measures" multiplied the opponents of slavery, but killed the whig party. The republican party, which now arose, nominated John C. Fremont, the "Pathfinder," for president; the democrats chose James Buchanan, and a national American party entered the field and adopted ex-president Fillmore as its standard bearer. In 1852 a new state constitution had been adopted, fixing the general annual election in the month of October. Previously it had been held in August. The campaign of 1856 was the most exciting which the country had up to that time experienced. All the advocates of slavery and its perpetuation and extension ranged on the one side; all the advocates of its restriction and final abolition on the other. James Buchanan, the democratic candidate, was elected. He received the largest number of votes in De Kalb County, with Fremont second.

In 1860 the nominating conventions for the forthcoming presidential election were casting about for available candidates. Stephen A. Douglas, the leader of the conservative democracy, had opposed the efforts of Buchanan to obtain admission of Kansas as a slave state, and thereby lost Southern support. The democratic party, however, had split, and at Baltimore, Douglas was declared to be its regular nominee. The seceding members formed a "National Democratic" party and nominated John C. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, the then vice president. The republicans met in May and nominated Abraham Lincoln on the third ballot. A "Constitutional Union" convention nominated John Bell, of Tennessee. They made a vigorous canvass in the hope that the election would be carried to the House of Representatives and in the votes by states a compromise would turn toward their candidate. By running Breckinridge the South threw the presidency to Lincoln, when it might have won most what it was fighting for by supporting Douglas. In De Kalb County Abraham Lincoln received 1,500 votes; Douglas 1,399; Bell 24, and Breckinridge 2. Thus, Lincoln had a plurality of 101 and a majority of 75. The townships in favor of Lincoln were Butler, Concord, Newville, Stafford, Wilmington, Union, Franklin and Troy. Those in favor of Douglas were Jackson, Richland, Fairfield and Smithfield. During the campaign political excitement reached a high point, and Southern sympathizers, known colloquially as "butternuts," occasionally became rampant, but were held in check, when necessary, by forceful measures. The election of Lincoln precipitated the war, De Kalb's part in which is narrated in another chapter of this volume.

The vote of De Kalb County in subsequent presidential elections has been as follows: 1864—Lincoln, 1,484; George B. McClellan, 1,472. 1868—U. S. Grant, 1,750; Horatio Seymour, 1,726. 1872—U. S. Grant, 1,861; Horace Greeley, 1,544; Charles O'Connor, 94. 1876—Samuel J. Tilden, 2,553; Rutherford B. Hayes, 2,381; Peter Cooper, 38. 1880—Winfield S. Hancock, 2,582; James A. Garfield, 2,441; James C. Weaver, 110. 1884—Grover Cleveland, 2,799; James G. Blaine, 2,451; Benjamin F. Butler, 95; John P. St. John, 59. 1888—Grover Cleveland, 3,160; Benjamin Harrison, 3,879. 1892—Grover Cleveland, 2,801; Benjamin Harrison, 2,491; Bidwell, prohibitionist, 194; Weaver, peoples party, 746. 1896—William J. Bryan, democrat, 3,678; William McKinley, re-

publican, 3,137; Levering, prohibitionist, 33; Palmer, gold democrat, 25; national ticket, 14. 1900—William J. Bryan, democrat, 3,488; William McKinley, republican, 3,218; Wooley, prohibitionist, 259; the social democrats, union reform, and peoples tickets received 1, 2, and 7 votes respectively. 1904—Alton B. Parker, democrat, 2,827; Theodore Roosevelt, republican, 3,416; prohibitionist ticket, 343; peoples, 67; socialist, 154; socialist labor, 29. 1908—William J. Bryan, democrat, 3,624; William H. Taft, republican, 2,991; prohibition, 287; socialist, 63; socialist labor, 2; independent, 18. 1912—Woodrow Wilson, democrat, 2,766; William H. Taft, republican, 1,125; Theodore Roosevelt, progressive, 1,623; prohibition, 244; socialist, 237. 1916—Woodrow Wilson, democrat, 3,267; Hughes, republican, 2,830, Wilson carrying the county by 437 votes.

The present joint senator in the State Legislature from De Kalb County is Glenn Van Auken; representative, Herbert C. Willis. The judge of Circuit Court is D. M. Link; prosecuting attorney, W. W. Ketchum; clerk of Circuit Court, W. W. Mountz; auditor, S. D. Johnson; recorder, Henry C. Hathaway; treasurer, Charles H. Barber; sheriff, Frank Baltz; surveyor, I. Frank McDowell; county school superintendent, Francis M. Merica; superintendent of county asylum, M. E. Leighty; county assessor, Henry Deetz. With few exceptions the county officers in the past have been men of ability, honestly performing their public duties with a due sense of responsibility to the people, and, on the whole, county affairs have been well administered.



## CHAPTER LXXXIII

### CIVIL WAR

The stability and strength of state and nation are founded upon unquestioning submission to the expressed will of an accepted majority. Their greatest peril has been, and is, the great inviting field for partisan chicanery in vent of a close and disputed election. Accepting as conclusive the sectional and plurality vote that elected Abraham Lincoln president of the United States, deprecating secession much, but dreading civil war more, the people of the North were ready to make even humiliating concessions for the sake of union and peace, and were incredulous that sectional antipathies cultivated by extremists could bring about a disruption of the republic. The planters' oligarchy interpreted a republican triumph as the knell to slavery extension and political dominance, and every consequent was initial to the formation of a Southern Confederacy. Foreboding clouds hung heavy upon the political horizon and cast dark shadows upon the future of the country. Keenly alive to the gravity of impending events, the citizens of De Kalb County, in common with those of every town, city, or political community throughout the North, eagerly caught up every item of political import, while a chaotic confusion of sentiment included opinions ranging from the most radical to the ultra of conservatism.

But when the tocsin of war was sounded by secession guns in Charleston harbor, De Kalb County stood not idly in the background, although counties in the Northern part of Indiana met more opposition of various character. Political differences were hushed for the time by the declaration with united voice that the government must be upheld and the Union preserved. All classes were fired by patriotic ardor. War meetings were held at Auburn and the other towns of the county, and strong resolutions expressed the temper of the people. Patriotism was not confined to party, nor enlistments to republican families, but political zeal and the mutations of the war finally fomented differences that divided our people and threatened strife at home.

At first young men went to the war in squads of from two to forty to fill the complement of other localities in various regiments; then a full company from De Kalb County, was on September 24, 1861, mustered into the service of the United States at Camp Allen, Fort Wayne, as Company H, of the Thirtieth Indiana, and this was followed by two companies, one from Auburn and vicinity, and the other from Newville Township, which were, on November 22, mustered in as companies K and F of the Forty-Fourth Indiana. Of the 300 men who had in these two regiments gone to war, Newville Township was the banner locality, since of 170 voters, forty volunteered to help put down the rebellion.

In various parts of the county celebrations were held in honor of the men who thus left home and risked death, wounds or imprisonment to serve their country. During one of these celebrations, at Waterloo, on July 10, 1861, a sad accident occurred, when a cannon exploded, and J. A. Shoemaker, who had assisted in loading it, was instantly killed.

Later in the year a company, known as Captain Hawley's, was raised

in this county entirely and officered by De Kalb County men. Among its members were some of the best and most prominent citizens in the county. Its captain was Cyrus Hawley, with W. W. Griswold as first lieutenant, and J. C. Smith second lieutenant. The ladies of Auburn presented the company with a beautiful silk flag, the receipt of which was acknowledged by the men in a grateful letter from Camp Allen, Fort Wayne, dated September 9, 1861. The company became a part of the Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

In the meanwhile the Waterloo Press, and the New Era were publishing patriotic appeals for enlistments, and new organizations were being formed. At Auburn, Marquis L. Rhodes opened a recruiting office in his brick store on the corner of Main and Ninth street. He succeeded in raising a full company, of which he was chosen captain, and the organization was mustered in as Company A, One Hundredth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. In September, 1862, they left Fort Wayne for Memphis, Tennessee. During its service Company A had five captains, namely: M. L. Rhodes, Ezra D. Hartman, Lucius Barney, John H. Moore, and Eli J. Sherlock. Captain Moore died of wounds received in the Atlanta campaign.

In spite of initial disappointments and reverses in the field, enthusiasm for the cause of the Union was maintained in De Kalb County, not only with the assistance of the patriotic press, but also through frequent meetings in schoolhouses, churches and residences, addressed by good speakers, some of whom were occasionally army or navy officers who had seen active service, and who could relate incidents and the progress with the compelling force of eye-witnesses. In 1863 more than a thousand men were in the ranks from De Kalb County. In June that year a law requiring the enrollment of the militia for possible conscription became operative, and enrolling officers were selected. But extremists existed in large numbers. Dissatisfaction with war measures became intensified by the enrollment, and organizations were found looking toward the prevention of its execution. Blood was shed in at least one instance, when Captain Latta, deputy provost marshal of the Auburn district, was shot dead in August by a deserter named Odell in Fairfield Township. During the last two years of the war, enlistments having fallen off in some of the townships, the draft was resorted to, and was accepted as a necessity, and even taken in good spirit, by most of the people, notwithstanding the hardship it wrought in many families. There were many exceptions to this rule, however, and Frank W. Willis, Alpheus Wheelock, and T. R. Dickinson, who acted as drafting officers, found themselves in a difficult position, the performance of their duties causing enmity among the Southern sympathizers who infested this region, and who assaulted them with stones, eggs and other missiles, so that at times it was necessary for them to be guarded by their friends.

After Ulysses S. Grant was made general of the Union armies, it was seen that the term of enlistments of many seasoned regiments would expire just when their aid would be most valuable, and to retain them in service it was ordered that whenever a majority in any regiment would re-enlist to serve until the close of the war, a furlough of thirty days would be given, and free transportation to visit home, and such regiments were designated as "veteran." The men of the Thirtieth and Forty-Fourth regiments, in common with many others, embraced this offer. On February 6, 1865, the Forty-Fourth veteraned 220 strong, and Company K of Auburn re-enlisted to a man. This regiment had fought with great distinction at Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Stone River and Chickamauga. The non-veterans of this regiment were discharged in November, 1864, and the returned soldier soon began to be active in civil life.

The number of De Kalb County volunteers in service October 6, 1862, was 158. Under the call of October 17, 1863, the quota of the county was 155, which was readily filled by recruiting. Under the calls of 1864 there were sixty veterans and 600 new recruits credited to the county, and fifty-four men drafted, making a total of 714, of whom the greater number were three years men. The last call of December 19, 1864, supplied sixty-three enlistments and 172 conscripts, or 235 men for periods of one and two years. A summary of the preceding, making no allowance for re-enlistments, credits this county with the surprising number of 1,862 men. The amount expended by the county for bounties was \$126,600; by township, \$12,600; for relief of families of volunteers, \$24,481. This gives a grand total of \$163,731. The loss to community and to families through the absence of the soldier, the killed, the maimed, the health-impaired, the private contributions to sanitary stores beyond estimate, were a part of the price by which this great nation was rescued from dissolution.

The struggle had cost De Kalb County heavily in life and treasure and no section was more gratified at the return of peace. As an instance of the depletion caused in the ranks, Company A, One Hundredth Indiana had marched from the public square on August 18, 1862, 94 strong. By February, 1865, 7 had been transferred, 15 discharged, 2 resigned, and 33 had died, or a total of 58. Of the remainder, 28 had been wounded once, 9 twice, 4 three times; and the company had no deserters. The veterans of the various regiments and batteries mostly returned in June, 1865, and their home-coming and presence was fittingly acknowledged by a grand Fourth of July celebration at the county seat. A month or so later a dinner was given to returned soldiers by enterprising and patriotic citizens at Newville.

The following is a list of the men who went out from De Kalb County, with the regiments in which they served:

Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—James Brownlee, David Culver, John W. Butcher, David H. Renner and Orin Stansbro. Brownlee died in the service and Culver deserted.

Eleventh Indiana Volunteer Infantry—John B. Knight, Elijah Rhodes and Hiram Zimmerman.

Twelfth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—Robert Lock.

Thirteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—Benjamin Alton, Alvin D. Beggs, Frederick D. Carr, Edward Casebeer, Daniel M. Faunce, Benjamin Hamilton, Harvey D. Hathaway, Benjamin Hoyt, George F. Huffman, Nathan Johnson, Thomas Johnson, Isaac N. Snively, James Stafford, Henry Hull, William Noles, Isaiah Overhalzer, Daniel Reisner, Gilbert Rodensbaugh, Israel Shearer, James L. Stewart, Oscar Smith, Charles Tousley, Nathan Wyatt, Frederick Horney, George C. Ferguson, Luther St. Clair, Frederick Craw and George Inghum. This regiment saw much hard service. Thomas Johnson died from wounds received at Fort Fisher, and George C. Ferguson was killed by an explosion at Fort Fisher.

Nineteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—Charles K. Baxter, Johnston D. Curd, Elias Fisk, Warren Fisk, Alvin Serry, Michael Shirts, and Moses Smith. The last five men were afterwards transferred to the Twentieth Indiana. Baxter rose from first sergeant to lieutenant.

Twentieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—Ithamar Hague, William L. Balsch, John A. Burn, Benjamin Turner, and those mentioned as being transferred from the Nineteenth. John A. Burn was taken prisoner at the Wilderness.

Twenty-first Indiana Volunteer Infantry—David Smith, Caspar Altenburg, Isaiah Baughman, Lewis Brown, James K. Culbertson, James Draggo, Owen Dixon, George Hay, John Jones, John W. Jones, Osborn



Knight, John C. Reed, Burton Smith, Daniel W. Altenburg, Isaac L. Altenburg. John T. Rush was unassigned.

Twenty-ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—Robert H. Garrett, Stephen E. Healy, Frederick High, James McNabb, Noah Martorff, Lewis Y. Newhouse, Henry Snook, William C. Sweeny, David Smith, Nathan Watson, Jeremiah Walker and Ed. A. Stone.

Thirtieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—Company H, of this regiment was composed almost wholly of De Kalb County men, and was captained by Cyrus Hawley. W. W. Griswold was commissioned first lieutenant, then captain, transferred to Company C, residuary battalion, commissioned major on December 3, 1864, colonel One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry on March 9, 1865. Joshua Eberly mustered in as first sergeant, became first lieutenant, and was killed at Chickamauga. Leander F. Weldon was mustered in as sergeant and reached the rank of major. Job C. Smith, Joseph McKay, Jeremiah D. Likens were second lieutenants. Perry Hodges, sergeant, was discharged for disability. Cyrus C. Hodges, William H. Phelps, Lorenzo D. Connor, Philip Noel, William Miller, Henry M. Stoner, John C. Whysong, Martin V. Snyder were corporals. William Feagler was captured at Stone River. Other members were: James F. Johnson, Joseph F. Murray, David S. Arthur, Caspar Altenburg, Isaiah Baughman, Peter Barnhart died from wounds at Stone River, William H. H. Beard, Adna Brown, Florence Buchanan, Henry Bolinger, George Baltsley, Israel Church, George Cole, Alvin Collar, Zephania B. Culbertson, William Connaway, William Crusan, Abel Crusan, William H. Cox, Matthew Crooks, Ebenezer Delong, Lester Dilno, Colvert J. Drury, John N. Eberly, Robert Feagler, Leslie Fisher. Lewis Fisher, John Furney, Samuel Ford, William C. Ford, Nathan Frederickson, William Freeman, William Franks, William Fike, Jesse Gingerick, Samuel George, George W. Hamilton, Marquis L. Hoose. John High, Henry Healey, Peleg Hull, Amos Hull, Isaac Hornberger, James S. Hughey, David Hughes, Benton Hoover, Robert H. Johnson, David Kowderer, Philip Kennedy, St. George Lightner, John Lawrence, Asbury J. Long, Joseph Lockmire, John P. McMillen, Perry Mullen, John Marcum, James C. Myers, Dexter Munger, Reason McCush, Samuel L. Musser, Nathaniel Osburn, Henry J. Park, Hezekiah Plummer, John A. Provines, David Rigby, Eli Rigby, Riley Rickles, Albert Reed, Levi Rutan, Benjamin F. Sponhower, Alfred G. Showers, Nathan M. Showers, Ephraim Shull, Ephraim Shaffstall, Alexander Skinner, James Skinner, Samuel Ulem, John W. Watson, Jesse Wallace, John C. Weeks, Henry Wagner, James Weir, Jonas Zimmerman, Joseph Teegarden, Jacob Kyle, Abraham Weaver, Charles Roberts, Robert H. Johnston.

Thirty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—Charles W. Campbell.

Thirty-fifth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—James Abel, Uriah Blue, John Bloomfield, Isaac Farver, Israel Horn, Henry M. Horner, Joseph Koch, Richard Kester, Daniel S. Kimes, Henry J. Kline, John Leighty, William Monroe, David A. Miller, Judson S. Miller, Byron Woodcock, Jacob Yarnell.

Thirty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—George H. Burns, Jacob Brown, John Bruner, William Bryan, James C. Carrell, James C. Delong, Alex. Fountain, Noah Miller, Alexander Shanks, Robert Cochran, George Delano, Daniel F. Hammond, Joseph Hose, Solomon Hose, Elijah Imhoff, Thomas J. Jones, Adolphus G. Jones, Stephen Larkens, Joseph Pennick, Frank B. Sandy, Henry J. Sandy, Silas W. Sinclair, Henry Crooks, Alonzo Concklin, Erastus Finney, Henry Milleman, Francis M. Stout, John Freeman, John W. Wood.

Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—William Gobal, Ralph Goodrich, Isaac Harrison, Peter Huffman, Clinton Scobey, John H.

Barnes, James W. Briggs, Joshua Ballinger, Samuel Cummins, Joseph H. Corder, Francis M. Cox, Isaac R. Cary, Isaac C. Havens, John L. Walters, Joshua Lounsberry, Francis Bartlett, Frederick Bruner, Henry I. Collier, Jacob H. McClellan, David McCord, Norman Luce, Henry Luce. In Company F were Capt. George W. Merrill, Capt. Thomas C. Kinmont, Capt. John Gusenhouser, Capt. Irvin N. Thomas, Capt. George H. Casper, Lieut. James Colgrove, Lieut. Alexander Kinmont, Lieut. James M. Thomas, Capt. Solomon Delong, Lieut. Alfred Rose, James H. Obell, Wilson Nichols, Nathan P. Fuller were sergeants; James G. Dirrim, Willis Andrews, Francis S. Chandler, Andrew J. Stole, Marshall Hadsell, James L. Williman were corporals; Simeon Aldrick, and Trustringman B. Totten were musicians; Nathan Matthews was wagoner; Henry J. Abell, David Andrews, Hollis B. Aikens, Michael Brubaker, Otis Blood, Lewis Baird, Wilson S. Barden, Isaac Brubaker, William Collier, Joseph Craig, Edward R. Coburn, Daniel W. Cole, Calvin Casebeer, John G. Casebeer, Oscar I. Crain, Peter Countryman, Ludwig Countryman, George H. Casper, William Cochran, William Diehl, Ezra Dickinson, Richard Dirrim, Isaac Ditmar, Charles O. Danks, James Flora, William Friend, Daniel Greenwalt, Hiram Gaff, Frederick Ginter, Henry Gousenhouser, Chester D. Greemyer, Alexander Hart, John H. Hart, David N. Hart, Jacob Hoffman, Allen S. Headley, John Hunbarger, Samuel Jacques, Leonard Kirby, Jacob Myers, Henry Milliman, Warren Milliman, Henry L. Monroe, Robert Matthews, Harvey Nichols, Alexander L. Nichols, Orlando Oberlin, George W. Palmer, Henry C. Pryor, Bennett S. Robe, James Revett, George E. Revett, Samuel R. Rickell, William M. Smith, Robert S. Schamp, Thomas O. Sloan, John M. Scott, Nathan Stockwell, Lewis R. Tiffany, Albert P. Totten, Henry L. Wallace, John H. Webster, Hiram B. Williams, George W. Wallace, George W. Weeks, David N. Yarrell, Samuel Anderson, Mumford Ashley, James S. Ashley, John Brown, James Brubaker, Usury Bowlan, John C. Baum, Henry A. Bailey, Hiram Bright, Abraham B. Banta, Andrew T. Banta, George W. Brown, Seth C. Burris, James Carnahan, William J. Carr, William A. Deihl, Robert W. Ewbanks, Rawlin E. Ford, William Fisher, John W. Forbes, Samuel Goodman, David and Alonzo E. Goff, George W. Groves, George W. Goff, William R. Goff, Benjamin Gilley, Robert Gilley, John W. Goldsmith, John W. Gibson, William F. Green, Michael Gibbons, Wilson Hyatt, Asoph Harwood, John Harris, Roswell Hunter, Thomas Hendrickson, Anthony Hamm, Alexander C. Huffman, George G. Hopkins, Jacob Hicks, James W. Hyatt, Jerritt W. Hall, William A. Hood, John Hall, William H. H. Joy, Julius Johann, David Jacques, Charles Kooster, William B. Knowles, Wesley W. Lowry, John Livingstone, Covert Lucas, Joseph E. Lough, Basil Lamb, Stephen McCurdy, Resin Marquis, William E. McFarlan, John Noatetstine, Samuel Oberlin, Adam Oberlin, Thomas Overton, William H. Potts, David G. Robinson, Franklin J. Ritsell, Isaac Rumble, Henry S. Reid, William P. Robb, Jacob Sleutz, Henry Sleutz, Frederick Shock, George T. Shick, John H. Smith, Taylor Stewart, Charles Stabke, Alexander Sloan, John C. Smith, John L. Smith, John Smith, William C. Spaulding, George P. Sharp, William F. Stewart, Lorenzo Syphert, William H. Stoy, Simon H. Stewart, George W. Stallings, William Straine, John Shroder, Jason H. Thruston, William H. Thomas, Ison Tull, George W. Townsend, Leander Vale, Sidney N. Welch, Henry C. White, David Weatherford, Thomas Wakeman, Caswell York. In Company K were Capt. Wesley Park, Capt. John H. Wilson, Capt. Moses B. Willis, Lieut. Nicholas Ensley, Corporals Hiram Smith, W. H. H. Cornell, Cabb Clark, Musicians John M. Kimsey and William T. Kimsey, Privates Benjamin F. Cornell, John M. Chilcoat, James M. Chilcoat, Jacob Casebeer, Samuel Ensley,

John J. Frampton, William Greenamyre, Jared F. Housel, Robert Hall, John H. C. Hoffman, Leonard Hudlemyer, Reuben Lockwood, Charles Lockwood, Elijah Lock, Jacob Link, William Middleton, Samuel F. Mease, George W. McDorman, Philip Parnell, James E. Pearse, Lemuel Rickey, Daniel W. Squier, David Smith, John L. Shatto, Colfenous Surface, Joseph Thompson, George F. Wilson, O. A. Whipple, Isaac M. Wood, James G. Wiseman, Franklin W. Willis, Levi Wallack, James Arnold, Fearless Arnold, Samuel E. Anderson, James C. Benson, Shurban Bullard, Henry I. Barekman, William H. Boran, John Barnes, John Chilcoat, Daniel C. Cook, Joseph Connell, Archibald Curry, John W. Chance, Francis M. Chamberlin, William H. Clark, Jeremiah Cullison, William Cannon, William Clark, Fielding Catt, John Diersch, Andrew F. Dull, Isaac Dunwiddie, John D. Elliott, John Englebright, Andrew Ernst, Isaac Ebert, James A. Fair, David Fraser, James Foster, Richard Foster, Hiram L. Fanning, Levi Guthrie, Alexander D. Green, James Glass, Simon Gerard, Martin L. Holcomb, James H. Harkrader, John Hay, William A. Harris, Irwin C. Harroll, Leonard Hoodlemeyer, Albert Hensler, Charles Hickson, Victor D. Hodshire, Abraham W. Hooker, Henry J. Imboden, James Jones, William M. Jorden, Milton Jackson, William H. Javins, Kediah Killum, George W. H. Keith, William H. Kynett, August Koeh'ler, Lyman Lockwood, William Lynch, David C. Lorch, Jerome Morse, John A. J. Michael, James Montgomery, Joab Moffatt, Silas Moorehouse, William H. Malott, Samuel Moore, Thomas J. Moore, Joseph Muckenstrom, Jacob Newman, George F. O'Byrne, E. Reynolds, Matt. Rustan, Francis M. Rust, John M. Ryan, Zachariah Rosell, Emmanuel Rex, Joel Smith, Benjamin Sodder, Ambrose Smith, Isaiah Smith, Christopher C. Simon, Isaac Snyder, John L. Stacy, George Segur, William F. Smart, Adam Stutsman, David R. Thompson, Samuel Thomas, Dillard White, Robert White, Charles Westfall, Andrew Welton, John Witman, Martin Whittig, David Williams, James E. Washington, Isaac Washington, Rufus Webb, Moseb B. Willis.

Eighty-eighth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—With the Eighty-eighth were William D. Myers as surgeon, and Henry W. Willard as hospital steward; Captains Jensen P. Beers, James H. Steele and Elam B. Cutter; Lieutenants Samuel L. Stough, Walter E. Boley, Royal H. Edgerly and William A. Fisher; Sergeants George Sharp, David Woods, Josiah C. Smith; Corporals Calvin W. McQueen, George Jones, Matthew E. Rathbun, George W. Sanders, Josiah Baughman; Musicians George W. Edinger and Franklin N. Beidler; wagoner Thomas H. Rogers; recruits as follows: Charles Bowman, Ira S. Bailey, Lewis Brown, Thomas Brown, George W. Baughman, John Bromley, George E. Blaker, Harvey D. Bigelow, John Bruner, Emanuel Beck, John L. Cotrill, Ezra Crain, John V. Collins, Charles H. Chittenden, Abram L. Canon, George Daniels, Archibald Daniels, William Duch, Kinsey Daniels, Samuel Day, George W. Everett, John Ferriman, Henry Frick, Lawrence Feters, John H. Franks, William H. Gonser, George Gundrum, David Goodrich, William Hornberger, Franklin B. Hendricks, Jacob Humbarger, Jesse Hively, Daniel F. Hamon, Simeon F. Hammon, John P. Hale, Allen Johnson, Levi Ingle, Daniel B. Keller, Alonzo A. Kester, William Krontz, John P. Kester, George J. Link, Amos Lower, Isaiah Lykins, Daniel Lidy, Robert A. Matthews, Sheridan E. Mott, Elijah Mudge, James G. Morrow, John T. McAdams, Francis Mills, Joseph T. Martin, Jacob North, Christopher Nugent, Seneca Nodine, Truman J. Needham, John Packer, Thomas J. Reynolds, Frank W. Railing, Jonathan Steward, John M. Steward, Uriah Smith, Frank Seberts, George R. Smith, Jacob Showwalter, William Shoup, John K. Sinn, Thomas Tomlinson, George Teutsch, Lemonsky R. Willard, Henry L. Williams, James D. Woods, Henry W. Willard,



Israel Yoh, John A. Zimmerman, Jacob Brown, John Bruner, George W. Burns, William A. Bryan, Oscar P. Carver, Charles C. Corrill, James C. Delong, Joseph C. Dickson, Alexander Fountain, Daniel F. Hammond, Marcus L. Hoose, Benjamin F. Leasure, Noah Miller, John H. Reese, Emile Sholtze, Albert B. Shirts, Andrew E. Shanks, Silas K. Sinclair, John H. Smith, David Woods, Philip W. Silver, Milton Horn, William Johnson, George Keith, John C. Stafford, John R. Lyon, William A. Goodrich. In Company H were Capt. Lewis J. Blair, afterward major, lieutenant-colonel and brigadier-general; Capt. Dexter L. Thomas, Lieutenants Philander Smith, Joseph Rainer, William Dillworth, Andrew Yeagley, George F. Delong, Sergeants Hiram W. Hatch, Samuel Headley, William A. Rex; Corporals Alexander Bailey, Washington Testison, Harvey C. Platter, Joseph A. Coats, William Robertson, Alonzo Conklin, John Hull, Thomas F. Benjamin; Musicians Edwin M. Smurr, Jacob Danor; Wagoner Henry May. Recruits were: James Armstrong, Stillman Aikins, William A. Boyer, Alvin D. Beggs, William Brownlee, Leroy Blood, Elias Blood, Austin Conklin, Wesley V. Cosper, Andrew Cole, William Crooks, William Deemes, Daniel D. Diehl, Samuel Duck, Abraham Emminger, William Evey, Michael Fusselman, David Franks, Robert Goodwin, Lawrence Gibson, John Hamilton, Joseph M. Hart, Isaac Hart, Albert Henry, George Henry, Michael Johnson, Thomas Krise, Daniel Krise, David Lee, Henry K. Lawrence, Isaac Meese, Albin Melton, Dyer R. Mathews, William Meek, John Melton, Samuel C. Osborn, John Packer, William O. Packer, Charles S. Pryor, Ira W. Pryor, Jacob Pressler, Simeon Rose, Samuel R. Stanfer, Jacob S. Stout, Benjamin Suly, William Sawyer, Henry Saylor, Francis Shrull, John Swangood, Levi Stoy, Jonathan Snively, Isaac Seely, Levi Smith, Franklin Stout, Chockly W. Thomas, Henry S. Vestal, Walter T. Watkins, Oliver H. Widney, Jacob Wineland, Joseph Widney, Edwin D. White, Eli M. Welch, Elmore Wyatt, Philip Yarnell, Christopher Yader, John H. Yohe, William Yeagley, John Yocum, Benjamin F. Zigler, John Bills, Alonzo Conklin, Robert Cochran, Henry Crooks, George Delano, Isaac G. Dohner, Joseph Hose, Solomon Hose, Dewitt C. Headley, Elijah Imhoff, Thomas I. Jones, Stephen Likens, Henry Milliman, Daniel S. McNabb, Henry M. Rockwell, Joseph Penicks, Frank B. Sandy, Henry J. Sandy, Francis M. Stout, Luther Smith, Thomas Stafford, John Treman, John W. Woods.

One Hundredth Indiana Volunteer Infantry—The chaplain of this regiment was Charles A. Munn, and David J. Swartz, assistant surgeon. In Company A were: Captains Marquie L. Rhodes, Ezra D. Hartman, Lucius Barney, John H. Moore and Eli J. Sherlock; Lieutenants David J. Swartz and Albert A. Waters; Sergeants John S. Kindell, William C. Lockhart; Corporals Cleveland A. Klein, Daniel DeWitt, John M. Hall, Albert Robbins, Allen Devilbiss, James P. Walker; Musicians David C. Bodine, George Shuman, Joseph C. Durbin. Recruits were: Abraham Anthony, Martin Arthur, George Beams, John W. Boren, Irving Butler, Artemus Boyles, Reason Buchanan, Harrison Culver, Jonathan Critchet, William H. Dimmit, James Davis, John Davis, William H. Fair, Samuel Frees, John Fiant, Henry Friedt, Lemuel Farver, William H. Graham, Simeon Guthrie, Abel R. Goodenough, John Grubb, Napoleon A. Haines, Jonathan Houser, Gideon Houser, John Hursh, Benjamin Hursh, James Hammond, Samuel Holden, Wesley J. Jones, Harrison Long, William Likens, John McNabb, William B. Maxwell, George W. Melvin, Wallace J. Melvin, John R. Mohler, Benjamin P. McGoon, John McConnell, Silas C. Miller, George Noel, Enos Osburn, John S. Olinger, Daniel Olinger, Lewis P. Penry, Dabiel Piffer, Joseph Piffer, Levi P. Powell, Hiram Palmer, Joseph C. Prosser, Charles

T. Rogers, John B. Raub, John C. Symonds, John Sevander, Asher Squires, Nathan Squires, Ansel M. Shaw, Isaac Smith, Orlander Skinner, Jeremiah Ulm, John D. Vanlier, Benjamin S. Wilttrout, Calvin J. Wearley, Henry Wolf, Richard Wyatt, Walter Cordery, Alden Nickerson, Moses Whitcomb was in Company E, and in Company K were Louis B. Burdick, George J. Haswell, Andrew Haynes, Frank Haynes, Jacob D. Jackson, Benjamin Phillips, John T. Stouffer, William A. Vanwormer, George Barntrager, Lewis R. Haswell, George Simons.

One Hundred and Eighteenth Indiana Volunteer Infantry (six months). In Company F of this regiment were: Capt. Maniun Buchanan; Lieutenants Cyrus F. Mosier and George L. Farnum; Sergeants Chalon D. Cogswell, Oliver H. Widney, George N. Cornell, Henry S. Hartley, Amos R. Walters, Erastus Pyle; Corporals John T. Fickas, Samuel Tanner, George Beckley, Alvin Campbell, Howard S. McNabb, Albert M. Aton, Erastus Finney; Musician Leander J. Diehl, Wagoner Ethan Anderson. Recruits: Squire Admire, Jesse F. Atcheson, Elzy Andrews, William B. Brown, Benjamin C. Bohn, Thomas W. Baker, Jasper Barmour, Martin Castleman, Robert E. Cherry, Loudon Crock, William Crain, Thomas Campbell, William Campbell, Humphrey E. Chilcoat, Henry Crooks, John E. Chasey, Robert Cochran, Oscar P. Carver, James Delong, Philip E. Emery, Joseph W. Franklin, James Fike, Abraham Fike, William Fisher, Augustus C. Fisher, Franklin C. Finch, David Fry, Jeremiah Goodwell, William Guirer, Anthony Grite, David E. Hardin, John Hillis, Ami Higby, Jacob Huffman, Thomas Hefflinger, Stephen Hughey, Solomon Hartman, Francis Hart, Lewis Imhoff, David Jacques, James Johnson, Alexander Jarvis, George Kregar, Augustus C. Kane, John W. Kane, James Louthan, James McCool, William McClure, Thomas Moore, Josephus Oliver, Cyrus Olinger, Thomas Rawson, Henry Rich, Francis M. Remington, Wallace Robbins, William H. Richardson, Elias Shull, Leonard Shull, Isaiah Smith, William Stafford, James H. Sandy, David A. Stone, Rufus Taylor, Jonathan J. Totten, Amos R. Walters, David K. Williams, Emanuel Wright, James Woods, Sidney Welch, Alson Woodward, Irvin Waters, John Wallace, Almond Wilkinson, John T. Young.

One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry (six months)—Solomon Delong was a major, afterward lieutenant-colonel in this regiment. In Company A were: Lewis Dunn, Thaddeus S. Bonney, John A. Mason, William Brown, George Casebeer, Ephraim Enzer, William Fisher, Alonzo Lower, James Myers, Ira Nelson, Charles Nelson, Daniel Nelson, John C. Steeley, William H. Taylor, Josiah B. Veley. In Company C were: Hiram Baer, John W. Cordry, Noah Hively, Cyrus Martin, Jacob Swartz, Amos Swartz. In Company F were: Solomon Delong, Obediah Baer, Philander Smith, Henry C. Beckley, John O. McNabb, Gideon Cogsdill, Samuel Williams, Alva Brown, Thomas O. Sloan, John Clark, Uriah J. Shirts, Alexander B. Dowell, Newton M. Adams, Edward Rupert, Milo F. Calkins, Leslie Kaff, Walter Abel, David W. Adams, John M. Amrine, George A. Bishop, Cyrus Beard, John Brubaker, John Crouse, Madison I. Chilson, Chalon D. Cogsdill, George Cole, Daniel Chilcoat, David Delong, Henry Delong, Alfred Delong, Samuel Depew, Manlius E. Dyke, Abraham Erl, William N. Faurot, Nelson Fusselman, Samuel A. Fowler, Gustin Flint, Clark W. Griffith, Lorenzo Haynes, David J. Hively, Henry Herman, John B. Hawkins, Wilson S. Headly, Joseph Hosler, Daniel, John and Samuel Hosler, Lewis D. Hosler, Henry W. Hobnic, Alexander Hart, J. H. Houser, Paul A. Joray, Andrew I. Kimes, David Kroh, Drayton Loomis, Martin Luttman, Henry P. McConnell, Judson S. Moody, Jacob S. Morrow, Joel A. Milliman, Edward Matthews, Volney F. Mathews, Charles

Proctor, Edward Rawson, Isaac Reed, Henry Revert, Jacob Revert, George Smith, David A. Sloan, Abraham Staley, John W. Squires, Samuel G. Shook, Horace Shoemaker, Peter Shirey, David Williams, James Weir, John C. Wilson, Abraham H. Whirley, David A. Wiley, John R. Wendell, William Wert, William R. Wiltrout, Newman Whiffle, Moses Yater, Frederick Zoobrook. In Company H were Jacob North, John H. Freeby, John K. Sleutz. In Company I were Delos Lockwood, Francis B. Shaver, Harrison Wellington.

One Hundred and Forty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry (Hundred Days)—In Company A were: Henry Frick, James C. Mills, Emmett Baxter, George Baxter, William Campbell, Abraham Gindlesparger, George Kreger, John Kreger, Aaron Rigby, David Rigby, Eli Rigby, Elzie Speer, Robinson F. Speer, Isaac Treesh, Levi Treesh, Jacob Vail and Albertus Widener. In Company D were: John W. Bowman, James Balenline, John Debelbus, Benjamin Funk, Anthony Palmer, John Pifer, John Worden. In Company G were: John Hettinger and George H. Points.

One Hundred and Fifty-second Indiana Volunteer Infantry: In this regiment Whedon W. Griswold was commissioned a colonel, James N. Chamberlain was a surgeon and William M. Mercer assistant surgeon. In Company B were: J. O. Casebeer, Albert M. Casebeer, Andrew C. Fuller, William M. Fuller, John G. McClellan. In Company C were: William Lemasters, Humphrey E. Chilcoat, Laomi C. Bair, William H. Coats, Edward C. Drowley, David Jennings, David McGrandy, Henry H. Rheinohl, Uriah Swager, James W. Wycoff, George Wanemaker. In Company H were: Holland K. Moss, Riley Rickets, Newton Boyles, James Bryan, Albert Crooks, Abraham Fike, Jacob Furney, Calvin P. Houser, Edward Jones, Uriah Johnson, James Knight, George Michaels, Philip Nissdorfer, Owen W. Rummell, Hiram Summerlot, John W. Shore. In Company K Orville Squires was enrolled.

Other Enlistments: In addition to these already mentioned the following men enlisted in various regiments: Robert Lock, Orville Stout, Henry Bundard, Samuel Hart, Joseph Hacker, John R. Hamacher (major), Isaac Ball, Henry Mills, Asa Carter, Pleasant A. Cravens, George F. McClough, William U. Fitch, Thomas Lypsett, Joseph C. Chacey, William Seberts, Edward Boren, Philip Cobler, John Link, Preston Rawson, Samuel J. Tarney, Curtis Lochemeyer, William Wernace, Marcus M. Baird, Benjamin Ensign, John Pressler, Zyra H. Conley, Eli Dahuff, Moses Postnaucht, John Fitch, Richard Guthrie, Samuel D. Hoffman, George Hamlin, Robert E. Cherry, George Austin, Alexander Bailey, John H. Boley, Israel Church, John Deetz, John W. Griffith, Sidney P. Jones, Franklin T. Johnson, Milton C. Jones, George Kirkendall, Joseph Myers, David Nounnem, Joseph Roberts, John Shaw, Joseph Werrich, Samuel Cramer, Isaac C. Dirrim, Samuel Duck, Henry W. Gondy, Albert J. Gondy, Clement Gillespie, William Wilkins, Alfred J. Britton, Alva N. Carpenter, Jacob Finch, Charles H. Haywood, Hugh McClellan, Joseph Pulver, Charles Swan, Willard G. Story and Isaac Wright.

Wearied of war and in the enjoyment of peace, the Union soldier for years allowed his memories to lie undisturbed, but in time he found it advantageous and pleasant to meet his comrades in some organization where individual experiences could be related, a fraternal feeling fostered, mutual help given and a forceful influence exerted to secure to themselves by national legislation pensions, as well as to the widows and orphans of the dead. To this end a call was published, February 28, 1879, by Robert H. Weamer, in his leaflet paper, "The Daily Advertiser," for a meeting of all ex-soldiers then living in or near Auburn, in the Masonic hall, corner of Ninth and Main streets, on the evening of March 1st. In



response to this notice twenty-three veterans assembled and proceeded to effect an organization. These veterans were: Jacob Link, Henry Wolf, Thomas Hallam, Robert H. Weamer, Hiram Palmer, George H. Hoffman, James F. Johnston, George W. Gordan, Benj. F. Culbertson, Alexander Kinmont, Richard Elson, Henry C. Altenburg, Joseph W. McKay, Henry C. Peterson, William H. McIntosh, Martin L. Duck, David S. Ober, Henry C. Miller, Nicholas Ensley, Jacob B. Casebeer, W. F. Smith, Joseph Stafford and Philip Myers. With Captain Kinmont, of the 44th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, as chairman, and Sergeant Gordan, of the same command, as secretary, it was decided to organize on similar lines to that of an order known as "The Stars and Stripes," but independently. Committees were appointed on quarters, music, and constitution and by-laws, and the meeting was then adjourned for one week. On the second occasion, with Richard Elson presiding, the committees reported, and the society was named the "Union Soldiers' Association." The third meeting convened in Sherman Hollister's restaurant on Main Street, with George H. Hoffman in the chair. The proposed constitution was read, a preamble presented and discussed, and temporary officers elected.

At a subsequent meeting, April 5th, the committee on quarters was instructed to contract with George Ensley for one year's use of a front room on the second story of his building on Seventh Street, at a rental of twenty-five dollars, payable quarterly in advance, the room to be used by the association on Saturday evening of each week, and free use of the hall in the story above four times during the year. The preamble and constitution was finally adopted, and trustees chosen. For memorial observance, Ezra D. Hartman was secured for speaker. The Corunna and Butler bands were engaged, and daughters of soldiers, of ages between six and ten years, were solicited to form part of the marching column bearing flower wreaths with which to decorate the graves of departed comrades. Joseph Ranier was named president of the day, Richard Elson, marshal; Hiram Palmer, assistant marshal; Rev. H. J. Norris, chaplain; Jacob Link, ensign, and William L. Penfield, biographer.

The association was popular and at every meeting candidates appeared and numbers continually increased. A reunion of soldiers was decided upon to be held during the season and a committee of arrangements, was appointed on June 14th. A section of two guns of a Toledo battery was contracted for, and the Butler association reported its intention to be present and participate in a proposed sham battle. Over \$150 was cheerfully subscribed and the reunion took place September 19th and 20th, the anniversary of the great battle of Chickamauga in 1863. The attendance was extraordinary. Comrades Kinmont and McIntosh registered the names of nearly 1,000 soldiers. It was conservatively estimated that 11,000 spectators witnessed the sham battle on the ground at and east of Cedar Creek. Conducted by veterans, the engagement proved a realistic scene. The Waterloo Rifles, under Capt. R. W. McBride, with one piece of artillery, and the Butler company under Capt. Abner Pinchen, and augmented by Auburn volunteers, took a spirited part in the action. Literary entertainment was desired by the association, and monthly open meetings were approved and dated. The speaker at the first meeting held December 6th, was William L. Penfield, whose topic, "The American Soldier," was eloquently presented, while on this and other occasions, Robert H. McDougal earned merited applause by his inimitable Dutchman orations. Socials were held, not only in the quarters but in the homes of soldiers, on their invitation. Charles Eckhart made generous provision for a large concourse and was not disappointed. At a social held January 1, 1881, a charge was made, and a part of the proceeds was expended for

lumber with which was erected a good substantial stand on the north side of the courthouse for use on public occasions. Henry Wolf, a survivor of Andersonville prison, and sexton of Evergreen cemetery, was assigned the duty of marking the graves of comrades and continued to do so for many years. A movement was also started for the establishment of a soldiers' hall but was not carried beyond the preliminary steps. Enterprise was shown by securing Schuyler Colfax, vice president, and Gen. W. H. Gibson to deliver lectures well worth the prices charged.

Eventually a post of the order known as the Grand Army of the Republic was chartered in Auburn. As a number of the Associates joined the new order, their room was given up to the post and they disbanded. October 12, 1919, but ten men were living of those who had been members of the association, namely: James E. Pearce, Alexander Kinmont, Amos Hilkey, George H. Hoffman, Calvin P. Houser, Joseph Prosser, John Olinger, W. H. McIntosh, Darius K. Houghton, Edward Shull. The deceased are: Thomas C. Mays, William Sheffer, Hiram Cupp, Robert H. Weamer, Christopher Coly, Joseph Culler, Nicholas Ensley, James Johnston, Charles Reugnot, John Umber, William Murphy, Joseph Stafford, John Ault, William Craig, Charles Eckhart, Martin Duck, Frederick April, Samuel George, Philip Noel, Frank Culbertson, Jeremiah D. Likens, Jacob Link, Isaac Ditmar, Henry Altenburg, Henry Wolf, Enos L. Casebeer, David Swartz, Hiram Palmer, Joseph W. McKay, Henry C. Miller, Henry Peterson, G. Rhodenbaugh, W. F. Smith, Samuel Culver, Jacob P. Casebeer, A. M. Richards, Joseph Rainier, Ezra D. Hartman, John H. Martin, Isaac O. Bachtel, William Rose, J. J. Littlefield, William P. Myers, William Baughn, Ezra Dickerman, Edward Martin, Cyrus Weyland, John Neff, David Ober, Harrison H. Cornell, George W. Gordon, John McClellan, Philip Myers.

Many are the faded flags fluttering over the grass in the Woodlawn and Evergreen cemeteries, marking where rest the bodies of the men who stood by their country in the hour of her need; remembered perhaps only on the May Memorial Day by wreath and flowers, and in trust the foregoing brief history is given to enshrine their remembrance upon a page of local history.

G. A. R. posts were chartered at Newville, St. Joe, Garrett, Butler, Waterloo and Auburn, of which the three last mentioned are still existent. In connection with each of the surviving posts there is a flourishing Woman's Relief Corps.

## CHAPTER LXXXIV

### THE WAR WITH SPAIN AND MEXICAN BORDER ACTIVITIES

With the exception of occasional military operations against unruly tribes of Indians, it was thirty-four years after the last gun had been fired in the Civil war ere the United States soldier was again called to arms. The struggle was against a brave but comparatively weak enemy. From 1878 to 1888 insurrectionary troubles had existed in the island of Cuba, then under Spanish dominion. Those troubles were brought to a close by promises of reform on the part of the Spanish authorities. But the promises were not kept, and in 1895 another revolution broke out in the island. Congress passed resolutions favoring the recognition of belligerency, but President Cleveland ignored them. The Spanish commander, General Weyler, drove the Cubans from their farms into the cities, where no employment was open to them, and no provision made for their maintenance. Fitz-Hugh Lee, the United States consul-general at Havana, reported that Spanish misrule was so atrocious that Cuba had lost one-half her population battling against it.

Our battleship, the *Maine*, stopped at Havana, January 20, 1898, and the harbor being under military control, she was moored by the government pilot to an anchorage assigned by the authorities. On the evening of February 13th she was destroyed by an explosion, and 260 of her crew lost their lives. This appalling calamity created intense excitement. Spain insisted that the destruction of the vessel was an accident and attributable to our own carelessness. The general belief was that the destruction was due to treachery. The evidence collected by a Naval Court of Inquiry showed that it was not an ordinary accident, but was undeniably due to external agency and to hostile intent. Cuban intervention resolutions were passed by Congress, and \$50,000,000 appropriated for emergencies.

On April 23d the President issued a proclamation which called for 125,000 volunteers to serve for two years in the army of the United States. The declaration of war was passed by Congress April 25, 1898. There were then in the Indiana National Guard forty-one companies of infantry and three batteries of artillery, with an aggregate of 2,822 men. On the day that war was declared Governor James A. Mount received the following telegram:

"Washington, D. C., April 25, 1898.

"The Governor of Indiana, Indianapolis, Ind.:

"The number of troops from your state under the call of the President, April 23, 1898, will be four (4) regiments of infantry and two (2) light batteries of artillery. It is the wish of the President that the regiments of the National Guard or state militia shall be used as far as their numbers will permit, for the reason that they are armed, equipped and drilled. Please wire as early as possible what equipments, ammunition, arms, blankets, tents, etc., you will require. Please also state what troops will be ready for muster into United States service. Details to follow by mail.

"R. A. ALGER,  
"Secretary of War."



The call for the required quota was immediately issued by the governor. In numbering the regiments after being mustered into the United States service, it was decided to begin the numbers where those in use during the Civil war left off. The Third Regiment, being the first ready to be mustered, was designated as the One Hundred and Fifty-seventh. The Second, being next, was made the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth. The First came third and the Fourth fourth. Subsequently this system reverted to the primal numbers, as at present.

Company K, of the Third Indiana Volunteer Infantry, which had been raised in Auburn, January 12, 1892, on the outbreak of war, was assigned as K, of the Third Infantry, with the following officers: James F. Lahnum, captain; Othello B. Rufner, first lieutenant; John J. Wolf, second lieutenant; Morgan Hikey, first sergeant; John W. Brown, quartermaster-sergeant; Irwin E. Rader, Benjamin J. Jolliff, Worthy E. Keller, Charles A. Picker, sergeants; Phillip Holman, Charles T. Elson, Alexander McDonald, James Williamson, George W. Wolf, Charles Martin, corporals; Dick McNany and John R. McDowell, musicians; Wilson Feagler, artificer, and William O. Leighty, wagoner. The number of privates from DeKalb County was eighty-four.

Company I of the Third Regiment was organized at Waterloo, DeKalb County, on September 15, 1879, and was assigned as Company A, Third Infantry, afterward as Company I, Third Infantry, Indiana National Guard. Levi L. Denison was captain; Charles E. Barr, first lieutenant; Wilson H. Denison, second lieutenant; Daniel W. Rohrbough, first sergeant; Freeman Moore, quartermaster-sergeant; Charles A. McCague, Pearl J. Greeting, sergeants; Maynard E. Hine, Harry W. Beidler, Frederick G. Beidler, Edward D. Willis and George W. Getts, corporals; Dell B. Ackley and William A. Beecher, musicians; Harley Thomas, artificer; Peter F. Ankney, wagoner. There were fifty recruits from this county and many from outside territory. After the war this company disbanded by virtue of being discharged, it then being a part of the Federal army. Later on the re-organization of Company K at Auburn, those of Company I who desired joined the Auburn company. A. L. Kuhlman was a major of the Third, or One Hundred and Fifty-seventh, and Clyde L. Hine was a sergeant-major.

The One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry comprised companies from Knox, Fort Wayne, Goshen, North Manchester, Elkhart, South Bend, Angola, Waterloo, Auburn, Ligonier and Plymouth. The regiment arrived at Camp Mount, Indianapolis, April 26, 1898, where the officers and men were given the necessary physical examination. On May 10, 1898, the regiment was mustered into the volunteer service, and on Sunday, the 15th, left for Camp Thomas, Chickamauga Park, Georgia, where it went into camp. On June 1st it left for Port Tampa City, Florida, where it arrived June 3d. On July 29th it left for Fernandino, Florida, where it arrived on the following day. On August 30th it was ordered to Indianapolis for muster out of service, and, having arrived there September 2d, was furloughed for thirty days on September 10th. It was finally mustered out and discharged November 1, 1898. Although it had no opportunity of facing the enemy, the officers and men showed a good spirit and were ready when called upon to do their full duty as American soldiers.

#### MEXICAN BORDER ACTIVITIES

The National Guard, including Company K of Auburn and the vicinity, in June, 1916, was called to the colors for service on the Mexican border. The call was received by Col. A. L. Kuhlman, of the Third In-

diana Infantry, June 19th, and Company K and the other eleven companies of the regiment were at once summoned. Company K then numbered seventy-three men, but three additional companies were authorized for each regiment by act of Congress, June 3d—Headquarters Company, including the band and mounted scouts, a Supply company, and a Machine-gun company. These companies were organized from men transferred from the twelve infantry companies of the regiment, including some from Company K. The soldiers went to Fort Benjamin Harrison, near Indianapolis, where they remained two weeks. On July 7th they left for the border, and arrived at camp near Mercedes, July 11th. No exciting incidents marked their service, which was confined chiefly to routine and drill work, but the men performed the duties demanded of them with soldierly precision. They returned home with forty-six enlisted men, besides the officers, the other original members having been absorbed into the three additional companies above mentioned. The Supply company of the regiment numbered thirty-eight men, having for quartermaster John C. Lochner, of Auburn, who by energetic methods succeeded from the first in getting all supplies promptly.

## CHAPTER LXXXV

### THE WORLD WAR

While the militia of the various states was gaining soldierly experience on the Mexican border, events were shaping in Europe that cast a darker cloud over the country, foreshadowing its enforced participation in the gigantic struggle of the principal nations of the world then taking place on the soil of France, Belgium and Russia. Germany's disregard of treaty obligations, her unrestricted methods of submarine warfare, violating previous promises, coupled with her arrogant demands, coupled with the nefarious activity of her spies and even her representatives in this country, with the open threats of the kaiser against the United States, together with other causes, finally brought about the inevitable breach, and on April 6, 1917, this country declared war against Germany.

The die having once been cast, no time was lost in hesitation, and the land became at once a scene of military activity. DeKalb County at once shouldered her burden. On April 9, a big patriotic rally was held in Auburn, with Mayor J. Y. W. McClellan as presiding officer, and patriotic addresses were made by Judge D. M. Link and others, among them Capt. A. L. Moody of Company K, who made a strong appeal for men to enlist. The Citizens' Defense League was organized for the purpose of encouraging recruiting, and for other patriotic purposes, with Mayor McClellan, chairman, W. D. Stump, secretary, and I. M. Zent, treasurer, and committees were formed on Publicity, Finance and Rally. These committees were composed as follows: Publicity—George A. Bishop, chairman; Rev. A. P. Bourns, H. L. Brown, E. T. Cochran, Mrs. Nellie Buchanan, Mrs. O. H. Widney, Mrs. F. J. Buzzard, Dr. C. R. Clarke, Rev. S. E. Slater, F. H. Hubbard and W. D. Stump. Rally—M. Boland, chairman; J. Y. W. McClellan, Judge D. M. Link, Mrs. F. J. Nebelung, Mrs. J. R. Nyce, Capt. M. B. Willis, Dr. J. E. Graham, William A. Thomas, F. W. Olinger, W. C. McNabb, Father M. J. Aichinger, and D. W. Binford. Finance—E. O. Little, chairman; William H. Schaab, J. W. Sheffer, Rev. F. A. Hall, W. H. Willennar, I. M. Zent, Mrs. George Beugnot, Mrs. George A. Braun, Mrs. Margaret Collett, L. G. Whitten, Miles Baxter and H. R. Culbertson.

On April 10, Miss Nellie Harding was the first person from Auburn to volunteer for service in the ambulance corps of the Red Cross, her application being accepted. Recruiting started in Auburn April 12 in a campaign for recruits for the National Guard. A recruiting tent was established on the court house lawn, where it remained until May 9. A number of men from Auburn, Garrett, Waterloo, Auburn Junction, Avilla, Corunna, and other towns, soon enlisted, and in April forty-seven were given a physical examination, of whom twelve were rejected and thirty-five accepted. Those accepted were L. R. Sobraske, Riley Folk, Frank Provines, Kenneth Briggs, Carl DeWitt, Paul McCosh, H. A. Steckley, Clayton Chorpenning, Loren Slentz, Clair Grosh, Ora Pence, James Mitchell, Roy Mitchell, Virgil L. Hirsch, Paul Loberneller, James Irwin, William Clark, Chalmer Shomaker, Herbert Grim, Forrest Potter, John Springer, Henry Stebing, Clarence Magginnnes, Austin Kail,



Amandus Hampshire, Harry Whetzel, Stanley Hull, Clinton Bloom, Ralph Shanabarger and Arthur Welshmier.

On April 18, under the auspices of the Defense League, a series of outdoor patriotic meetings was begun to stimulate recruiting. Capt. Kenneth Walters and Sergt. Charles Parker of the regiment, engaged in recruiting in neighboring towns, distributing literature. The new men enlisted at this time were Frank Steinmetz, M. O. Bapst, Ainsworth Thomas, Cletus Noirot, Roswell Bowers, Paul Boren, Lloyd Foster, Merritt Baker and John Kiser, and, a few days later, Earl Rule, Merritt Stillman and Perry Lane, all of Garrett.

After the passing of the draft law by Congress, April 28, 1917, Gov. James P. Goodrich named Sheriff Frank Baltz, County Clerk W. W. Mountz and I. M. Zent, of Auburn, as members of the conscription board, and they left for Indianapolis, April 30, for a conference with the Governor. Places of registration were fixed in each precinct, the registrars being selected May 1 by the conscription board. Those selected to take the registration in the different precincts were as follows: Butler—Albert N. Thrush; Concord—East, Henry Hathaway, West, Elza R. Kinsey; Fairfield—East, Oron Bair, West, William Tritch; Franklin—East, Benjamin Lowe, West, Edson Beard; Grant—East, Herman D. Boozer, West, James A. Husselman; Jackson—North, Phillip Carper, South, James Boots; Keyser—1, Scudder Shutt, 2, Ira A. Jones, 3, Franklin Rodebaugh, 4, Wesley Keen, 5, Frank J. Loar, 6, Arthur G. Houser, 7, Howard W. Mountz; Newville—Wallace Abel; Richland—North, Milo J. Thomas; South, Davis Shook; Smithfield—North, Boyd M. Davis; South, Herman Hamman; Spencer—Clyde G. Rectenwald; Stafford—Cleve Grube; Troy—Franklin Wise; Union—1, W. W. Willinnar, 2, Roy Lige, 3, Charles M. Brown, 5, Frank Draggoo; Wilmington—1, F. H. Ritter, 2, John W. Krantz, 3, Milo D. Husselman, 4, Charles C. Cook.

On Thursday, May 3, Auburn Chapter of the Red Cross was launched in Auburn at a meeting of committees appointed from the clubs of Auburn for the purpose, with Miles Baxter as temporary chairman, and Mrs. E. O. Hall, temporary secretary. The meeting took the preliminary steps necessary before petitioning the National Chapter for a charter, and the necessary committees were appointed.

In the meanwhile steps were being taken to conserve the food supply. At a joint meeting of the Auburn City Council and the Citizens' Defense League a committee was named to list all vacant lots within Auburn city for cultivation, and the council appropriated money to pay for a carload of seed potatoes to be sold at \$2.75 per bushel, equivalent to cost price. Another load was secured May 8 and sold at \$2.90 a bushel. On Monday, May 9, a patriotic parade of Auburn school children took place, there being 900 in line.

In May, 1917, the Auburn Young Men's Christian Association started a campaign to raise \$15,000 in De Kalb County for army and navy work.

May 17, Captain Moudy of Company K received notice from Geo. W. Freyermuth that the National Guard would be called into service June 15, and directing him to recruit his company to war strength. This date was later changed to August 5, as it was found impossible to secure supplies in time. In May the Auburn High School Alumni Association contributed \$70 for the French and Belgian Children's Relief Fund.

May 21, Judge D. M. Link was selected as chairman of the DeKalb County Chapter of the National Red Cross Association at the meeting held in Auburn for the purpose of perfecting a county organization. Thirty-six directors were named, each township, town and city being represented in the organization. Dr. U. G. Souder was appointed by the

Governor to succeed I. M. Zent, the law requiring a physician as the third member of the conscription board.

About this time Mr. Zent was appointed DeKalb County chairman of the Liberty Loan Distribution Committee of Federal Reserve District No. 7, and he immediately appointed men from the different banks in the county as chairmen in their respective localities, his appointments being confirmed by the proper officials. The men thus appointed were: W. E. Clark, Ashley; Jonas Schloss, Auburn; O. D. Kinsley, Butler; M. J. Thomas, Corunna; W. H. Brown, Garrett; S. W. Tustison, St. Joe; C. G. Rectenwald, Spencerville; and H. K. Leas, Waterloo. These men, after securing the proper information and literature, began the work of selling the bonds.

May 29, the eight-day campaign to raise the Young Men's Christian Association army and navy fund of \$15,000 closed with the goal attained, and the amount required exceeded by over \$100, the total subscriptions for the county being \$1,614.55, and one-half of this amount was paid cash down. Ashley contributed \$5.00; Auburn, \$1,183.75; Butler, \$112.50; Corunna, \$14.30; Garrett, \$241.00; Spencerville, \$16.50; St. Joe, \$38.50; and Waterloo, \$3.00. At this date over \$60,000 worth of government bonds had been purchased by residents of the county.

June 2, 1917, a new war organization was announced, the Council of National Defense of DeKalb County. There were seven members of the new organization, all appointed by Judge Link, namely: W. H. Willennar, Auburn; Mrs. Carrie Fanning, Butler; J. Y. W. McClellan, Auburn; Finley A. Nash, Garrett; Herman D. Boozer, Waterloo; E. D. Case, Fairfield Township, and Col. A. L. Kuhlman, representing military circles, Auburn. The purpose of the State Council of Defense, formed several days previously, was to cooperate with the Federal government in organizing and directing the resources of the state in men and materials to make them effective for national use, and the county unit was to assist as part of the State Council. The members of the local council selected Mayor J. Y. W. McClellan as chairman, and Col. A. L. Kuhlman as secretary. The first Monday of each month was named as the meeting time for the council.

The reports from each precinct June 5th indicated a large registration, with few or no slackers. The total number of registrants was 2,054, of whom 1,400 filed exemption, and 597 claimed no exemption. Harold Fretz, of Waterloo, and Aaron Osburn, of Ashley, were recruits for Company K, Osburn being a transfer from the reserve to the active list. June 12, twenty-two of the twenty-six young men who signed the first papers for service in the war, in Company K, passed the examination made by Major Humphreys.

Chairman C. M. Brown, of the Finance Committee in charge of raising the \$7,600 Red Cross fund in DeKalb County, and his associate members, announced the various sub-committees selected by them to assist in carrying on the campaign during the week of July 18. These sub-committees were: Soliciting Committee—Jonas Schloss, chairman; W. H. Willennar, J. W. Scheffer, E. L. Bower, I. M. Zent, James Provines and J. H. St. Clair. Speaking Committee—Rev. F. A. Hall, Walter Stump and A. Z. Arehart. Lodge Committee—G. A. Bishop, chairman; H. L. Brown, George Snyder, W. H. Henderson, Frank Draggoo, W. A. Thomas, Andrew Palston and O. H. Widney. Ladies' Club Committee—Mrs. George Beugnot, chairman; Mrs. E. C. Sheets, Mrs. J. Y. W. McClellan, Mrs. B. W. Beidler, Mrs. Jonas Schloss, Mrs. J. W. Scheffer, Mrs. George Kuhlman, Mrs. F. W. Olinger and Miss Helen Fitch. Ladies' Lodge Committee—Mrs. H. O. Williams, chairman; Mrs. F. J. Bussard, Mrs. G. Snyder, Mrs. Paul Rose, Mrs. George Braun, and Mrs.

Herman Green. Automobile Committee—Miles Baxter, chairman; E. O. Little, Ed Hicks, Stanley Nelson and B. W. Beidler.

William H. Willennar was made chairman of the Auburn branch of the Red Cross Association June 12. This association was rapidly spreading over the county, and within a few days meetings were held in all the principal towns.

June 13, the sale of Liberty bonds to the amount of \$227,000 was reported by Chairman Zent of the Liberty Loan Distribution Committee, and the bond sale closed Thursday, the 13th, with a total sale of \$253,750, an oversubscription of about \$2,000. The oversubscription was later announced to be \$27,200, the grand total being \$279,200.

Capt. A. L. Moudy, of Company K, was promoted to be major of infantry. June 15 it was reported that the number of young men registering was 2,026. The men who served as registrars declined pay for their services, thus saving the government \$382.

June 14, Chairman Charles M. Brown, of the Finance Committee of the Red Cross Association, outlined plans for the \$7,600 Red Cross Campaign. The county was divided into districts and committees and subcommittees appointed for the work. The members of the Finance Committee, in addition to the chairman, were Morris Eckhart and W. H. Schaab, of Auburn; Harry Brown and O. H. Betts, Garrett; D. L. Lees, Waterloo; T. J. Knisely, Butler; Mrs. George Clark, Ashley; Rev. A. K. Mumma, Spencerville; C. S. Patterson, St. Joe; Dr. F. S. Browne, Corunna. A Red Cross rally was planned for Sunday, June 16. At the meeting arrangements were perfected to begin the following day the campaign for \$7,600 as De Kalb's apportionment of the \$100,000,000 war fund for the American Red Cross, and on Monday the campaign started. Nearly one-half of the county's apportionment was subscribed on the first day. By June 16 the total had reached \$14,200, there having been very few refusals, and later subscriptions brought the sum up to \$14,586.69.

Company K had now 110 men enrolled, the latest additions to its roster being Henry DeMeyer and George Sitt, of Auburn, and Lawrence Pepe, of Fort Wayne.

June 26 it was announced that Governor James P. Goodrich had appointed Clerk W. W. Mountz, Sheriff Frank Baltz and Dr. U. G. Souder as members of the Exemption Board of De Kalb County. This board completed its work July 5.

On Wednesday, June 27, the Red Cross workers of the county started a campaign for 5,000 members, the campaign to be managed by committees from the seven branches of the county chapter, located respectively at Auburn, Garrett, Waterloo, Butler, St. Joe, Corunna and Ashley. Early in July Mrs. John W. Thomas, of Garrett, was appointed by Chairman D. M. Link as superintendent of the hospital supplies work department of the Red Cross for De Kalb County. By July 13, 550 members had been secured for the Auburn Chapter of the Red Cross, which closed the campaign. Waterloo had 321 members, Butler 159, other branches not having yet reported.

July 18, L. L. Dennison, of near Garrett, was named as head of a Reserve Military Company to be organized in De Kalb County by J. Y. W. McClellan, chairman of the County Council of Defense, the reserve companies to be known as Home Guards. Mrs. Carrie Fanning, of Butler, resigned her position on the Council on account of ill health.

The first draft began July 20, 1917, the first name drawn being that of Lee W. Hodges, of Waterloo. The quota for the county was 218 men, from which number would be subtracted approximately 100 members of Company K, and the men enlisted in the county for the regular army



(about thirty-eight), which would bring the quota to be actually drafted to about eighty men. Some of the young men taken in the draft made application to join Company K, and seven enlisted, namely: Carl B. Davidson, Ralph Huffman, Basil Richards, Clair L. Warstler, Lewis Rhodefer and Donald Schaab, of Auburn; and Clarence W. Robinson, of Waterloo. Lieut. Glen Whetzel was the recruiting officer. Capt. W. D. Stump was anxious to have the necessary number of 150 in the company before leaving for camp at Hattiesburg, Mississippi and urged the young men to be prompt in signing up for enlistment.

By July 23 the De Kalb County Red Cross had over 2,000 members enrolled and was growing rapidly. Preparations were made to look after the families of those in the service of their country. Mrs. John W. Thompson, of Garrett, recently named chairman of the hospital supply work for the county, began a school of instruction in the making of hospital supplies for the Red Cross. In the meanwhile Company K was receiving new accessions and a number of new recruits passed the physical examination.

July 25 it was announced that De Kalb County must supply eighty-eight men as its quota for the new National army. The county received credit for forty-one enlistments in the regular army and 119 enlistments in the Indiana National Guard.

The Auburn Red Cross branch secured the assembly room of the court house for a work room and sewing began under the superintendency of Mrs. B. W. Beidler. July 25 Clerk W. W. Mountz was relieved from his duties on the county exemption board owing to the fact of his being of conscriptable age. He had registered June 5. He recommended W. W. Austin as his successor on the board, who was accepted.

In the latter part of July preparations were made to organize a Boys' Working Reserve, for boys of the ages of 16 to 20, to help fill the shortage in labor, owing to the withdrawal of men for the army. The quota of boys for the county was 450, and enrolling offices were established as follows: Auburn, H. L. McKenny; Garrett, George Carroll; Butler, Scout Master Steininger; Fairfield, L. C. Wyncoop; Troy, Perry Turner; Richland, Carl Becker; Union, C. O. Krise; Grant, Emerson Walker; Wilmington, Clyde Ginder; Stafford, Donald J. Miller; Keyser, Jay Olinger; Butler, A. N. Thrush; Jackson, Eben Carnaham; Concord, C. A. Woodcox; Newville, Guy Platter; Spencer, Clyde Hart.

The formal mustering in of Company K took place Thursday, August 9, the mustering officers being Col. Guy Hagerty, of Muncie, on the staff of Col. Edward A. Root. The company numbered 126 men. For three months previous to this time there had been a number of De Kalb County young men in training at the Officers' Reserve School, at Fort Benjamin Harrison, all but a few of whom received commissions. The appointments were as follows: Second Lieutenant, Field Artillery Section, Lowell F. Bowers, of Garrett; Captain, Ordnance Department, National Army, Albert A. DeLapp, of Auburn; Second Lieutenant, Infantry Section, 2d Company, Charles E. Ihrie, of Auburn, and Don L. Kookan, of Garrett. August 10th a call for 180 more men for the draft was issued. An order from the provost marshal increased the number for the first draft ten per cent of the eighty-eight men, making ninety-seven called for.

The resignation of Mrs. Olive Brunstetter, of Butler, delayed the organization of the women of De Kalb County for women's service during the war. Several entertainments about this time for the benefit of Company K, netted the company over \$800. On Tuesday, August 14, a farewell demonstration to the departing Company K men took place at the central school grounds, a large crowd being present. Mayor Mc-

Clellan was the presiding officer. By August 29 Company K's quota was filled on the third draft. On Monday, September 10th, a grand patriotic demonstration at the New York Central Station, Auburn, and attended by about 4,000 people, was given when Company K left for camp at Fort Benjamin Harrison. The company marched to the station with a band and drum corps, headed by Mayor McClellan and other leading citizens, besides twenty-one members of the local G. A. R. Short patriotic speeches were made by J. E. Pomeroy, J. M. Life, W. H. McIntosh and Rev. F. A. Hall, and amid cheers and tears the company left for its destination. Toward the latter part of September it went to Camp Shelby, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, arriving September 30th. Early in October it was transferred to the Depot Brigade, becoming Company 10 of the brigade, and its members were assigned the duty of training men for the 151st Infantry, formerly the 1st Indiana Regiment. On October 5th the company lost its identity, thirty-two of its members being transferred to the artillery, in service with the Angola company, and the rest to be a part of the 151st Indiana Infantry. The officers of the company were assigned to the work of drilling drafted men.

September 17, 1917, the Boys' Working Reserve having given unsatisfactory results, a committee was appointed to investigate the cause and to create new interest.

October 18, 1917, De Kalb County having been allotted \$340,000 for the Second Liberty Loan, plans were made for a big drive. The problem of food conservation was being met in a patriotic spirit. Six thousand dollars was De Kalb County's apportionment of the \$35,000,000 Young Men's Christian Association War Fund to be raised during the week of November 11th, and a mass meeting was called to organize for the campaign, at which it was voted to raise \$10,000 or more. B. O. Fink was elected chairman and Willis Rhodes treasurer, while vice chairmen were named for each of the townships, namely: Grant, D. L. Lees; Fairfield, William Tritch; Franklin, Warren Boyer; Troy, Joseph Wiley; Richland, David Shook; Wilmington, C. C. Cook; Stafford, Lester Casebere; Keyser, George Boren and J. Olinger; Garrett (town), Dr. M. E. Klinger; Altona (town), Edward Kelham; Union, J. W. Sheffer; Concord, C. A. Woodsox; St. Joe (town), L. Y. Yeiser; Newville, Guy Platter; (Butler), and Ross Able (St. Joe); Butler (township), A. N. Trush; Jaskson, Silas Nugen; Spencer, John Koch; Smithfield, Marion Clark.

November 9, 1917, County Fuel Administrator W. H. Mountz, of Garrett, had practically completed his organization for the county. The local distributors appointed were: Garrett, D. E. Hershberger; Waterloo, W. E. Byers; Corunna, George Shaffer; Ashley, I. N. Cox; Butler, Fred Hood; St. Joe, H. L. Dunkle. On Sunday, November 11th, special meetings were held over the county in behalf of the Young Men's Christian Association War Fund, among the speakers being B. O. Fink, county chairman, D. W. Binford, secretary of the Auburn Young Men's Christian Association, J. E. Pomeroy, John Zimmerman, J. D. Brinkerhoff, Doctor Shumaker, and several ministers, with others. On November 15th the sum of \$225 was sent to the director of the Indiana Library War Council at Indianapolis, by the Eckhart Public Library Board, Auburn, as the proceeds of a benefit show given for war library work. Mrs. A. L. Kuhlman was president, and Miss Lula Bateman secretary and treasurer of the committee. On the same date 1,200 garments were ready for shipment for the French and Belgian children, given by De Kalb County citizens. This work was started in the county by Mrs. Anise Leas.

November 20th, the Young Men's Christian Association drive had netted the sum of \$10,284.10, or \$4,000 over the county's quota. A few

days later the Auburn school children started a campaign to secure funds for the local Red Cross, December 1, 1917. To advance war work for women, a "Federation of Women's Organizations of De Kalb County" was perfected in the court house at Auburn. Mrs. Lida Measure, of Auburn, was selected president, and Miss Georgia Walters of Jackson Township, secretary. On December 5th the sale of thrift stamps was begun at the Auburn postoffice.

January 1, 1918, the total Red Cross membership in the county was 6,400. On January 21st, the County Council appropriated \$1,000 for the use of the Council of Defense. On February 2, a big war meeting was held at the Court Theatre to hear Lieut. W. G. Masson, a Canadian officer from the front. On February 14th, the registration of aliens closed, with thirty-four registered. The following day preparations were made for the Third Liberty Loan Drive. At this time De Kalb County had at least one Red Cross nurse in France, engaged in active service, namely, Miss Gladys Grimm.

On March 12, 1918, a quota of 450 was assigned De Kalb County for the Boys' Working Reserve. About this time there was a new organization of food clubs, with house to house placing of food pledge cards. Previous to March 18th, a number of men had entered the service through voluntary induction, but the De Kalb County Exemption Board was now notified by the War Department that no more voluntary inductions would be accepted.

By March 20, 1918, plans were on hand for a "Joan of Arc" drive for the sale of thrift stamps and war savings, to begin March 25. Chairmen were appointed in the towns and townships as follows:

Auburn, Mrs. R. E. McLellan; Union Township, Mrs. Chester Hodge; Keyser Township, Mrs. Raymond Kingsbury; Garrett, Mrs. Owen F. Bell; Stafford Township, Mrs. Alvin Steckley; Waterloo, Mrs. Mary M. Brown; Concord Township, Mrs. A. Koch; Spencer Township, Mrs. P. W. Steward; Fairfield Township, Mrs. George Harms; Butler, Mrs. John Noel; Richland Township, Mrs. Howard Becker; Newville Township, Mrs. Joslin; Butler, Mrs. T. J. Knisely; Grant Township, Mrs. N. T. Jackson; Jackson Township, Miss Georgia Walter. About this time, in a house to house canvass by the Red Cross workers, nearly 3,000 garments were collected for French and Belgian relief.

April 6, 1918, the Woman's Liberty Loan Drive opened, with Mrs. Calvin Knecht as county chairman of the campaign. Auburn was divided into four districts, with Mrs. R. E. McLellan, Mrs. Wilson Dennison, Mrs. G. P. Weaver and Mrs. H. O. Williams as respective captains. Misses Helen Schaab and Helen Tritch had charge of sales in stores and factories. The city and town chairmen were: Garrett, Mrs. H. W. Mountz; Waterloo, Mrs. H. K. Leas; Corunna, Mrs. Milo Thomas; St. Joe, Mrs. S. W. Tustison; Spencerville, Mrs. Clyde Rechtenwald. The township chairmen were: Butler, Mrs. Frank Van Aman; Jackson, Mrs. L. D. Nelson; Newville, Mrs. Brunson; Concord, Mrs. C. A. Mumaw; Spencer, Mrs. George Henderson; Stafford, Mrs. Eli Mutzfeld; Union, Mrs. Frank Ashleman; Richland, Mrs. Ida Crane; Fairfield, Mrs. John Urey; Franklin, Mrs. Edson Beard; Troy, Miss Winifred Wiley; Keyser, Mrs. Mary Gump. About April 22 a civilian relief committee was organized to act as a department of the Red Cross, with Frank R. Sherer as county chairman and counsel to the committee. Branch committees were also organized, as follows: Auburn, George Beugnot, Mrs. H. D. Weaver and Miss Faith Hines; Butler, Mrs. Stella Swift, Miss Marie Bishop and Mrs. Mary E. Hollinger; Corunna, George Miles, Philip Mertz and Mrs. Viola Threesh; St. Joe, Fred B. Leighty, Derwood Ridgway and Ray Herrick; Garrett, C. H. Martin,



Amanda Talbert and George W. Iler; Waterloo, Mrs. H. D. Boozer, Mrs. R. L. Hull and S. A. Bowman; Ashley, Rev. M. F. Stright, Mrs. A. N. Ellis and A. E. Wilber; Spencerville, Robert C. Beams, Mrs. Ross A. Abel and Curtis M. Watt.

April 19 the women started a campaign for the purpose of registering every woman and girl in the county to aid Uncle Sam in war work.

May 4, 1918, it was announced that the county's subscription to the Third Liberty Loan amounted to \$497,300, or nearly \$200,000 over the quota of \$300,000. Of this sum \$135,450 was secured by the women, whose county chairman was Mrs. Monte L. Green, Mrs. Calvin Knecht being vice chairman and director of sales.

The date of May 20 was set for a Red Cross drive, with the county's quota \$15,000. The town and township chairmen appointed were: Auburn and Union townships, W. H. Schaab; Garrett and Keyser townships, H. M. Brown; Waterloo and Grant townships, D. L. Leas; Butler and Wilmington townships, W. P. Endicott; Corunna and Richland townships, Milo Thomas; Ashley and Smithfield townships, J. W. Thomas and W. Scott Forney; St. Joe and Concord townships, Frank Bowman; Spencerville and Spencer townships, Rev. Mr. Mumaw; Fairfield Township, Elmer Case; Butler Township, Albert Trush; Franklin Township, Edson Beard; Jackson Township, James Provines; Troy Township, Burl Mougler; Newville Township, Ross Abel; Stafford Township, Charles Arford. Various other activities were set on foot by the local Red Cross, including the preparation of a cook book, designed on an economical plan, and an egg collection in May, which realized a total of \$142.15 for the Auburn branch. The Red Cross campaign which closed in the latter part of May showed the amount subscribed to be \$18,588.38, which was an over-subscription, the quota having been \$15,000.

May 28, L. G. Whitten, chairman of the Thrift Stamp drive, reported a total of \$66.491 received for stamps, leaving but \$11,889 to be pledged. The amount lacking was more than raised when 100 men attending a banquet at the Auburn Commercial Club, pledged subscriptions to the amount of \$14,310.

On the Salvation Army drive in May, to raise \$3,750, D. W. Binford, of the Auburn Young Men's Christian Association, was selected as county chairman, with Lieut. George Carroll, of Garrett, as secretary, and the Rev. A. P. Bourns in charge of the speakers' bureau.

The Rev. A. P. Bourns was also publicity agent for the War Savings Stamp drive, and on June 25 announced places for meetings to be held in every township, city and town in the county, on Friday, June 28. Among the speakers to take part in the drive were: J. Y. W. McClellan, F. H. Nicolai, W. H. Schaab, B. O. Fink, Willis Rhodes, A. Z. Arehart, J. E. Pomeroy, P. V. Hoffman, W. H. Willennar, J. E. Jellison, Herman Brown, G. W. Bloodgood, Judge D. M. Link, and A. L. Murray, of Auburn; W. H. Leas and Herman Boozer, of Waterloo; I. D. Brinkerhoff, H. W. Mountz, W. W. Sharpless, Monte L. Green and Dr. M. E. Klinger, of Garrett. G. W. Geddes, W. P. Endicott, E. E. Day and Doctor Shumaker, of Butler; H. M. Widney of St. Joe, and a number of church pastors. A total of \$242,000 was to be raised to fill the quota for the year. Forty-two meetings were held, with resulting sales of \$551,000.

July 4, 1918, De Kalb County's Selective Service Men's Organization came into being and a constitution was adopted. The membership was both active and honorary, the officers to serve for one year. The purpose of the new organization was to assist in raising war funds, spread patriotic sentiment, and help to increase food production.

August 1, 1918, the report of Mrs. C. P. Dennison, Red Cross secre-

tary, for the year ending July 1, 1918, showed total receipts of \$20,530.93, of which \$11,000 was spent for supplies. The cash on hand in bank was \$674.62; the cash in branch treasuries, \$3,966.03.

At this time new military boards of instruction were organized to put De Kalb County selective service men into camp willing, loyal, intelligent, clean and sober. These boards, with their chairmen were: Military Instruction, Roy Lige, of Auburn; Young Men's Christian Association, D. W. Binford, secretary of the Auburn association; Red Cross, Harry Wert, of Garrett; Army Knights of Columbus, Father M. J. Aichinger, of Auburn; Jewish Welfare, Louis Magids, of Garrett; legal advisor, Oak Hasselman; medical aid, Dr. U. G. Souder, of Auburn.

September 25, De Kalb County's quota for the Fourth Liberty Loan was announced as \$650,000. By October 4, the work was going slowly on account of optimistic views concerning the approaching end of the war, but nearly \$400,000 had been raised. By October 18 the county had "gone over the top" with an over-subscription, which reached the figure of \$644,500, and was further raised by the 20th to \$818,600. On October 8, a big war exhibit visited Auburn in behalf of the loan, and attracted a crowd of about 3,000 people to the New York Central station.

The success of the various branches of home war work at this time was the more remarkable, as it was carried on in spite of the influenza, which was prevalent, especially in Garrett, where, on October 9, there were 200 cases. On October 10, 3,399 more garments were shipped by the Auburn Red Cross for the French and Belgian people's relief.

On October 19, 1918, members of the advisory committee of the De Kalb County United War Workers held a meeting and adopted plans for a campaign to raise \$26,275. Township chairmen and city leaders were elected, Mrs. G. B. Weaver to have charge of the Young Women's Christian Association interests and Miss Helen Schaab to look after the Victory Girls. The chairmen appointed were: Union Township, Artie Brandon; Fairfield, Elmer D. Case; Smithfield, William Clark; Franklin, Merritt Metson; Troy, Joseph Wiley; Richland, David Shook; Grant, D. L. Leas; Wilmington, S. O. Devitt; Stafford, Lester Casebeer; Kaiser, Jay Olinger; Concord, H. C. Hathaway; Newville, William Wineland; Butler (township), A. N. Thrush; Jackson, Michael Shoudel; Spencer, J. W. Henderson; Garrett, Dr. M. E. Klinger; Butler (city), George Geddis; Auburn, J. W. Sheffer.

It was now becoming evident that the war was drawing near to its close, and on November 8 the premature announcement of the armistice by Rear-Admiral Wilson caused public celebrations throughout the country. Three days later the armistice was signed, and the load of anxiety which weighed heavily on those who had sons, brothers or relatives facing the enemy was in great part lightened, though in a few cases bad news came week or months afterwards. That the pressure had been great on the people was visible in many ways, notably in the large number of cases of insanity which occurred during the war period, those whose mental powers succumbed being for the most part old or middle-aged people.

Though the fighting was over, the vast expense of the war made another call for money necessary, and De Kalb County's quota for the Victory Loan was placed at \$488,000. A spirited canvas was made and the amount called for was exceeded by the subscriptions. On April 19, a special Victory Loan train passed through the county, with an exhibition of war relics, which drew crowds of people wherever it stopped. The drive went slowly at first, but the final amount realized was \$512,800, an over-subscription of nearly \$25,000.

Not one of the five Liberty Loan drives during the war fell below

the county's quota. The best record was made in the Fourth campaign, when the quota of \$650,000 was over-subscribed by nearly \$200,000, and this notwithstanding the "flu" epidemic. To the names of those who were instrumental in making the drives a success must be added that of V. E. Buchanan, general manager of the Auburn Printing Company, who carried on the publicity campaign of the county for all the drives with ability. C. C. Marston, also, of the Double Fabric Company of Auburn, served as chairman of the public speaking campaign for all the Liberty Loan drives. In the first, second and third drives local speakers did effective work in the rural districts, and other speakers were secured for the towns and cities. To advertise the Fourth Liberty Loan, Art Smith, aviator, made several flights over De Kalb County, and various other advertising novelties were also made use of. The selective service men did good work on the Fourth Liberty Loan, and the women, under the direction of Mrs. Monte L. Green, were especially effective on the Third Loan, besides assisting on the Fourth.

The War Savings Stamp sales during 1918 placed De Kalb County near the head of the ninety-two counties in Indiana, or in the eighth place, the total sales being \$594,687.50, or a per capita sale of \$23.72. For the War Savings Stamp campaign of 1919, Rev. A. P. Bourns, of Auburn, was appointed chairman April 21, with L. G. Whitten in charge of publicity; F. M. Merica in charge of county school work; G. W. Youngblood, city schools, and Miles Baxter, postmaster of Auburn, in charge of the work to be done by postmasters.

On January 25, 1919, a campaign was started for the Armenian Relief Fund, and was carried through to completion. That the severe financial strain of the war period was felt by the people, especially by those in moderate circumstances, was shown by the fact that in February, 1919, the savings stamps cashed in Auburn amounted to nearly \$4,000, almost equaling the amount sold.

#### SUMMARY OF HOME ACTIVITY WORK

The County Council of Defense in the County of De Kalb was organized June 4, 1917. Judge D. M. Link appointed the following as members: J. Y. W. McClellan, Auburn; W. H. Willennar, Auburn; Col. A. L. Kuhlman, Auburn; E. D. Case, Corunna; H. D. Boozer, Waterloo; Findlay D. Nash, Garrett; Mrs. Carrie Fanning, Butler.

Mrs. Fanning of Butler, resigned shortly after organization and was succeeded by Mrs. Morris Brunstetter, who also served but a short time. Judge Link finally succeeded in getting Mrs. Monte L. Green, of Garrett, to continue the work on the County Council of Defense. In the organization of the County Council, J. Y. W. McClellan was chosen chairman, and Col. A. L. Kuhlman, secretary. No rules or by-laws were formulated. Bulletins and work directed from the State Council of Defense constituted the work of the county council.

During the summer and fall of 1917 no financial expenses were incurred by the county council. The chairman gave his time and energy to carry out the work that came to the council. Lacking financial resources, the work of a stenographer was done by the county agent's stenographer, Mrs. J. C. Weeks. In the fall of 1917 the civil council appropriated \$100 for the County Council of Defense. With the increase of work the expenses also increased. In January, 1918, the civil council appropriated \$1,000 for the County Council of Defense. This enabled the county council to employ a stenographer, who was secured in the person of Miss Arno McConnell. She proved very efficient and faithful. An office was



established in the city hall, Auburn. From here letters and bulletins were sent out by the chairman.

**The Boys' Reserve**—When the United States entered the war, and made call for 2,000,000 men of military service, serious labor shortage threatened industry and agriculture. These millions then out of labor circles had to be supplied from some source. The boys under age, sixteen to twenty, had to be organized to fill the vacancy. Factories had to be supplied with new workers, the fields had to have new help. One of the first and most important tasks of the County Council was to perform this duty in the tremendous effort being made to defeat the efficient German machine by development of super-efficiency in the United States. The boys of the country under military age had to be lined up immediately for effective service. While the big brothers faced the enemy in the field of battle, the boys had to do their bit on the farm and in the shop. To this end the county councils were urged to appoint a director of the Boys' Working Reserve. D. W. Binford was appointed director in August, 1917. The director had charge of the enrollments and organization work. The council aided in taking care of the financial expenses. This organization was the first and most practical thing brought to the attention of the council.

Early in the summer of 1917 food conservation was brought home to the attention of the people. The county councils made a survey of conditions in their counties. The production of war gardens aided in keeping down the high cost of living. Co-operation with the county agricultural agent was of great benefit co-operating with the idea in view of making every community and every individual as near self-sustaining as producing his own food could make him. The people were encouraged to buy home products, thereby conserving food stuff and saving labor. Retail grocers were requested to give home products preference when purchasing supplies.

The food administration, under H. L. Brown, played an important part, and conservation was observed. The citizens were loyal and but few complaints were heard. Sugar cards were used effectively, and the grocers and eating-house proprietors co-operated patriotically in the work. W. A. Thomas, of the Thomas Baking Co., of Auburn, served as deputy for the bakers' organization of De Kalb County, and with the help of the baking industry the standard loaf was brought onto the market and the price lowered 2 cents on the pound. W. H. Schaab, of the Schaab & Bro. Co., of Auburn, was appointed deputy director for the merchants of the county. Food clubs were organized. Committees were appointed in every township, and meetings held. Miss Ida Leininger served efficiently as demonstrator of home economics, and hoarding and other forms of disloyalty were made unpopular and kept down to a minimum.

**Women's Organization**—On July 13, 1917, comprehensive for cataloging of the women of the state for service was begun. The women members of the County Council were to head the move within each and every county. This was the first move in registration of the women which was perfected later under Mrs. Monte L. Green. She picked assistants in townships and precincts who carried the work to successful results and the success of the drive.

**Home Guard Company**—In July active operations were started by the State County of Defense for the formation of companies for the drilling of men ranging in years from eighteen to sixty. The effect of such an organization would be a stimulus to patriotism and to quicken the realization of a state of war. Capt. L. L. Denison of Garrett was appointed by the chairman of De Kalb County Council of Defense, as

military officer to enroll. Later, in November, 1917, a company of Home Guards was organized in Auburn. The company met once a week and drilled for about two months. On account of not being mustered in by state authorities and on account of lack of interest, the company disbanded.

In July the State Council of Defense urged the chairman of county councils to look after giving publicity to all work done by the councils. It was also requested that office hours and headquarters be established.

Committee on Disloyalty—Early in the summer of 1917, the state council took cognizance of disloyalty and suggested that county councils appoint a committee on protection. The chairman appointed such a committee, but later, when organization became better perfected, a secret organization known as the American Protective League was created with the chairman of the County Council as chief.

Gasoline economy was demanded by the state council in August, 1917. It urged the councils of defense to take measures to reduce pleasure riding and to save gasoline by eliminating thoughtless and injudicious use of cars. The use of kerosene for cleaning purposes in the homes and garages was also eliminated. Publicity was given to this through the press.

The county councils were required to see that storage places for agricultural products for fall be available. But no grave danger was threatening this council along that line, as the producer was able to take care of his production. Cold storage was available for all surplus stock.

Before the fuel administration had been created, the county councils called the farmers' attention to timber that was going to waste. The farmers were asked to cut all such timber into wood, or let the needy have access to such timber for fuel. This scheme originated with the State Board of Forestry. Thus, before the Federal Fuel Administration was created, measures had been taken in the counties to relieve the fuel situation.

In the first year of the war great stress was put upon co-operation of the county councils and the Red Cross. These two organizations worked in harmony during the war. Public interest was created, and the welfare of all concerned was largely promoted. Home service was brought into the homes generally, thereby awakening the great American soul.

In September, 1917, before the County Food Administration was appreciated, county councils were requested to give a message received from the French government the widest publicity and to use every effort to interest the housewife of the county. This was an appeal from Hoover to conserve in sugar. France must have 100,000 tons within a month. This could only be obtained by the people reducing home consumption of candy and sugar one-third. This appeal and other like requests to conserve brought America face to face with the awful calamity that was threatening the world. The people of De Kalb County responded nobly. A small percent whose selfishness clouded better visions of their souls, failed to conserve. All communities were infected with this narrow-souled, contracted class. They had a Prussian mind, which is indicative of a very low state of soul development.

As early as October, 1917, the National Council of Defense called upon the state councils to see that this country made every effort it was capable of in conservation of money and material. All undertakings should be tried and justified by the test: "Will this help win the war?" New enterprises that did not so contribute were discouraged. Later in 1918 permit had to be obtained before construction of buildings or public drains could be undertaken. Very few petitions were granted. Transportation was the main objection.

Women members of the county council were called to Indianapolis in November, 1917, in a statewide meeting to further the co-operation of the men and women engaged in the great struggle. Various phases of war work were discussed and knowledge gained of how to handle the difficult problems.

County councils were requested to assist in raising funds for War Camp Recreation, and in 1917 a fund of \$4,000,000 was raised for that purpose. This work was done in communities near cantonments. In the 1917 campaign county councils not in close touch with the camps were not called upon to aid, but in the United War Work campaign in November, 1918, war camp service was included and the general public was called upon to contribute.

The serious condition of the Indiana corn crop in the fall of 1917 made it imperative that action be taken to secure and save seed corn for the 1918 crop. The State Food Production and Conservation Committee, in co-operation with Purdue University and the United States Department of Agriculture sent men into every county of the state to assist in locating fields of matured corn from which seed could be procured. The chairman of the County Council co-operated with the county agricultural agent in this work. Better farming associations also aided in awakening the farmers to the serious situation. Measures were also taken for the conservation of waste material from farms and factories, as well as homes, and a ready market was found for much of this material, for which the government had need. The County Council of Defense in the final analysis was the clearing house of all war work. Its labor with the people never stopped. Through its instrumentality the Federal government was kept in touch with the great mass of the people. Its efficiency depended largely upon the quickness of action, which in most instances was obtained. It was the aim of the chairman of De Kalb County to answer all communications from the State Council as soon as data were secured—often on the same day that mail was received.

Revenue Collections—That justice might prevail, a citizen of Auburn was appointed to assist the collector of internal revenue. Local men gave information as to financial standing and certified statements made. The government realized that some tried to dodge paying war revenue.

In January, 1918, the attention of the farmers was called to the fact that it was their duty to order fertilizer in maximum car load lots. They were urged by the government to ship at the earliest possible moment. The paramount duty of the hour was conservation of transportation equipment. Concerted effort of dealers and consumers relieved the difficulties of the situation. The chairman of the County Council used every means to so spread this information. Trucking was resorted to, which relieved the railroad of considerable local freight.

De Kalb County's quota in the effort to raise \$170,000,000 in the Nation for welfare work in the camps of the American Expeditionary Forces and the cantonments in the United States, was placed at \$30,000. Participating in the campaign, which extended from November 11 to November 18 were the Young Men's Christian Association, the National Catholic War Council, the Young Women's Christian Association, the War Camp Community Service, the American Library Association, the Jewish Welfare Association, and the Salvation Army, which organizations merged for the drive at the request of the National Council of Defense. A great effort was made to reach a 150 per cent quota, and the drive being extended two days, to November 20, De Kalb County went over the top, the subscriptions reaching the figure of \$38,762.49. This was exclusive of the Victory Boys' and Girls' drive, which resulted in subscriptions



amounting to \$3,835.95, making the county's total subscription in the drive, \$42,598.44, an over-subscription on the 150 per cent basis of \$3,186.44.

### THE MEN IN THE SERVICE

The first fourteen members of Company K to return home arrived on January 14, 1919, and were soon followed by others. The following was the roster of the company August 1, 1917, shortly before it left for camp. Officers: Capt. Walter D. Stump, First Lieut. Walter A. Lobmiller, Second Lieut. Glen W. Wetzel, First Sergt. Samuel McIntosh, Sup. Sergt. Henry Imhoff, Mess Sergt. Kenneth Walter. Sergts.: Edwin Hampshire, Charles Packer, Lloyd Miller, Romine Wolf, Roy Hampshire. Corps.: Albert Funk, Howard Rogers, Ralph Rugman, Herbert D. Fee, Emmett Taylor, Commodore Chorpennig, Howard Dilgard, Paul Kail, Calvin Trumpey, Paul Lobmiller, Aaron Osbun, Charles Thomas, Frank Williams; Cook Fred Brandon, Bug. Marion Beidler, Mech. James Chapman.

Privates: Roscoe Anderson, Fred Bearss, Lester Foltz, Clarence Getts, Russell Morrison, Floyd Moore, Ernest E. Pearson, Elmer E. Rhodes, Roy Stahl, Lloyd Stroh, Glen Welden, Lawrence Brandt, Clinton Bloom, Clarence Bookmiller, Lisle Buck, Emil Bapst, Roswell Bower, Kenneth Briggs, Max M. Colon, William Clark, Lawrence Crothers, Alvin Casselman, Clayton Chorpennig, Harry Boghosian, Paul McCosh, Carl DeWitt, Fred G. Drago, Arna B. Fenstermaker, Riley Folk, Harold Fretz, Floyd Foster, Clair Grosh, Herbert Grim, Virgil Hurst, Amandis Hampshire, Stanley Hull, Eno M. Hartman, James Irvin, Roscoe Johnson, Austin Kail, Perry C. Lane, Russell Loutzenhiser, Roy Mitchell, James Mitchell, Silas McCosh, Clarence McGinnis, Walter J. Morr, George Mayo, Ora Pence, Forrest Potter, Frank Provines, Earl Ruhl, Chalmer Shoemaker, John Springer, Loren Slentz, Ralph Shanabarger, Leo So-braske, Henry Stebing, Howard Steckley, Gary E. Stroh, Harrison Smith, Joe Strauss, Carl Strauss, Fred M. Steinmetz, Merritt Silliman, Curt E. Smith, Harry Wetzel, Arthur Welshimer, Din Wise, Harry Wyatt, Stanley J. Zymslony, Lewis Rhodefer, Frank D. Bechtol, George R. Dean, Loren J. Beals, Henry DeMeyer, Donald Schaab, Winfred Thomas, Basil Richards, Ralph Huffman, Carl Warstler, Carl Davidson, Glen Myers, Elmer F. Fretz, Byron Dielman, Lawrence Dielman, Louis F. Staude, Willis Orwig.

The Auburn men who were transferred to the supply company were: First Sergt. Karl Knapp, Sergt. Ben Baughman, Sergt. Don Lochner, Blacksmith Elmer Hess, Holland Matheny, Robert Hodge, John Gorscop, William Kessler, Paul Palmer. Those transferred to the Machine Gun Company were: First Lieut. Raymond Rhodefer, Theodore Refner, Peter Aye, Alfred Ruhl, Willie Goodwin.

In addition to the men who went out with Company K and those who were drafted, or entered the service by voluntary induction, there were others who enlisted in one branch of the service or another, whose names, except in a few instances, it has been found impossible to obtain, owing to the lack at present of any available record. Among them was Capt. Herbert W. McBride, who enlisted early in the Canadian army and proved a brilliant soldier; John A. Sperbeck, and Chester Wertenbarger, of Waterloo, who served in the navy. A few others entered students' army training schools, or officers' training schools in camp. George E. Beugnot and Rev. S. Simons were accepted for Young Men's Christian Association service overseas, as also was John Zimmerman. Charles Goodwin was a Young Men's Christian Association secretary in France. Lieut. George Carroll, of Garrett, was awarded the highest

French décoration for bravery—the Croix de Guerre, with the Palm and Star.

The following list of drafted men, also including men who entered the service through voluntary induction, was compiled at the close of the last draft, and probably contains the names of most of those then in the service, aside from the members of Company K and the men who enlisted in other army organizations or in the navy.

Cecil Albright, Lawrence Anderson, Joseph Albright, George Baker, Marion Barnes, Earl Brandon, Charles F. Blaker, Clifton Beaty, Nick Boules, William Brown, Joseph Buckley, Edward Brown, Monroe Beehler, James J. Boozer, Anthony Bapst, Glendon Baker, Carl Brown, Floyd Creel, Leon Clanta, Albert Cramer, Maurice Crow, Guy Conner, Herbert Adams, Raymond Albright, Vincent Yamszewski, William Baltz, Clyde Brown, Roswell Bower, Moses Bedigan, Harry Blackwell, Harry Bohler, John Bozak, Howard Berry, Robert Bass, Clarence Ball, Carl Bohls, Harry Bonnett, Grover Boyd, Edgar Bumpus, Austin Cusack, Andrew J. Carmer, Floyd Curran, John F. Cutter, George Carroll, Joseph Crist, Dan Cornilla, William Claxton, Orval Corbin, Gordon R. Collins, Marion Colon, Ford Carper, Julius C. Day, Chester A. Deal, Virgil J. Davis, Owen I. Dangler, Earl E. Eakright, Benjamin H. Eastes, Robert N. Elden, Ora K. Enzor, Worthy Forney, Harry Friend, Charles C. Furnish, Elza Forsythe, Allan Foote, Heber Farver, Ray Greenwood, Wayne Gonser, Clarence D. Greenwood, Walter G. Haines, Ralph Hull, Fern E. Husselman, Simon Hendricks, Henry Honzinger, Charles G. Hamm, Harry Harper, Ralph Harding, Arthur A. Handy, Claude H. Harraw, Carl H. Haywood, Vernon Hallett (deceased), Ray Imhoff, John Jones, Homer Jackson, Paul F. Kleeman, Winthrop Ketcham, Fred Knapp, William Kennedy, Calvin C. Kahn, William H. Kessler, George Knot (died in army), Fred Lewis, Frederick J. Lindorfer, Carl W. Lockhart, Frank L. Martin, Charles L. Miller, Edward Meis, Cecil Miller, Russel Mountz, Nathan Moore, Frank W. Maines, Harry C. McIntyre, Frank McCully, Joseph H. McCorkle, Michael McAndrews, James P. McCarthy, Fred Neitzka, Harry E. North, Charles Noonan, Francis H. Owens, George Omohundro, James F. Owens, Harvey Phelps, Fred E. Peters, Stanley Palmer, Paul W. Palmer, William B. Quinlan, Henderson M. Richey, Clarence Robinson, Lynn Reed, Harley Rohm, George Ridgeway, Dane Ridenour, Owen Rohm, Ralph Sechler, Norman Stevens, Henry Springer, Glen Smith, Stanley Shutt, Albert G. Stanley, Arnold Scott, Jay Sailer, Carlisle Smith, Eugene Swentek, William Schrader, Lymford Stroh, Charles Sarpa, George Tutison, Walter Tomlinson, Arthur Tritch, Simon Uipsiu, Harry Van Lear, Ray Widney, Henry A. Wilt, Charles Wiley, Lena Wilson, Louis I. Bapst, Fred Bowman, Perry Bowerman, Carl Budd, Pence Burtoff, Harry Benner, Charles Carbaugh, Frank Clouse, Elgin Currie, Joel Dills, Ora Donley, Clyde Ervin, John Ellert, John E. Fisher, Hershel Greenwood, Roscoe George, William Hilsmier, Edward Hall, Hudson Hayes, Dell Hendershot, John Johnson, Leslie Jordon, Ralph Kressley, Nathan Kammerer, James Cool, Archie Childres, Russell Collins, Zicco Camillo, Paul Curie, James Connor, Floyd Carper, David Davis, Arthur Dinsmore, Albert DeLapp, Alonzo Zeigler, Glen Erickson, Harry A. Eberly, Russel W. Eckert, Theron Wilcox, Cecil P. Flower, Herbert C. Forney, Ray Fike, Harry N. Ferreskas, Frank C. Farley, Herschel H. Fitch, John Gage, Russel Grogg, James Gloy, Chester Geisinger, Frank C. Gingery, Samuel George, Glen Wetzal, Ralph Huffman, Donald P. Husselman, George B. Hart, Christian A. Hoffer, William H. Hathaway, Leon Harnish, Leo Heilen, Archie V. Hines, Albert Houser, Roscoe Houghton, Charles Howard, Earl Weaver, Ray A. Jackman, Daniel M. Jetmore, Don Kookan, Otis Kempf, Walter Kessler, Floyd W. Kast, He-

ber Krabill, Walter Wineland, John F. Leasure, Nixon Lawhead, Wilber Walter, Roy Maxwell, John J. Miller, Carl H. Mies, Clarence A. Myers, Tony J. Metzler, George Moltz, Chester L. Mountz, Stanley Wise, Claude McLaughlin, John J. McCrory, Harry K. McIntosh, William McIntyre, Charles V. Nodine, John Nugen, Ralph Warstler, Charles E. Olson, Zellie C. Odenkirk, William Orande, Charles Paull, Ernest Parian, George E. Palmer, Howard Perrine, Paul Wasson, Edward C. Ruhland, Earnest Rohm, Russel R. Ridenour, LeRoy Rottger, John Rathwell, James Roberts, Edwin Rupp, Clyde M. Swander, Fred Strieff, Ben E. Shook, Clark E. Scholes, Joseph Sobraske, Argel Sechler, Edwin Storck, Ralph Shellhouse, George Stafford, John Styles, Albert Witt, Walter Thomas, Marquis Tyndall, Lawson Talbert, Leo Vergyle, Cecil Van Zile, Alfred R. Wasson, Harry Wolfe, Ralph Weirick, Clayton Weaver, Harry Bruce, Fred Brinkman, Grover Boyd, John Barber, Fred Barnhart, Walter Chilcoate, Floyd Carper, John Chambers, Charles Capp, Homer Donley, Russell Darnell, Earl Enzor, Roy Fike, Pette Guliano, Edward Grischke, William Gulick, Harry Heller, Harold Hurst, Vance Hiatt, Irvin Ingersol, Joseph Jankowski, Forest Kessler, Walter Kessler, Walter E. Kessler, Walter Knepper, Otto Lehman, Stanley Monroe, James Muzzillo, Fred Malone, Leone Mitchner, George Musser, Homer McDonald, William McKinley, John Reutebruch, Henry Robinson, John Rugman, Monroe Schlatter, August Schram, Walter Schram, Mathew Slessman, Grover Sapp, Leighton Tombow, Herbert Webb, William Armstrong, Arlington Alman, Lewis Ayers, W. R. Albright, W. W. Bleeks, Ben Baughman, Chester Bovee, Clayton Beeber, Harold Beeber, Ora Bennett, Burl Bishop, Frank Benson, Hugh Crandon, E. A. Cisinger, Seward Crew, Burch Clark, Thorlief Christie, Morris Curie, Clyde Crooks, J. O. Denison, J. M. Dugger, Jay Downend, Vaughan Davis, Roy Deihm, Paul R. Ellison, Albert Frank, Harold Fuller, Morris Friend, Walter Griggs, Elmer Hess, Jacob Holman, Dr. D. M. Hines, Floyd Handy, Merit Hull, Leonard Harter, Herbert Kupper, Paul Kookan, Forest Kain, Paul F. Krabill, John Lumm, Don Lochner, Joe Leeson, McKinley Lanning, Earl Mortorff, Charles Monrow, John Morgan, Dewey Miller, Wellington Miller, Merit Monrow, Thomas O'Leary, Carl Osburn, Vincent Palaszicack, Mervin Place, Paul Perry, Ray Radabaugh, Theodore Refner, J. J. Reed, Harold Rodebaugh, Frank Royer, Isaiah Smith, Clyde Snyder, Clarence Sheely, James Schaab, Gary Squires, Walter Schomberg, Karl Sliger, Gerald Schultz, Wade Stevenson, E. Strause, John Schutt, Wayne Stroh, Howard Traxler, Orville Tarney, Hugh Triplett, Peter Trapp, Glenn Van Auken, Dr. Chalmer Weaver, Clarence Wagner, Carl Watt, Willis Woodcox, William Zeigler, Roscoe Anderson, Rex Badman, Loren Beals, Kenneth Briggs, Clarence Bookmiller, Roswell Bower, Marion Beidler, Mox Calon, Commodore Chorpenning, Lawrence Crothers, Carl Davidson, Harold Dean, Carl DeWitt, Lawrence Dielman, Hebert Fee, Arma Fenstermaker, Riley Folk, Elmer Fretz, Herbert Grimm, Ervin Hampshire, Amandis Hampshire, Eno Hartman, Harry Hull, Vergil Hurst, Roscoe Johnson, Paul Kail, Paul Lobmiller, Russel Loutzenhiser, Floyd Moore, Clarence Maginnis, Roy Mitchell, Walter Moore, Glen Myers, Paul McCosh, Aaron Osburn, Charles Packer, Ora Pence, Forest Potter, Elmer Rhodes, Basil Richards, Walter D. Stump, Roy Stohl, Donald Schaab, Chalmer Shoemaker, Loren Slentz, Harrison Smith, John Springer, Henry Stebing, Howard Steckley, Carl Strauss, Emmet Taylor, Calvin Trumpey, Glen Wetzal, Romaine Wolf, Glen Weldin, Arthur Welsheimer, Joseph Welondek, Harry Wyatt, Clinton Bloom, Lillo Buck, Perry Lane, Ralph Neidic, Earl Ward, John Laub, Joseph Loffi, Vernie Monroe, Minor Miller, Jesse Musser, George Minard, Wm. McIntyre, Lewis McDougall, James Nussbaum, Lewis Rhodefer, Lawrence Robine-



son, John Steinmetz, Norman Stevens, Jesse Sperbeck, Earl Schrader, Walter Smith, Emmet Troxler, Clyde Vaughn, Harry Winebrenner, Harry Altenberg, Willard Ayers, Donald Ayers, Charles Anderson, Eugene Baker, Frank Bumpus, Donald Byers, Edgar Beeber, Frank Bevier, Maurice Bragg, Ward Bailey, Paul Benson, George Cottrill, John Crothers, Roy Crawford, James Claxton, Will Carlin, Sherm Childs, Kenneth Creviston, Lyman F. Drews, Chester DeBrular, Russel Davis, Dale Davis, John Engle, Joseph Forsythe, James Freeman, Daniel Farnar, Meese Fairfield, Charles Gard, John Horseman, John Hebel, John Hopper, Carroll Hollinger, Leland Hook, H. F. Harwood, Harry Kast, Ora Kuhlman, Clarence Kaiser, Clarence Kraft, John Leas, Wm. Lonergan, Tom Leeson, James Lanning, Leo Madden, Hubert Maurer, Samuel Mortorff, Byron Miller, Paul Maxwell, Carl Novinger, Frank Omil, L. L. Plumber, Lewis Provines, Al. J. Place, Oral Radabaugh, Alfred Ruhl, Oscar Rhodes, Wilford Rettig, Camwell Rochette, Wayne Snyder, Riley Schlatterbach, Chessman Summers, Emmet Sharp, Leland Squires, George Saunders, Harry Squires, Paul Steward, Frank Smith, Roscoe Sithen, F. N. Steinmetz, Harry Shuff, Charles Smith, George Teal, Howard Tibbals, John W. Thomson, Lawson Talbert, Charles Van Lear, Ford Wyatt, Herbert Wilcox, Fay Wilmot, Robert Wiley, Camillo Zicco, Fred Brandon, Emil Bapst, Frank Bechtel, Harry Boghossion, Paul Boren, Gale Baumgardner, James Chapman, Colvin Casselman, William Clark, Howard Dilgard, George Dean, Henry DeMeyer, Fred G. Draggoo, Albert Funk, Lester Foltz, Floyd Farver, Lloyd Foster, Harold Fretz, Clair Grosh, Ray Hampshire, Chester Harner, Ralph Huffman, Stanley Hull, Harry Imhoff, Austin Kail, Walter Lobmiller, James Latson, Lloyd Miller, Russel Morrison, James Mitchell, Isaac Moore, Clifford Myers, Samuel McIntosh, Silas McCosh, Willis Orwig, Earnest Pearson, Walter Polston, Frank Provines, Lewis Rhodefer, Lloyd Ruhl, Gary E. Stroh, Lloyd Stroh, Ralph Shonaberger, Merritt Sillman, Curt Smith, Leo Sobraske, Louis Scoude, Earl Steward, George Still, Joe Strauss, Charles Thomas, Winfred Thomas, Kenneth Walter, Frank Williams, Clair Warstler, Harry Wetzels, Din Wise, Stanley Zmyslony, Lawrence Brandt, James Irvin, George Mayo, Earl Rule, Harley Weaver, Moses Getz, Arden Green, Ralph George, Kenneth Gonser, Herman J. Schurr, Aaron Scis-singer.

The spirit of patriotic devotion and self-sacrifice shown in general by the soldiers in the field was emulated as far as might be by those at home, especially those who held responsible positions calling for clear judgment and unprejudiced discrimination. Such a position was that of United States Appeal Agent, the duties of which were ably performed by Herbert C. Willis, of Waterloo. Mr. Willis received his appointment August 7, 1917, and immediately began to receive letters from various sources claiming that there had been some great injustice done the government because certain individuals had filed dependent claims, and, in fact, it was charged that their wives were supporting them. Most of these letters were unsigned, and in a number of these cases it was found that the charges were without just foundation. One business man made very damaging statements in regard to a certain man, whom he charged with having made a false claim for exemption on the ground of dependency, that the man was a worthless character and was being supported by his wife, and that the local board had not done their duty in placing him on the deferred list. On investigation it was found that alleged registrant was several years beyond the registration age, his name not being recorded, and that he had not made any claim for dependency. The appeal agent, however, had to confront a summons to appear before the grand jury and present affidavits made by the informant. This was done and a grand

jury indictment followed, it being a perjury charge. After a battle in the Circuit Court the judge ruled that it was a federal offense, and an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court of the state, where at last accounts the matter was still pending. Other cases were of a different character and exposed efforts to evade the draft law. One woman represented herself as a poor widow with 100 acres of land, and how she needed her son to farm the place. It was subsequently discovered that she had five sons, and that her husband was living, though they were separated. One of the sons was married and had a dependent wife, while another of draft age, was working on a farm in an adjoining county. When told that she could not hope to have more than one son left at home, she manifested her chagrin in a copious flood of tears, and followed up the exhibition by words of condemnation of the selective authorities. This woman gave the agent considerable trouble and it finally took some stern admonitions to make her realize the futility of further resistance to the law. During the conscription it was noticeable how many farmers had found that they were broken in health, and had to rent their farms to their sons, some of the latter not yet being of age. This was only done in cases where the sons had no other dependents and were thought to be needed on the farm. It is safe to say now that ninety-nine per cent of these same farmers are as well as ever, and that their sons are looking for other jobs in order that the fathers may have the farm to manage themselves.

Seventeen De Kalb County young men were killed or died of disease while in the service of the United States during the great World war, according to statistics compiled by the Indiana Historical Commission. Of this number two were killed in action, one was missing in action, three died from wounds, ten died of disease, and one died from injuries in an accident. The record of the commission has not yet been published, but the following partial list has been obtained:

Killed: Earl Mortorff, of Smithfield Township, enlisted in California. Wayne Gonser, of Smithfield Township. Myron Nodine, residing between Butler and Waterloo, died at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, of pneumonia. Harold Rhodebaugh, gassed in France. Clarence Sheely, gassed in France. Corp. O. B. Hudson, of Garrett, wounded. Gust Stoeckley, of Garrett, shell shock and gassed. Arthur Hanes, of near Auburn, died at Camp Taylor of pneumonia. J. P. Forsythe, of Auburn, died at Camp Quantico, Virginia, of pneumonia. Verde Wareham, of Waterloo, died at Camp Devens, Massachusetts, of pneumonia. George Walker, died at Camp Taylor of pneumonia. Fred Stewart, of Spencerville, died at Camp Taylor of pneumonia. Earl Enzor, of near Butler, died at Camp Taylor of pneumonia. Donald Husselman, of near Auburn, reported missing in action. Jacob Hohman, of Auburn, wounded. Capt. E. A. Ish, of Waterloo, gassed. Russell J. Darnell, died of wounds. Clifton Witt, of near Auburn, wounded. Worth (Orville) Corbin, gassed. Eugene Baker, of Spencerville, wounded. Dewey Strouse, of Garrett, died of tuberculosis from exposure in the trenches. Clarence Magginnis, of Auburn, gassed. Clark Sutherland, of Fairfield Township, died of pneumonia in Germany.

#### WORLD WAR VETERANS ORGANIZE

On October 9, 1919, there appeared in a De Kalb County paper the following notice:

"A number of soldiers who have served in the late war from this vicinity are included in a list of charter members asking for a charter for a post of the American Legion in De Kalb County. Thirty charter

members have been secured and a request has been sent in to national headquarters for a charter for a branch of the national association of World's war veterans. Donald C. Schaab, of Auburn, has been selected as county organizer. The local organization will be known as De Kalb Post. Upon the granting of the charter a meeting of the charter members will be called and a committee appointed to arrange a meeting for the organization. An effort will be made to get every returned soldier and sailor in the county to attend this meeting. The following are the charter members: Alfred L. Moudy, Romaine Wolf, Henderson M. Richey, Karl C. Knapp, William H. Kessler, Lewis Rhodefer, Marvin J. Hively, Fred F. Jenkins, Aaron C. Osburn, Winfred S. Thomas, Don M. Lochner, Donald C. Schaab, Andrew J. Carmer, Ernest E. Pearson, Charles C. Furnish, Harry E. Wilson, Russel R. Ridenour, John F. Cutter, Lloyd Miller, Wallace C. Hersh, Simon S. Hendricks, James A. McBride, Howard Vernet Dirrim, Lawrence R. Rhodefer, Emmett M. Sharp, Harry C. Altenberg, Charles E. Carbrugh, Hubert Fee, Russell Matson and C. Pracht.

#### HISTORICAL PRESERVATION

As early as May, 1918, the State Council of Defense requested the County Council to preserve all data concerning local activities, and lists of the men who entered the service from De Kalb County, whether through enlistment, voluntary induction or the draft. This work was accordingly undertaken, Mr. J. Y. W. McClellan, chairman of the local council, giving it his personal attention. After the signing of the armistice it was continued by Mr. McClellan under the authority of the State Historical Commission, which had been appointed by the governor, Mr. McClellan being appointed chairman of the Historical Commission of De Kalb County. The work is now in process of completion.



## CHAPTER LXXXVI

### TRANSPORTATION

The problem of transportation is one of the greatest and most important with which civilized countries have to deal, and has always been one bound up with the progress and welfare of mankind. The wants of the primitive man were few and his feet alone served him as a means of locomotion—a method of progress which, in spite of thousands of years of invention and improvement has not yet wholly gone out of fashion. But with the slow awakening of human intelligence, even our savage ancestors found this method not always adequate to the needs or desires of the moment. In endeavoring to escape from an enemy who had as good legs and more muscle than himself, our ape-like ancestor, 10,000—or perhaps 50,000—generations removed, must have keenly envied the birds their marvelous powers of flight, or even the wild beasts, nearly all of whom were his superiors in rapidity of locomotion, and, after a lucky escape, must have brooded discontentedly in the comparative security of his cave dwelling over his own physical inferiority. So also, when having slain some large specimen of wild game at a considerable distance from his rude lair, he was confronted with the problem of its transportation, and was perforce obliged to bear home upon his shoulders only the choicest portions, leaving a considerable part of the needed meat supply to the birds and beasts of prey. But discontent is the mainspring of progress and sets in motion the powers of invention. Some primitive savage, more adventurous or more intelligent than his fellows, having captured a wild colt, amused himself by taming and training the animal, and, one day, leaping upon its back, with perhaps a twisted vine for a bridle, learned almost unconsciously the art of equitation. Another conceived the idea of bringing home his wild game on a rudely constructed sledge. Then, at a later period, when the transportation of heavier weights was in question, some savage genius suggested the placing of round logs under the burden, which was thus slowly dragged and pushed to its destination on the improvised rollers. Herein lay the germ of the wheel and axle, though it is probable that some thousands of years elapsed before the first wheeled vehicle appeared, so slow was the early mental progress of the race. The man who first constructed such a vehicle was the Edison of his time, for the tremendous potentialities of his invention have hardly yet been exhausted, though in our own age they have perhaps reached their highest manifestation in our modern railroad system, our automobiles and our aeroplanes. What lies beyond no man knows, but it is certain that without the wheel there could have been little human progress. It would be interesting to trace its development through the war chariot of ancient nations, the triumphal car, the pleasure vehicle in its various forms, the stage coach and the omnibus, to the modern Pullman car, used for sleeping or drawing-room purposes while in rapid transit, but space is too limited. To one point, however, attention must be called. The wheel necessitated the road, for a wheeled vehicle, of whatever kind, was of little use in the trackless forest or in the swamp; and hence we find that the most advanced nations of antiquity were the

*Interurban Bridge between Garrett and Auburn, Ind.*



greatest road builders. Though constructed primarily—especially by the Romans—for military purposes, they were available for the transit of non-military passengers, and their utility led naturally to their increased construction as a means of facilitating commerce. The art of road building is too wide a subject to be here entered into, and for a full exposition would require a volume to itself. The methods have varied with times and circumstances, and have been affected largely by the question of cost—a question that obtains today, under a system of representative government, when each man has a right to express his opinion as to how much he shall be taxed, even more than it did in the times of the Roman emperors or the Egyptian pharaohs, who were invested to a large extent with arbitrary power, and were only restrained in the matter of expenditure and taxation by the fear of a revolt on the part of their subjects.

But neither the Roman emperors nor the Egyptian pharaohs had aught to say with respect to how our fathers and grandfathers were to reach the wild lands which lay beyond the civilized settlements of Ohio and Pennsylvania, to which in the early half of the last century they cast longing eyes. That point our respected ancestors had to settle for themselves, or to be guided therein by those who had already made the journey. And, so doing, they took the most available means at hand, which, needless to say, was not the Pullman car, but rather a stout wagon drawn by horses or oxen, which provided sure if slow transit. Some, indeed, especially if alone, or with a single companion, made the journey on horseback, but for the children, and for the women, in most part, the wagon was necessary. And not only was it necessary for the journey, but its possession was practically a necessity on the farm which had yet to be carved from the dense wilderness obstructed by forest growth. The absence of roads beyond the frontier of the civilized communities, or their rudimentary character where existent, made the traveling slow and sometimes precarious, and the element of danger was increased by the corresponding absence of bridges suitable for the passage of wheeled vehicles. But in one way or another, occasionally after unpleasant adventures, the pioneer settler reached his destination, and, settling down to his new life, began the work of improvement.

#### EARLY ROADS AND BRIDGES

A part of that work, after a homestead had been roughly established, lay in the improvement of roads, or the creation of them where necessity demanded. The Indians, who had no wheeled vehicles, needed them not, but between their villages and the early trading posts they had at an early day established well beaten trails, which followed as nearly as possible a straight line between one point and another. Across the wilderness of DeKalb County, when the first white settlers arrived, stretched two principal trails. One from White Pigeon forked near Lima, one branch terminating near Fort Wayne; the other leading southeast, and at the St. Joseph River intersecting a trail from the East. The other trail led southwest from the vicinity of Toledo, crossing the Fort Wayne trail near the Lake of the Woods, south of the Tamarack House, a pioneer tavern of LaGrange. Occasionally the trails made wide detours on account of marsh and lake, but as they were then the most practicable paths—for the Indians made no mistakes in matters governed by such natural laws of which they had cognizance—they were made use of by the white settlers, who developed them into pioneer roads. The first county surveyor, Joseph Miller, cut a narrow tract from the river through to Cedar Creek, below Auburn, and from Auburn to Blair's mill, leaving the logs in the tract, probably because the ground was swampy, though



without proper filling it must have been an exceedingly rough road. Articles were transported along this road on rude sledges drawn by oxen, who made up by strength what they lacked in speed. This road was known as "Miller's trace," and was afterward widened by Mr. Miller, with the aid of Wesley Park, so as to admit the passage of a cart. It must also have been otherwise improved.

Wesley Park, the founder of Auburn, was one of the most enterprising and active of the pioneers in road building, as he was in many other things. In July, 1837, Mr. Park, Seth W. Murray and Cornelius Gilmore were appointed commissioners to lay out a road running nearly north and south through the county, and which was known as the Coldwater and Fort Wayne State Road. The work seems to have been soon accomplished, as the commissioners made their report on the first of September. In association with a certain Mr. Hostetter, Wesley Park was then appointed to lay out the Goshen and Defiance State Road, running east and west through the county. Mr. Hostetter seems to have dropped out of the enterprise, as the work was done by Mr. Park alone, Joseph Miller being the surveyor. The state road from Auburn to Fort Wayne was laid out by T. L. Yates and Benjamin Miller; that from Angola to Fort Wayne, west of Auburn, by Henry Miller, Daniel Moody and Solomon Showers; a road on the southwest side of Fish Creek by Peter Boyer, Simon Aldrich and Roger Aldrich; a road on the northwest side of the St. Joseph River was surveyed by R. J. Dawson, and afterward corrected by John Blair, John Webster and Hector Blake, while Daniel Kepler, John Farlee and Michael Boyer laid out a road between Enterprise and Uniontown.

These early roads at the best were mere wagon paths, and little improvement was made in them for many years. As late as 1865 the dirt roads, which formed the only avenue of communication, during a part of the year became so bad as to place an embargo on travel, and left the county seat practically isolated. Large sums in the aggregate, under the caption of road revenue, had been assessed to the various townships and towns of the county, and worked out at the discretion and convenience of the farmers, with varying effects on the highways proportioned to the skill of the supervisor and the public spirit of the people, and, to facilitate intercourse, the county commissioners authorized bridges to be built over some of the streams. The earliest bridges, however, had been constructed at a much earlier date, for, in 1838, when the commissioners appropriated funds for the improvement and upkeep of several of the roads already laid out, the commissioner of the three per cent fund was directed to have constructed a bridge over the Big Cedar Creek, north of the Village of Auburn, where it was crossed by the Fort Wayne and Coldwater State Road; another over the same creek, at the crossing of the Goshen and Defiance State Road, near Auburn; a bridge over Little Cedar Creek, where it was crossed by the state road; a bridge over Twenty-six Mile Creek, at the crossing of the state road, and bridges over the three principal branches of Cedar Creek, at the crossing of the Goshen and Defiance State Road.

As but little money was then available for public improvements, these early bridges, like the early roads, were but poor affairs, compared with the substantial structures of both kinds which are found throughout the county today; yet, as is always the case, the cheaper they were built the dearer they were; for in some cases they were not found strong enough for the purpose designed, and had to be strengthened and frequently repaired at a considerable additional cost. The wastefulness of this method became in time apparent, and a better system was adopted. In 1865 a contract was let to William Valteau, the lowest bidder, for \$5,700, for

the construction of a bridge across the St. Joe River at Newville. The amount—for the earliest bridges were constructed at an expenditure of a few hundred dollars only—attests the earnest desire of the people for improvements, and their willingness to be taxed to provide the necessary funds. About the same time the Auburn and Waterloo Plank Road Company was organized, having in contemplation the construction of a plank road between the two places named in the title of the company, but this project fell through. It was, however, a move in the right direction, the plank roads being precursors of the gravel roads, which, when they came about, marked a further step in advance.

#### RAILROADS—LAKE SHORE & MICHIGAN SOUTHERN

But the modern era really began some twelve years previous to this, when, in June, 1853, surveyors appeared in DeKalb County to lay out the route of the Air Line division of the Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana Railroad. The company undertaking the work was then known as the Southern Michigan, its union with the Northern Indiana road taking place at a later date. At a still later period it became known as the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, and within recent years has become a part of the New York Central system. The original survey started from Toledo, Ohio, passed through Northern Indiana and intersected the Southern Michigan road at Elkhart, Indiana. The proposed route naturally gave a stimulus to settlement, and speedily there sprang into existence the villages of Corunna and Lawrence and the towns of Butler and Waterloo. By May 27, 1856, the road had been completed to Butler, to the joy and pride of the then small population. The work of construction went on for two years longer, the grading being done with picks, shovels, hand-barrows and horse carts, the steam shovel being as yet unknown. On the north side of Cedar Creek, about six miles northeast of Auburn, there was in early days an Indian trading post, which for some time went by the name of Cedarville, but was later known as Uniontown, on account of being then included in Union Township. The railroad was constructed on the south side of the creek, its nearest point being about half a mile from the village. There a station was established and named Waterloo, around which the present flourishing town of that name has grown up. Four miles west of Waterloo another station was located, which was first named Hudson and later Sedan, the postoffice, however, being named Iba. Great efforts were made to build up a town there, land owners donating lots to anyone who would erect houses on them. An elevator was built and for about ten years the place was a flourishing grain market, William McIntyre, of Auburn, the railroad agent during that period, aiding materially to promote the interests of the place. With his retirement about 1872, the decline of the village set in and it has never recovered its early prosperity. The Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway was formed in 1869 by a consolidation of four roads which included the Michigan Southern and Northern Indiana. It became a part of the New York Central system in December, 1914, the latter road at the same time absorbing the Dunkirk, Allegheny Valley & Pittsburg Railroad Company and the Chicago, Indiana & Southern Railway Company.

#### VANDALIA RAILROAD

At the same time that the Southern Michigan Railroad Company made its survey through De Kalb County, that is to say, in 1853, a survey was also made for the Eel River Railroad. This extended northeast

from Logansport, Indiana, passing just south of Auburn, and intersecting the Air Line at a point in De Kalb County then called Norris, later Jarvis, and now Butler. The work of clearing off the right-of-way was begun in the autumn, but owing to financial embarrassment was suspended in the following year. In 1872 the line was completed from Logansport to Auburn, when work again came to a pause. An attempt at consolidation with the Fort Wayne, Jackson & Saginaw Railroad was defeated by efforts of stockholders in De Kalb County, and the road was then completed to Butler, which point it reached October 18, 1873. Known originally as the Detroit, Eel River & Illinois, it later became the Wabash, St. Louis & Pacific, and is now the Vandalia of the Pennsylvania system.

#### FORT WAYNE, JACKSON & SAGINAW RAILROAD

The Fort Wayne, Jackson & Saginaw Railroad was constructed in 1870, being first opened to traffic October 5, but after a few years of operation it went into the hands of a receiver and was absorbed by the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Company, being now, therefore, a part of the New York Central system. It enters De Kalb County in the southern part of Butler Township, and runs northeast through that and Keyser Township, into Union, touching the west side of Auburn; then north through Union and northeast through Grant Township into Smithfield, and north through Smithfield until it leaves the county. At Auburn Junction it crosses the Vandalia and the Baltimore & Ohio, and at Waterloo the main branch of the Lake Shore. This railroad was constructed under the pretence of being a farmers' road, and shares were issued at \$50 each which the townspeople and farmers along its route were strongly solicited to buy, and did buy in large amounts. Elevators were built at the various stations along the line, and diverted much business from Waterloo, which had hitherto been the principal market point between Southern De Kalb and Northern Steuben counties, though the citizens of Waterloo had been liberal contributors toward the work of construction. Six miles north of Waterloo in the upper part of Smithfield Township, the railroad reached its greatest elevation at a point known as Mottinger's and Gramlin's Crossing, and here a station was located, which was called Summit. This point was hard to reach by north-bound trains on account of the grade, and the trains had to be divided into two sections which were pulled up the incline separately by the comparatively small engines then in use. For a while Summit had a prosperous existence, with several stores, a blacksmith shop, and one or two mills, but, like Sedan, its glory faded away, and there is little now left of it but a name.

#### THE BALTIMORE & OHIO RAILROAD

The Chicago division of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad was projected soon after the war, but various controversies held up the actual construction of the work until early in the '70s. The survey was made in 1871, starting off the old Sandusky City, Mansfield & Newark Railroad, at a point two miles south of Centerton, this point being called Chicago Junction. The Baltimore & Ohio Railroad Company had previously leased the Sandusky City, Mansfield & Newark Railroad. The survey was made through Ohio and Indiana and into Illinois, intersecting the Illinois Central Railroad eight miles south of Chicago and 262 miles west of Chicago Junction. This point, then known as Baltimore Junction, is now known as Brookdale. The construction of this road was effected



under great difficulties. The line ran for many miles through a country covered with swamps and ravines. To fill these up would have entailed an immense amount of labor and great expense, so, as timber was very plentiful all along the route, the plan was adopted of building trestles, of which no less than 396 were found necessary on the Chicago division, or enough to make over nine miles of continuous trestle work if they had been connected. Trestle No. 201, which was west of the Garrett coal chutes, over the tamarack swamp, was 142 feet long. The tamarack trees were converted into cross ties and telegraph poles. There were about 300 feet in the middle of this swamp covered with a crust of peat about eight feet thick. Under this there was an open lake. The crust broke in 1873 when the road was being graded. It was then piled for trestles. The contractors claimed they drove some of the piles 620 feet, which led to a case of litigation between the company and the contractors. The engineer who made the survey claimed that the deepest sounding was eighty-two feet; hence it was thought by some that the piles angled off into the lake underneath. This trestle was filled in 1886-87. Experiments with clay proved a failure, as the clay crushed through the peat, forming an open lake, and the piles commenced to give way, the frame trestles turning over on their side. The plan was given up and that of cribbing up with old timbers was adopted, a cinder filling being used. The track was supported on a pontoon of old car sills and bridge stringers. At first the pontoons would settle as much as two feet during the night, but the work was finally accomplished after sixty feet of the pontooning had crushed down in this sink. Some trouble was also met with when the road came to the crossing of the Michigan Central. The Michigan Central people objected to the Baltimore & Ohio road crossing their tracks at grade and wanted them to construct an elevated crossing. The Baltimore & Ohio Company refused to comply with this demand and the case was carried into the courts, which decided in favor of the Baltimore & Ohio people. Opposition was still attempted by the Michigan Central Company, but resistance was finally overcome by the sheriff of Porter County, with military aid, Governor Hendricks sending two companies of soldiers to enforce the order of the courts.

#### DIVISION POINT ESTABLISHED

In September, 1874, when the road was practically completed, though not yet opened for travel, it became necessary to select the division point. This was a job that required secrecy, for as soon as it was even suspected that a certain place had been selected as the division point, the price of land was sure to go up by leaps and bounds. Six of the Baltimore & Ohio officials had organized a company in Baltimore, which was incorporated as the Baltimore Land and Improvement Company. John King, first vice president, and William Keyser, second vice president of the railway, were the principal members. Washington Cowen, father of John J. Cowen, who was chief attorney for the railroad, was a retired farmer of Holmes County, Ohio. He was selected as agent to locate the division point on the Chicago division. His first selection was at a point known as Wash Easter's Crossing, four miles east of Albion, but finding that his movements had been watched and his object suspected, the farmers with whom he had not yet contracted demanding extremely high prices for their land, he was obliged to abandon that locality and look elsewhere. Using extreme caution as to his movements, he finally selected the present site of Garrett, and succeeded in buying from a number of farmers a total of 604½ acres of land at a reasonable price for each farm. As soon as this fact was publicly ascertained, the excite-

ment began and speculators got busy, quickly buying up the land in the vicinity. The railroad at once began work of building shops and additional tracks, with round-house, engine-house, and other necessary buildings, which were completed as quickly as possible. Considerable trouble was experienced with a man named Chris Long, who was mentally unbalanced, owing to the elopment of his wife with another man some years previously. Mr. Cowen bought Long's farm for \$1,600, and was obliged to pay Long in gold, as the latter would accept nothing else. Even then he did not vacate the property until crowded out by the improvements. It took Mr. Cowen two years to locate Long's wife, who had gone to Nebraska, and then he had to pay her \$15 to get her to sign the deed. The road began running trains in 1874, freight trains being run from Chicago Junction to Defiance, from Defiance to Bremen, and from Bremen to South Chicago. Passenger trains were run through from Chicago Junction to Chicago by running eight miles on the Illinois Central tracks from Baltimore Junction, now Brookdale. The Baltimore & Ohio road helped Auburn and Auburn Junction and created St. Joe and Garrett.

#### THE WABASH RAILROAD

The Detroit divison of the Wabash Railroad, which runs north and northeast through the townships of Spencer, Concord, Wilmington, Franklin and Troy, passing through Spencerville, St. Joe, Butler and Arctic, was built in 1901 and 1902, from Butler to New Haven, six miles east of Fort Wayne, where it connected with the main line. It was put into service in 1902. The division point was first established at Ashley, where it remained for a few years, being then transferred to Montpelier, Ohio. Its construction created the Town of Ashley, which, while it remained the division point, had a flourishing existence, but with the removal of the division point, trade and business enterprises declined, and the fortunes of Ashley are now at a very low ebb, much of the land formerly platted out in lots having been bought up for farms.

#### INTERURBAN RAILWAY

The Toledo & Chicago Interurban Railway Company's line was constructed in De Kalb County in 1906, and began operating between Auburn and Fort Wayne about May or June, 1907. It has 18.9 miles of track in the county, running north to Waterloo, and from Garrett to Avilla and Kendallville in Noble County. In April, 1913, it was absorbed by the Fort Wayne & Northwestern Railway Company and is now a part of their system. Cars run each way about every hour and a half, affording a ready and convenient means of transportation between places on the line, both for light freight and passengers.

## CHAPTER LXXXVII

### UNION TOWNSHIP AND AUBURN

#### UNION TOWNSHIP

Union Township was organized September 5, 1837, and was the second township organized in DeKalb County. It included the present townships of Union and Grant, the latter not being set off until September, 1889. It contains the county seat, and has excellent transportation facilities, furnished by three lines of railroad. Agriculturally it is a rich township, the soil in general being well adapted to the production of the most useful crops.

Among the earliest settlers within its original limits were Kneeland Abbott, Daniel Altenburg, James R. Cosper, John Somers, Lyman Chidsey, Levi Walsworth, and the Husselman, McEntaffer, Rockwell, Lightner and Moringston families. When Union Township was first laid out and its boundaries defined, what are now the townships of Jackson and Smithfield were attached to it for civil purposes, and so remained until they were separately set off—Jackson in January, 1838, and Smithfield about the same time, or perhaps a little later, as the first election in the latter township was held in the spring of 1839.

The history of Union Township is largely bound up in that of the town and city of Auburn, and its special phases relating to transportation, religious development, and other subjects are treated in separate chapters of this volume, but a general review of the growth and development of the city must be here given.

#### AUBURN

To Wesley Park is due the honor of having founded the city of Auburn. In the fall of 1835 he, with George Stone, and Hiram Johnson, left Licking County, Ohio, in a two-horse buggy to seek a home in what was then called "the West." They journeyed by way of Columbus, Sandusky, Maumee, Defiance, Fish Creek and Lima to South Bend. They then returned to Lima, where Johnson and Stone settled and started a tannery. Mr. Park, however, again took up his pilgrimage, and on returning to Fish Creek, entered land adjoining John Houlton's in Franklin Township. Having thus identified himself with the new settlement, Mr. Park returned to Ohio and stayed there until February, 1836, when he started for Indiana with a drove of cattle and a load of dried fruits. At Lima he sold out and was joined there by John B. Howe, who accompanied him to the center of the proposed new county, afterwards called DeKalb, to locate a site for a county seat. The upsetting of their canoe on Pigeon River was regarded as an ordinary incident, and after finally getting across, they stopped for the night at the house of a man named Glover, and in the morning resumed their journey. The next night they reached section 13, town 34. range 13, or Union Township, and lay out in the woods, having a rifle to protect them from the



wolves, which howled throughout the night. The snow was four inches deep, but Mr. Park, who had taken the precaution, not shared by his companion, to peel bark on which to lie down, awoke in the morning dry. The next day they explored the surrounding country for the best site, and Mr. Park, finally deciding on the tract of land on which Auburn now stands, entered the land and laid out the town. He then put up a shanty, cut a road through to Pleasant Lake and brought through a cart load of goods, with a yoke of oxen and a milch cow. Afterwards he made a trip to Ft. Wayne, with Joseph Miller, to get more provisions. He then set up a tavern in his shanty, having a liberal patronage from travelers and hunters who came to him for information as to the best lands to enter. Soon he erected a cabin, 18 by 20 feet, and one and a half stories high, with a roof of rafters and clapboards. Mr. Park then returned to Ohio for his wife Sophia and son Amos, then a child. The



STREET SCENE, AUBURN

party was accompanied on the return trip by Lancelot Ingman and family, Auburn being reached August 6, 1836.

On the passing of the act organizing DeKalb County, in the winter of 1836-37, competition arose for the location of the county seat. Messrs. Rogers and Williams bought land, laid out a town plat, staked off lots, and gave their site the name of Centerville. But the eligible site chosen by Park on the west bank of Cedar Creek, two miles south and three miles west of the center of the new county, was a formidable competitor for public favor. Messrs. Littlefield, of LaGrange; Gilmore, of Steuben, and Robert Work of Allen, were appointed commissioners to locate the county seat, and Wesley Park was appointed by the governor, sheriff, with authority to determine the place for the elections in the few precincts and to receive and forward the returns. Auburn was made the county seat, and Centerville lives only in memory and good farm land it has made.

Mr. Park, the founder of Auburn, had little more in view than a central position, easy of access and level in surface. He laid out two parallel streets, running north and south, and known respectively as Main and Jackson streets. He also gave a lot to each settler who would build thereon, and in company with a man named Ogden, in 1837 built a saw-mill. By these and other public spirited measures he hastened the growth of the village. L. Ingman built the second cabin in Auburn, and

John F. Coburn, the first county clerk, put up the third. Riley Jacobs and Thomas Freeman were also early settlers. The first store was opened by a man named Comstock, whose stock was valued at \$170 and who paid a license of 85 cents. Mr. Freeman also opened a store, where, among other things, he sold liquor, both to the white settlers and the Indians. Another early merchant was Nelson Payne, who was successively in partnership with Thomas Freeman, Jefferson Wallace and Samuel Ralston. The last mentioned continued in trade for many years. Mr. Freeman also conducted a primitive hotel, and a few years afterwards put up a building, which was conducted as a hotel under various names and proprietors for a number of years. Another early hotel keeper was J. O. P. Sherlock, Sr. Nelson Payne, in addition to his activities as a merchant, also conducted an ashery and blacksmith's shop, and acted as judge. Another blacksmith's shop was conducted by Henry Money-smith. The first physician in Auburn was Doctor Ross, and after him came Doctors Haynes, Cooper, Pritchard, Oliver, Roe, Hendricks, J. H. Ford and W. B. Dancer.

James R. Cosper was the first resident carpenter, but later engaged in farming in the township. Other early carpenters were Samuel Ralston, Amos Hutchinson and O. C. Houghton, while J. O. P. Sherlock and L. Ingman engaged in cabinet-making, and Jonathan Hall opened a wagon-maker's shop. William Albright was the first harness-maker, and Isaac Jones, Sr. and Abram Bass the first tinsmiths. Philip Fluke conducted a tannery, and the first shoemakers were Cyrus Smith, A. Forshe and S. Latson. Harrison Jones, Tridell and J. D. Davis followed the business of hatters. In the meanwhile churches had been established, the Presbyterians being supplied, about 1845, by Rev. James T. Bliss, and the Methodists, about that time or earlier, by Rev. Samuel Reed, both earnest and energetic ministers, who did much good in the community.

The early growth of the village was slow, as in October, 1841, the population numbered only seventy-two persons, most of whom were prostrated by sickness. In 1849 there were about fifty houses and 300 inhabitants. Several attempts to start newspapers were made in the early fifties and later, but it was not until 1871 that the Auburn Courier was launched, which has had a continuous career down to the present time.

At the close of the Civil war Auburn had six or seven hundred inhabitants, the principal buildings being the court house, woolen factory and academy. The two latter were later destroyed by fire. The vicinity of Cedar Creek, and the clearing of the heavy timber from surrounding lands, caused miasmatic fogs, subjecting residents to fever and ague, from which there were few exemptions. The roads leading out of town were hardly passable, being full of "chuck-holes," which proved serious obstacles to travel, but hack communication was kept up with Waterloo, Huntertown and Fort Wayne.

The suspension of work on the Eel River Railroad in 1854 caused Auburn to experience a decline, or at least to fall into a state of comparative stagnation, while the construction of the Michigan Southern caused the neighboring town of Waterloo to enjoy superior advantages. But about 1872 a new era set in; the coming of the Fort Wayne, Jackson & Saginaw Railroad, the completion of the Eel River road to within a short distance, and the foreshadowed extension of the Baltimore & Ohio to Chicago, touching the town on the south, combined to give it an impetus that placed it once more in the ranks of progressing and aspiring communities, and also put a final stop to the agitation that had periodically taken place for the transference of the county seat to Waterloo.

There was no bank in Auburn until March, 1875, when the First National Bank opened its doors for business. In spite of irregular proceedings on the part of George Hazzard, one of its founders and leading officials, which caused it a monetary loss of several thousand dollars, it recovered its prosperous condition and continued for a number of years to fill a useful part in the business community. Its place has since been taken by other financial institutions that have achieved a well deserved reputation for sound management and stability.

In Auburn, as elsewhere, all things had a gradual growth, but in spite of occasional set-backs, progress has been steady, and the results achieved substantial and, on the whole, satisfactory. The inexpensive street lamps of 1875 were kept trimmed and lighted by the marshal. On the discovery of natural gas, brought up from a depth of nearly 2,000 feet, the kerosene lamps were supplemented by flaring torches about the public square and the cupola of the court house. The roar of escaping gas filled the people with exultation, pipes were laid, offices and public buildings were heated by this strange subterranean fuel, and expectation stood on tiptoe. Then, as the flow lessened, connections were broken up and an electric plant was founded, providing in buildings, public and private, a weird, brilliant and convenient light. Cement walks, numerous and extended, have characterized the better ideals of the authorities and property owners, and these costly, but handsome and durable pavements, add much to the looks of the streets and the comfort of pedestrians.

In sharp contrast with present-day conditions is the statement of Mr. Coe in 1865: "Our streets," said he, "are filthy, the alleys are obstructed; they offend the senses and endanger the health of the people. The streets need cleaning, the sidewalks are out of repair, the dilapidated condition of the old fence about the public square has become an eyesore to resident and stranger visitor, and we are wearied of seeing dog-fennel pre-empting ground which might be made into a beautiful park." The criticism was timely. The streets in the spring season were almost impassible. Horses and vehicles sank deep in the mud churned by hoof and wheel into the consistency of sticky paste. Deep holes formed in the roadway, and through these teams struggled, and, in attempted avoidance, encroached upon the domain of the sidewalk. In summer the cross streets were beautiful in growth of grass, but along the traveled roadways the firm surface was covered with dust that swept in clouds against dwellings and annoyed passers-by. Now and then some feeble efforts were made to remedy these faults, but there was no system, and little appearance of the public spirit now existing.

In 1849 Auburn was incorporated as a town and divided into five wards. The election for officers was held September 22, and Wesley Park, C. A. Parsons, Nelson Payne, James T. Bliss and Joel Hendricks were named as the first board of trustees. These men served in their political capacity without any compensation of any kind. T. R. Dickinson was appointed clerk of the new town, Egbert Mott, treasurer, and William B. Dancer, assessor. In the fall of the same year the population of the town was increased by the advent of a colony of people from Stark County, Ohio.

In 1853 a new incorporation of Auburn took place, in accordance with section 56, of chapter 108, of the revised statutes of 1852. In the same year sidewalks were established at a width of ten feet, and the planting of shade trees authorized within the ten feet. Thus a systematic attempt was made to beautify the town which has had important results.

The incorporation of Auburn as a city of the fifth class took place in April, 1900. On May 4 the town board held its last meeting. Don A.



Garwood was elected mayor of the new city; C. B. Weaver, clerk; David A. Hodge, treasurer; E. Morton Hilkey, marshall; and John Zimmerman, M. W. Garrett, John B. Rolape, Howard B. McCord, Perry A. Muhn and Eli T. Cochran, councilmen. In 1898 the water and light works were constructed, at an original cost of \$35,000, and subsequently improvements have increased the value to several times that amount. The water is drawn from deep artesian wells and is of great clearness and purity. There are over one hundred fire hydrants located at convenient points about the city. The fire department, which is a volunteer organization, has a good modern equipment. The gas for the city is supplied by the Indiana Light and Heat Company of Fort Wayne, which also supplies Garrett and other towns.

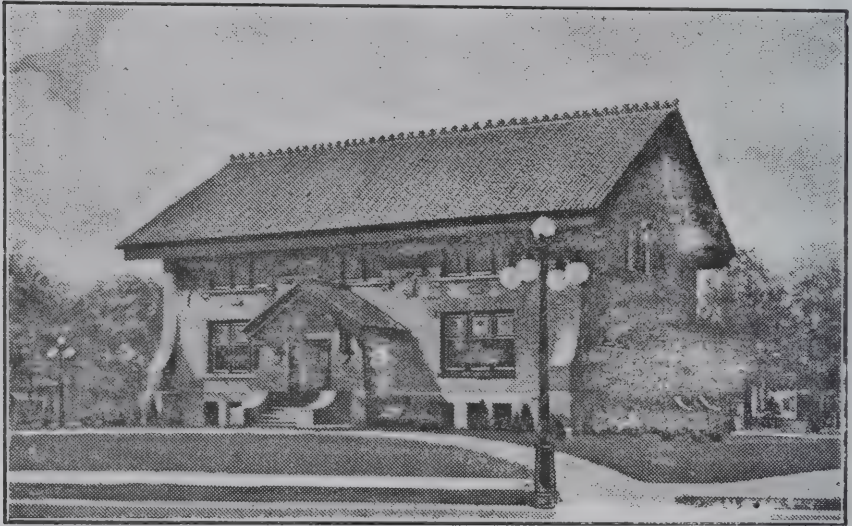
The Auburn Commercial Club, organized about 1903, has been a prominent factor in helping to advance the commercial interests of the city. In January, 1919, the Club's handsome new building was completed, representing an investment of \$30,000, and the occasion was celebrated by a banquet and other appropriate ceremonies. In 1908 the various social clubs of Auburn and the vicinity associated themselves together in an organization known as the Woman's League. These various associations have aided materially in making Auburn a cleaner and better city, and for a number of years were one of the most effective forces operating against the saloon.

In the year 1878, or thereabouts, was organized, in Auburn, the De Kalb County Pioneers and Old Settlers' Association, which until recently has maintained its continued existence, holding annual meetings and outings. The association was formed for social purposes, and to bring into closer touch the men and women who had been instrumental in the work of civilizing and developing this region. All persons who were twenty-one years old in 1874, and who had since remained permanent residents of Northeast Indiana, if of good character, were eligible to membership. Owing to the increasing number of deaths—160 during the previous year—together with the advanced age of most of the members, and other causes, it was decided to hold no meeting in 1919.

The practical dissolution of this society is a forcible reminder of the flight of time and of the age to which De Kalb County has now attained. The old things pass away and all things become new. The pioneer planted, other have watered, and the present generation reaps the increase. The greatness of the harvest has been partly indicated by the preceding pages of this volume; but the sowing and reaping must go on, and the result be left to the pen of the future historian.

The Auburn Public Library had its origin about 22 years ago, when a committee, of which Charles Eckhart was chairman, established a reading-room in the city. In the meanwhile the original Culture Club had provided a library for its members and others who contributed to the support of the institution. Owing to lack of support these efforts were later abandoned. At last the various clubs appointed delegates who consulted with the state librarian, Miss Merica Hoagland, in regard to the methods of procedure necessary to take advantage of the state law in regard to public library, which had been passed in the meanwhile. After reports had been submitted, showing the great momentum the movement had gained, but the insufficiency of subscriptions, the Thursday Evening Club took the matter in hand, its members canvassing the city with satisfactory results. A library board was then organized, the judge appointing Charles Eckhart, Grace Smith and H. E. Coe. The city council appointed Dr. Ida Leasure and Dr. F. M. Hines. At a meeting of the board, held July 6, 1906, the choice of a site and the necessary equipment were

discussed. The Culture Club donated 300 books, and 60 volumes were obtained from another source. On March 8, 1907, the library was opened, with Mrs. Alicia H. Barnes as its custodian. Charles Eckhart had already informed the board that he would donate the site for a building, and Mr. Carnegie, on being appealed to, announced his willingness to give \$12,500 for the erection of a permanent building. While plans were being considered for the erection of the building, Charles Eckhart took the step which was to make his name everlasting in the history of Auburn and DeKalb County, and to strengthen the feeling of profound respect and affection which the towns people held for him. Besides giving the site for the library, he asked to be allowed to provide the means for the erection of a magnificent building, including all the equipment and furnishings. This generous and noble-minded offer was accepted by the people, and on May 13, 1910, the corner stone was laid with fitting ceremony,



PUBLIC LIBRARY, AUBURN

Thomas R. Marshall, then governor of the state, delivering an address. The original cost to Mr. Eckhart was about \$40,000, which amount was required to purchase the grounds, erect and furnish the building, and provide a fountain. From time to time subsequently he contributed additional funds, and in September, 1914, made the library a substantial gift in an endowment of \$15,000 in five per cent bonds. Since its completion and opening to the public the library has proved a great benefit to the city and surrounding district, and has become a most popular institution.

In the year 1913 the completion of some other notable buildings gave conspicuous evidence of the growth and increasing wealth of Auburn. Among them were the new city hall, the Young Men's Christian Association building, and the Interurban and sub-station depot. The Double Fabric Tire Company also put up a \$25,000 factory. The ordinance for the construction of the city hall was passed December 15, 1913, and the completed building was dedicated May 26, 1914. Its total cost, including extras, was \$37,686. The Young Men's Christian Association building is another monument to the liberality of the late Charles Eckhart. He and son Frank C. Eckhart, in June, 1912, offered a substantial sum each, for the site, the building, and equipment complete, to be turned over to



the city, providing the latter would agree to provide a customary share of its annual support. The building of brick and stone, which cost about \$40,000, was deeded to a board of trustees. It is handsomely equipped with everything needed by such an institution, including a modern gymnasium, and is doing a valuable work among the young men and boys of the city.

At various times, beginning at an early date, the larger towns in DeKalb County, have seen the starting of manufacturing projects which began their respective careers with bright promise of future success, but which in time proved failures in which capitalists lost their investments and employees were thrown out of work through premature action and financial and business mismanagement; while others from small beginnings, growing with the growth of the town, fostered by merited patronage, and aided by favorable avenues of transportation, have become fixed features of their respective communities, remunerative to owners and to the support of many families of workmen. One of the early manufac-



CEDAR STREET, AUBURN

turing enterprises of Auburn was the Auburn Woolen Manufacturing Company, the founders and stockholders of which were S. W. Sprott, John Brandon, Christian Buss, Thomas D. Gross, Sylvester Kutzner, Lewis Bowers, Joseph D. Davis and Christian Sheets. The capital stock of \$20,000 was divided into shares of \$50 each, and all the parties were equally interested. A three-story building was erected, with a one-story annex for engine and furnace, a dye-house was built, tubs put in place, piping affixed, and the looms, twelve in number, got in running order. On August 2, 1865, the machinery was set in motion, and soon large quantities of wool began to come in. Excellent cloth was made, and for ten years the woolen factory was an Auburn enterprise of which the people were proud. From time to time improvements were effected until the capacity was equal to the manufacture of 100 pounds of wool per day. This satisfactory state of things was brought to an end in November, 1875, when the main building was destroyed by an incendiary fire, and the property passed into the hands of a receiver.

About the same time Auburn had her flouring and lumber mills, which were doing a satisfactory business. The Church Furniture Factory, which flourished for a number of years, came to an end in December, 1893, when it burned down, one man losing his life. The Zimmerman factory,



which was started a number of years ago by John Zimmerman, with little capital, for the manufacture of buggies, and was later devoted to the manufacture of automobiles, was unsuccessful, and the property has been recently taken over by the Evans Truck and Axle Company. The Auburn Foundry, engaged in the manufacture of grey iron castings, was established about 1906 by Charles O. Borst. In 1913 it passed into the hands of the present owner and manager, B. O. Fink, who has improved the plant and is doing a successful business.

The Auburn Manufacturing Company was started as the Auburn Carriage Body Company in 1892, with a capital of \$20,000, by a number of prominent business men. In 1894 it became the Auburn Manufacturing Company, making carriage bodies and seats, but is now engaged in the manufacture of cabinets. The concern employs about 150 men.

The Auburn Automobile Company has had a big growth since it was first established in 1902 as the Eckhart Carriage Company. Its plant is one of the largest in the city and improvements are constantly being made. In June, 1919, a new corporation was formed with a capital of \$1,750,000, more than double that of the former corporation, and the concern has a highly promising future. Another important business enterprise is the Auburn Post Card Manufacturing Company, which moved to Auburn from New England in the fall of 1910, and which employs between 50 and 75 people the year round. The present building was erected in 1914, at a cost of \$20,000. The Double Fabric Tire Company, which was established in 1910, with a capital of \$10,000, has also made big strides in prosperity, and is still expanding. The concern is now capitalized at \$900,000, and employs about 200 persons. The Auburn Handle Company and the Auburn Excelsior Company, though smaller, are also prosperous concerns; and among the enterprises recently started, which are full of promise, are the Ariel Manufacturing Company, for the manufacture of kitchen furniture; the Evans Truck and Axle Company, with a capital of \$500,000; the Superior Garment Company, and the Sterlings Sales Company, for the manufacture of hub caps and trimmings of automobiles. There are also some smaller manufacturing enterprises in the city, recent or long established, which are doing a more or less successful business.

Previous to March, 1919, there were two telephone companies operating in the county—the Home and the Bell, but at that time a consolidation and exchange of interests took place, the Bell Company taking over the Home Company's lines in Auburn and Kendallville (Noble County), while the Home Company took the Bell Company's interests in Fort Wayne. This arrangement has been much to the advantage of the telephone patrons in the county.

Among the notable features of Auburn are Woodlawn and Evergreen Cemeteries and Eckhart Park. The former cemetery occupies the site of the old Peter Shafer farm, southeast of the city the property belonged to the Peter Shafer heirs, represented by Henry Shafer, a lawyer. He had the ground platted, the lots offered for sale, and a beautiful cemetery has been since developed from the land. The land for Eckhart Park was bought by the city in 1914, and Mr. Eckhart having donated about \$13,000 to beautify it, it was named after him. The Auburn City Band was started in 1873 with thirteen members, and has since been several times reorganized. It is now an efficient and popular musical organization.

A number of the more prominent fraternal orders have lodges in Auburn, some of which have been established for many years. DeKalb Lodge, No. 214, Free and Accepted Masons, was chartered May 28, 1857,

and was instituted on June 5 that year. It has now a membership of about 225. William Hacker Chapter, No. 63, Royal Arch Masons, was organized under dispensation on September 3, 1866, and chartered May 23, 1867. Its present membership is 81. DeKalb Council, No. 57, Royal and Selected Masters, was chartered July 15, 1885, and now has 74 members. Auburn Chapter No. 103, Order of Eastern Star, was instituted April 21, 1891, and has a membership of about 225. Since January, 1917, the Masonic lodges in Auburn have occupied a building on South Main street, belonging to the Masonic Temple Association. The order is strong and prosperous in the city.

Auburn Lodge No. 191, Knights of Pythias, was chartered May 4, 1888, and is a flourishing lodge with a large membership of about 360. It owns a three-story building, the Gandy Block, having from \$6,000 to \$7,000 invested in the building and furniture. In connection with the lodge is a Fraternal Relief Association, the members paying one dollar each on the death of a brother, and the amount collected being given to the widow as a voluntary offering.

The Independent Order of Odd Fellows organized a lodge in Auburn at an early date. A charter was granted in 1852, and on July 21, 1853, Auburn Lodge No. 116 was instituted. The lodge has now about 240 members. It owns a hall on Seventh street, occupying the second and third floors. Among its membership there are more soldiers than any other Odd Fellows' lodge in the state.

The Rebekah lodge originated about 1883 or 1884, and has a present membership of about 150. Among the other lodges in the city are Auburn Tent No. 51, of Maccabees, which was organized in 1893 and has 137 members; Auburn Lodge, No. 566, Loyal Order of Moose, established in December, 1913; a lodge of Royal Neighbors, established many years ago; and the Kolah-Se-Ha Camp Fire, which was organized in May, 1917.

One of the disastrous events in the history of Auburn was the burning of the Eureka Opera House, which took place on Sunday, November 6, 1892. The opera house had long been the pride of the city, and when, at about five o'clock in the morning the citizens were aroused by the news that it had caught fire, there was great alarm and anxiety. The fire department turned out promptly and soon got to work, but the fire had got a foothold in the dressing-rooms under the stage, and was roaring and rushing up through the stage itself with its oiled scenery and curtains—all the most inflammable material. After the firemen had been working for half an hour the cistern gave out, which caused a delay while the men were getting the engine and hose to the well near the National Bank, and though they kept up their efforts they were without avail and the fine building was soon a pile of ashes.

From the beginning in 1839 down to the present time, Auburn has been served by twenty-three successive postmasters. Some of these held the office for brief periods; others retained the place for a number of years. During the early days the acceptance of the office was more of a concession to public necessity than a personal advantage, but as the village expanded to a town and the town to a city, the post office kept even pace, and its evolution has been remarkable and interesting.

The first incumbent of the office was Wesley Park, Auburn's founder, whose commission bore the date of March 3, 1839. He was in a great degree an active and important factor in various phases of pioneer settlement, being at one and the same time tavern keeper, real estate agent, road supervisor, county clerk and treasurer, and to these more or less onerous offices he added the lighter duties of receiving and distributing the few letters and newspapers brought by the mounted postman, carried

in leather pouches before his saddle. The arrival of the mail drew the villagers to Park's tavern, where they looked on expectantly while the letters were removed from the enclosing way-bills. The latter, written with goose quill, and now and then by a Gillett 303 steel pen, covered three pages of the sheet, reserving the fourth page for the address, was sealed by wafer or wax, and the postage of a quarter dollar could be paid or collected from the recipient. The cost of transmission restricted correspondence to matters of business, or important family concerns, and not only was the space well filled but the characters were well inscribed.

Mr. Park took office under Martin Van Buren. When James K. Polk succeeded to the Presidency, in accordance with political usage the usual change of office holders was effected, and Nelson Payne became the Auburn postmaster. Mr. Payne, a blacksmith by trade, had located land in Richland Township, but having no great taste for land clearing, he had come to Auburn, built on lot 60, and opened a tavern. In June, 1845, he formed a partnership with Samuel Ralston and kept store in a frame building on South Main Street on the site now occupied by Dr. Francis Hines.

On May 5, 1849, the post office passed by appointment to Alonzo Watkins, of the firm of Woodbury & Watkins, store keepers and stock buyers, whose interests were later purchased by Rice & Waters, when the members of the original firm returned to their Ohio homes. Under the presidency of Millard Fillmore, Egbert B. Mott was commissioned postmaster of Auburn. Mr. Mott was a lawyer and judge, and a resident of the village since 1843. His term was comprised in the interval between February 10, 1851, and June 15, 1852. His successor was Timothy R. Dickinson, appointed by Franklin Pierce, a democratic president. Mr. Dickinson, with his family, came to Auburn from Portage County, Ohio, in 1845. He was admitted to the bar of DeKalb County in November, 1847, and was the first attorney in the county to advertise his business. Mr. Dickinson served in various official capacities while in Auburn, and later moved to Waterloo, where he became the founder and publisher of the Waterloo Press. Before his removal he turned the post office over to Jacob B. Hoover, appointed December 24, 1853.

Mr. Hoover was a contractor on grading a section of railroad between Auburn and Butler and lost heavily by the failure of the projectors to build the road. By this time mail facilities had greatly improved. Envelopes were in use and the postage was reduced to three cents prepaid, except for the Pacific coast, for which the rate was ten. Roads were made more direct and the carrier covered his route weekly in good time.

The next postmaster, William C. McGonigal, was commissioned by James Buchanan. He was a publisher and founder of the DeKalb Democrat, which he enlarged and improved. In 1857 he removed his office to Wabash and started a paper there, but later he returned to this county and became a teacher in the schools. John Butt, the next postmaster, was an English emigrant who came to Auburn in 1850 and opened a small grocery. He also kept tavern in the Weaver House, that stood on the site of the Swineford Hotel, and ran a line of hacks to Angola and to Fort Wayne. He served a term as county recorder and died soon after his retirement from office.

On March 9, 1860, the post office was taken by Wyllys Griswold, of Danbury, Connecticut. In a public capacity Mr. Griswold served as town treasurer and county recorder, and was an original and leading member of the local Presbyterian church. On August 27, 1860, Christopher S. Hare was commissioned postmaster. He ran a shoe store on Main street, opposite the public square. He acquired quite a tract of land, which he



sold to the town of Auburn, and which is now comprised in the Evergreen cemetery.

After the election of the republican President, Abraham Lincoln, the Auburn post office passed into the hands of James W. Case, an early arrival from western Pennsylvania, whose commission was dated April 16, 1861. He was versatile in pursuits—a school teacher, carpenter and contractor, and merchant. He was thorough and conscientious in all that he did, but having as contractor undertaken work beyond his resources, he experienced failure. In 1866 he formed a partnership with W. H. McIntosh in the grocery business, adding dry goods to his stock. The increase of mail at this time became noticeable and the office had many patrons.

The next president, Andrew Johnston, on March 13, 1867, appointed Samuel W. Sprott, a radical democrat, to be postmaster of Auburn. On the removal of the office, the case and fixtures were sold to the new officer for \$25, a sum illustrative of the small needs of the postal business of Auburn. Four months passed and, July 19, John D. Burr was commissioned, to be in turn superseded December 16, by William E. Rush, a reputable and highly respected Auburn townsman. When on March 19, 1869, Mr. Case again received an appointment, a strong opposition was awakened, and the choice being determined by a vote of patrons between him and Simon L. Yandes, the latter won out, and conducted the office from August 4, 1869, till displaced, June 20, 1876, by Joseph Rainier, later well known as an insurance agent. Mr. Yandes lost his life by the overturning of a boat in which he was riding on Pleasant Lake. Mr. Rainier, an ex-soldier, gave his time to official duties most faithfully, and the Auburn post office assumed notable importance. For about a year it was located in a small building north of the public square. Mr. Rainier removed it to a frame building on the east side of North Main street, which building he later used for a meat market. The increased mail required a regular assistant, and Miss Frank Ford, later Mrs. F. E. Davenport, was deputized, and well discharged her duties.

George W. Gordon was appointed December 15, 1881, and moved the office to the first floor of the Ensley building on Seventh Street. The heavy increase of postal business consequent upon the town's growth, new railroad facilities, and manufacturing products, called for extensive improvements, which were duly made, and call and lock boxes installed. The increasing salary attached to the office made its possession a prize to be competed for, and there was now no lack of eager candidates.

On March 6, 1885, the democratic President, Grover Cleveland, appointed Michael Boland to succeed Mr. Gordon, a choice that was fully justified. As postmaster he served as faithfully and efficiently as he had previously done as county recorder and school officer. George W. Gordon was again appointed postmaster by President Benjamin Harrison, September 19, 1889, his appointment being the reward for political services. He was succeeded November 1, 1893, by Silas J. Brandon, an appointee under Grover Cleveland's second administration. Mr. Brandon was from Stark County, Ohio. Originally a farmer, his ambition led him to aspire for office, and he was elected trustee of Jackson Township, county treasurer, and Auburn postmaster.

The appointment of Granville H. Forkner, commissioned October 23, 1897, was somewhat unexpected save by a few. He was partner with Ezra Ensley in a small woolen factory and for a time was landlord of the Swineford House. January 9, 1902, Thomas A. Carter was the successful aspirant for the Auburn Federal Office, and to the best of marked ability he made good during his term the excellent record of

predecessors. Auburn was steadily advancing in all material directions. Her territory was extended by absorbing additions. Her population was augmented and largely supported by the manufactures of the Eckharts, McIntyre and Zimmerman, and the post office felt the impulse of progress as mails became heavier and heavier and clerks were needed in greater numbers. As Carter's term drew near a close he hoped for a second, but through the influence of the district congressman, one of his competitors, Aubrey L. Kuhlman, was appointed. Mr. Kuhlman was a young man of excellent reputation. He had advanced in the Indiana State Guard from captain to colonel, but while an exact disciplinarian, was personally courteous. His appointment was dated January 22, 1906, and he honored the office by a harmonious execution of an important trust with a fidelity beyond praise. Having its location in mind, Doctor Nusbaum had built a cement block on the corner of Cedar and Seventh streets, on land purchased of John W. Baxter. The first floor was fitted for the convenience for the various duties of the force, and hither the office was removed until its transference to the first floor of the fine new building of the Commercial Club in 1919.

Colonel Kuhlman was succeeded April 4, 1910, by Isaac M. Zent. For many years Mr. Zent had been the agent of Auburn on the railroad now known as the Vandalia, and it was but a step higher up when he entered Federal service as postmaster. He turned over the reins to the present incumbent, Miles Baxter, April 10, 1914, Mr. Baxter's commission from President Woodrow Wilson, being dated March 24. On July 28, 1919, Mr. Baxter was reappointed for four years. The Auburn office is now an important one, and gives free delivery by city carriers and five rural routes. The postal business amounts to \$30,000 yearly. October 1, 1919, the postal savings deposits were \$4,653; war saving stamp business during the year 1918, \$500,000; documentary, \$1,272.13.

Auburn has today a population of about 5,500, and is, as already shown, a city of many attractive features, with an interesting history. The present mayor is Eli C. Walker. The value of the lands, lots and improvements in the City of Auburn, as shown by the assessment for 1918, was \$1,384,490; the value of personal and corporation property, \$1,023,240; the total net value of taxables, \$1,079,930. For Union Township the figures are as follows: value of lands, lots and improvements, \$494,090; personal and corporation property, \$279,020; total net value of taxables, \$744,220. Under the late law, averment was made at estimated value and as a result the present total taxable property, realty and personal is \$6,400,000 for the City of Auburn.

## CHAPTER LXXXVIII

### FRANKLIN, WILMINGTON AND CONCORD TOWNSHIPS AND CITY OF BUTLER

#### FRANKLIN TOWNSHIP

The present Township of Franklin, in the northeast part of DeKalb County, formed a part of the first township laid out by the first board of commissioners, July 25, 1837, and then included the fractional township now known as Troy. It is watered by the tributary branches of Cedar Creek and Fish Creek, and has one or two small lakes on its northern border. The Wabash and the Vandalia railroads pass through its southeastern portion, but there are no towns or villages within its borders. The land is generally very good, and in pioneer days was heavily timbered, but the greater portion of the soil has since been placed under cultivation.

Franklin was the first township settled by white men in DeKalb County, John Houlton, the pioneer, building a small log house on the bank of Fish Creek in 1833. Two years later John Smith took land on section 4, and in 1836 a number of other settlers arrived, including Abner Smith, Abram Beecher, Luther Keep, Charles Crain, Willis O. Hyde, Peter Boyer, Jacob Myers, Michael Boyer, George Firestone and others. In the neighborhood were a few Pottawatomie Indians, with whom the settlers had no trouble. Venison was easily procurable with the rifle, and supplies of wheat and corn were obtained on Jackson Prairie. In the spring of 1837 grists were taken to the Union Mills in LaGrange, thirty miles distant, and several days were required to make the journey, the settlers bushing and logging the trails in advance of their teams. In 1837 there were other arrivals, and the first township election was held in August, when Abram F. Beecher was chosen as commissioner, and Luther Buck as justice of the peace. The voters at this election were but twelve in number, but at the next election, held in April, 1838, thirty-five votes were polled. Religious services were first held in 1837, when Elder Staley, a Baptist, preached a sermon at the house of John Houlton. Addison Coleman, a Methodist, also conducted services, about the same time or soon after, and a church of the Evangelical Lutheran denomination was organized, in 1843, at Kepler's, later known as Haverstock's Corners, of which the Rev. James Cather for some time had the pastoral care. At a later period other churches and religious classes were established, giving opportunities to the settlers for worship and spiritual development, of which most took advantage. The first schoolhouse was built on section 12, and was known in 1840 as the Houlton schoolhouse. The first teacher was Miss Lucy Orton, of Angola. Dr. William Sheldon, probably the first physician in the county, resided for a year on section 2. A postoffice was established at an early day at Taylor's Corners, but was later discontinued. In the same locality a sawmill was built, and Samuel Kepler built a good grist mill on Fish Creek in 1856.

Franklin Township was named by John Houlton and Luther Keep, who together agreed upon the name. The first roads laid out in the town-



ship were the Defiance and Lima State road and the Fort Wayne and Lima State road, which formed a junction half a mile east of Hamilton. During the lawless period of the "blacklegs," elsewhere mentioned in this volume, some of the settlers suffered from their depredations, and they were always a menace until their gang was finally broken up and law and order re-established by summary measures. After that, and with the development of the farms, the township became a safe and comfortable place of residence, and has continued to increase in agricultural wealth and in population.

According to the assessment list for the year 1918 the value of the lands, lots and improvements in Franklin Township was \$795,050; value of personal and corporation property, \$294,240; total net value of taxables, \$1,035,800.

#### WILMINGTON TOWNSHIP

Wilmington Township was organized September 5, 1837. It is traversed by three railroads—the Wabash, the Vandalia, and the Air Line division of the old Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, now a part of the New York Central. It was early noted for its fine oak timber, and for the excellence of its grass, and a considerable portion of its soil is well adapted to agriculture, especially in the vicinity of Big Run, a considerable stream which furnishes good watering facilities. The first white settler in Wilmington was Byron Bunnell, who arrived in 1835, and soon after him came George Egnew, Mr. Lonsberry, Ira Allen, Lot B. Coe, William P. Means, Charles Handy, Doctor Sawyer and others. Charles Handy, who was the first blacksmith in the township, gave his name to Handy's Corners. Amos Lonsberry was the first white child born in the township. By the close of the year 1837 twenty-two families had arrived and put up log cabins. The first election was held at Ira Allen's, and Ariel Walden was elected associate judge of court for the county. The first justice of the peace was a Mr. Pearsons. Constables, it is said, were not needed, as the people were peaceable. Indeed, they were hardly in a condition to be otherwise, for, according to William Crooks, one of the pioneers, "most of them had the ague, and it took two of them to make a shadow."

The construction of the Michigan Southern Railroad in 1856 caused the township to have quite a "boom," and gave rise to the Town of Butler then known as Norristown. The consequent prosperity enabled the farmers to improve their farms, build frame houses and barns, and drain their fields. During the war Wilmington was an eminently loyal township, and promptly met each quota called for by the government, the draft never being resorted to. The construction of the second railroad across the township in 1872 gave a new and lasting impulse to the prosperity of the people, which has continued in spite of occasional "hard times." In March, 1838, the fractional township now known as Stafford was added to Wilmington for civil and judicial purposes, and for awhile so remained.

It is not known at what time religious services were first held in Wilmington, but there must have been meetings at an early date. A United Brethren class was organized in 1850, and another in 1854, and the Methodists held meetings at the Center at an early day.

#### BUTLER

In 1842 Messrs. Egnew, Hanes, Cherry, Morris, Tomlinson, and others, erected a schoolhouse on the land of George Egnew, and this was the

first building in what is now the City of Butler. In 1844 a dwelling-house was erected by a Mr. Brainard, and about the same time a post office was located at Oak Hill, about two miles south of the present city limits. The first teacher in the schoolhouse was L. Harding, and the building was also used for religious services for some years after its construction. In 1851 a store was started in a small log hut on the land of Charles Norris, the business being conducted by Ladd Thomas and Osburn Coburn. The first frame building was erected in 1855. With the speedy arrival of other business men the nucleus of a town was formed, and the post office was removed to the village and named Norristown, in honor of Charles Norris, who was then selling lots, and energetically advancing the interests of the place. Later it was known as Jarvis, and about the time of the Civil War the name of Butler was adopted, in honor of an early settler of Wilmington Township. The first physician in the place was Dr. W. H. Madden. The primitive log schoolhouse was supplanted by a



STREET SCENE, BUTLER

frame structure in 1855, and a fine three-story brick building erected in 1867. In 1877 the *Record*, a republican newspaper, was established, and the *Review*, democratic, was started by R. H. Weamer in 1882. Churches of several denominations were organized at different periods, an account of which may be found in the chapter of this volume devoted to that subject. The Masons established their Blue Lodge in 1858, and an Eastern Star lodge in 1880. An Odd Fellows lodge was established in 1867, and an Encampment in 1884, while the Rebekah lodge was organized in 1869. Meade Post, No. 44, G. A. R. was mustered in in February, 1882, and is now one of the three surviving G. A. R. posts in DeKalb County.

The Air Line branch of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, which was completed to Butler in May, 1856, gave a decided stimulus to the growth of the place, which received an additional impetus after October, 1873, when the Eel River, later known as the Wabash Road, arrived. The first tavern was kept by John Shull, and in 1857 A. A. Kennedy opened the Waverly House. These old-time hostelries were the precursors of the present fine modern hotel, built by the merchants of the town, but now under private ownership. Henry Linderfer put up the first brick building in 1856. The DeKalb County Herald was established

in Butler in 1869, and the Record in 1877. Several other papers, of a religious, or semi-religious character, are now published.

Butler was incorporated as a town in 1866, and as a city in May, 1903. It has now a population of about 2,500, and is enjoying a slow but healthy growth. The Butler Utilities Company furnishes an adequate light and water system, and there is a good volunteer fire department with 54 fire hydrants available. There are three miles or more of sanitary sewerage, with the outlet in Big Run Creek, and the more important streets have good brick paving. The city is underlaid with a fine quality of gravel, which acts as a natural filter, and also makes fine building material. The City water comes from a well more than 200 feet deep, the tank system being in use. One of the leading manufacturing concerns is the Butler Company, making windmills, towers, wood and steel tanks, pumps, pneumatic water supply systems, pipe and fittings. The Butler Basket Company, established in 1893, manufactures baskets and lumber, shipping its product throughout the middle and eastern states.

Early in 1887 considerable excitement was caused in De Kalb County by the news that natural gas had been found at Eaton, Indiana. The prospects of similar good fortune for this county were eagerly discussed. It was resolved to put the matter to trial and in April stock subscriptions were solicited. A meeting was called, of which S. R. Heberling was made chairman, and the report showed \$9,300 subscribed, and the rest of the stock was soon taken. Arrangements were made to prosecute the work. In May a well was being drilled at Butler and had reached 360 feet without striking rock. Soon after considerable quantities of oil was brought up, with water and mud. When the well had reached 602 feet a pipe was put in and favorable tests made. By July 14th it had been running steadily for over three weeks, with the flow increasing. In August the well was down to 1,500 feet and was then "shot," the shooting resulting in a steady flow of no great quantity, but "sufficient to light the schoolhouse." Wells had also been started in Auburn, Waterloo and Garrett, and by October 20th the Auburn well was down to 1,843 feet, with the flow of gas getting somewhat stronger. When piped and ignited the gas gave a flame twenty feet high, which was seen for miles. The pressure was 460 pounds to a square inch. In March the stock changed hands, an offer from Fort Wayne people being refused. Two other wells were also started here. The hopes based upon these experiments proved fallacious, however, owing chiefly to unskillful "shooting," which allowed the oil and gas to become mixed with salt, and after some further efforts the wells were abandoned all over the county. An amusing story is told of John Abor, then fire chief of Auburn, who, when the excitement was at its height, conceived the idea of illustrating the potentialities of the country's new industry by arranging a grand balloon ascension. The occasion was well advertised and a large crowd collected. The work of inflation proceeded successfully, but those who expected to see the balloon soar skyward were disappointed, as it showed no such intentions, seeming to prefer the security of Mother Earth. Mr. Abor was both puzzled and chagrined, and his chagrin was by no means lessened when he was at last made to understand that, as natural gas was heavier than air, there was as little chance of the balloon rising as if he had filled the bag with water.

The Butler Public Library is one of the leading institutions of the city. Before it existed the Ladies' Literary Club collected books, which were kept at the home of one of the members to be loaned out. Later H. L.



Higley offered the use of a room in his building for one year, on condition that the library should be open at least once a week, which offer was accepted. Afterward rent was paid for the room. Then William Blair, in association with Mrs. Wesley Husselman, Sam G. Stone, Dr. E. W. Showalter, Mrs. F. L. Kiplinger, Mrs. Stone and others, set on foot the movement which resulted in the present library. A library board was formed which made application for aid to Mr. Carnegie, and the latter, on the usual conditions, donated \$10,000 for the building, which was completed in 1915. It is a neat and tasteful structure, an ornament and a benefit to the city and surrounding territory. The present mayor of Butler is George L. Rowe. The assessment list for 1918 showed the value of lands, lots and improvements in the City of Butler to be \$476,490; value of personal and corporation property, \$427,840; total net value of taxables, \$869,900. In Wilmington Township, the value of lands, lots and improvements was given as \$770,550; personal and corporation property, \$868,550; total net value of taxables, \$1,589,510.

#### CONCORD TOWNSHIP

During the latter part of the year 1837 the county commissioners organized a township, which they called DeKalb, and which included what are now the townships of Concord, Spencer, Stafford and Newville. Stafford was detached and annexed to Wilmington in March, 1838. Newville was also detached at that or a later period, but Spencer was not set off from Concord until 1909. Concord Township is watered by the St. Joseph River, which flows in a meandering course northeast and southwest, while Bear Creek, entering in the northwest corner, flows through the center to the river. These two streams invited the early construction of mills, and two grist and two saw mills were erected on the river, and a saw mill near the center of the township, on Bear Creek; also another saw mill on the stream known as Twenty-Mile Creek. Concord has always been regarded as a good agricultural township, and today contains many fertile and profitable farms.

The earliest settlements were naturally on or near the river, which afforded a channel for commercial traffic, and formed a convenient highway to the Fort Wayne market. In 1835, of ten families settled in the county, nine were residents of Concord. The first election, held in April, 1838, was at the house of Jared Ball, Cornelius Woodcox acting as inspector. At this election Washington Robinson was elected justice of the peace. Mr. Robinson had come to the township in 1834, and had entered a tract of land on the east side of the river, in section 12. There he built a cabin into which he moved in January, 1837. In November, 1836, he platted a portion of section 12, on the west side of the river, and named the tract Orangeville. Here in 1837 Mr. Platter and others opened the first store in the county. Among the other early settlers who came in about this time, or soon after, were Gavin Hamilton, long known as the owner of the Orange Mills; Lott Hendrick, the first probate judge of DeKalb County; George Barney, for four years treasurer of the county; James Hadsell, Cornelius Woodcox, Reuben J. Dawson, John Blair and sons, Charles Wilbur, William Burley, Joseph Ludwick, Judge Walden, Samuel Widney (one of the first board of commissioners), John P. Widney, Rev. Benjamin Alton and Doctor Babcock, besides many others. Some of these settled in that part of Concord which was detached in 1909 and is now known as Spencer, among them being Nelson Ulm and Dan Yates, who located on the site of Spencerville.

The construction of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in 1875 gave rise to the Town of St. Joe, which was laid out by John and Jacob D. Leighty on section 15 in April of that year. As the result of an election held January 11, 1899, the town was incorporated, and is now a beautiful and thriving place of about 700 population. Here are located flour and saw mills, elevators, cement and tile factories. The St. Joe News, one of the live newspapers of the county, was established in 1887, and was issued Thursdays, Fred B. Leighty being editor and publisher. The paper was discontinued in December, 1919. The St. Joe Valley Bank was founded in 1888 and has had a successful career under conservative management, in spite of some loss caused by a fire in March, 1918, which also damaged the Odd Fellows' hall. The Christian Lutheran and Methodist denominations have churches here, and there is also a safe and commodious opera house for those who like secular amusement. A monument erected to the memory of the soldiers and sailors of the Civil War is one of the ornamental and historically valuable objects in the town, and is the only monument of the kind in DeKalb County, except the cannon on the court house square in Auburn. The St. Joe River furnishes good water power, and railroad communication, in the direction of the cardinal points of the compass, is provided by the Baltimore & Ohio, running east and west, and the Wabash, running north and south. The St. Joe post office is a money order office, with two rural routes. Concord is a post office and little hamlet of about thirty people on the Baltimore & Ohio road, about eight miles southeast of Auburn, and three from St. Joe, which is the banking point. There is a general store and wagon shop located there.

According to the assessment list for 1918, the value of the lands, lots and improvements in the Town of St. Joe was \$77,070; value of personal and corporation property, \$140,510; total net value of taxables, \$216,210. For Concord Township the figures were: lands, lots and improvements, \$383,730; personal and corporation property, \$424,240; total net value of taxables, \$780,960.

Butler Township, in the southwest corner of DeKalb County, is one of the oldest in the county, having been set off and organized by the commissioners on September 5, 1837. Andrew Surface was appointed road supervisor for the road district, No. 1, which comprised the whole of the township, and the first election was held on the first Monday in April, 1838, at the house of Robert Work. When first organized Butler was six miles square, and it so remained until 1876, when twelve sections were taken from its northern side to be added to the new township of Keyser, thus reducing Butler to its present dimensions of four miles by six, or twenty-four sections.

Among the first settlers of the township was Peter Fair, who was chairman of the first board of commissioners of DeKalb County, and held that position for several years. He, with his sons, Charles and Abraham, Charles Crouse, George DeLong, and Andrew Surface, with his sons, Jacob and John, arrived in the fall of 1834, with a wagon and two span of horses, and built their cabins, though they did not make a permanent settlement until the following year. Later in 1835 Lewis Holbrook, Lyman Holbrook, Joseph Stroup, Henry Miller and Michael Miller moved into the township. Other settlers arrived in the spring of 1836, and each subsequent year witnessed an increase in the population. Among the prominent citizens not already mentioned who were identified with the early progress of the town were William Surface, John Gregg, James Bell, Sanford Bassett, John Noel, John C. Clark, John Embry, Henry Fair and George Ensley; also the Moody and Hoffman families. The

first justice of the peace was William Day. The Methodists built the first church on the farm of Robert Work, in 1841.

The pioneers of Butler Township found a generally rich soil, well watered by Cedar Creek in the eastern part, and the Little Cedar and the Black in the western part. The first party of eight, who arrived in October, 1834, brought provisions with them from their homes in Montgomery County, Ohio, except meat as they expected to kill enough deer to supply that deficiency. But in this respect they were disappointed, as deer were scarce in the woods that fall. They found wild honey enough, however, to last the party for twenty days, and Andrew Surface discovered two coons in a hollow tree, which for that occasion supplied the place of venison. Most of these early settlers of Butler remained permanent residents of the township and developed good farms. The railroads when they came, in the early '70s, gave an impetus to settlement, and three shipping points sprung up—Cedar Creek on the Wabash, later the Vandalia; and New Era and St. John on the Fort Wayne, Jackson & Saginaw, later the Michigan Southern, now the New York Central. Cedar Creek, now known as Cedar, is a little hamlet with a population of about 50, a general store and wagon-maker's shop, and a saw mill. It lies about eight miles southwest of Auburn, and four miles south of Garrett. St. John is now generally and officially known as DeKalb, and is even smaller than Cedar. It has free rural delivery from Auburn, from which place it is six miles distant. There is a general store and a wagon shop. New Era is merely a station and a name. Good grain and stock are raised in the township. In 1918 the value of lands, lots and improvements in Butler Township was \$522,430; personal and corporation property, \$286,390; total net value of taxables, \$768,830.



## CHAPTER LXXXIX

### RICHLAND, JACKSON, STAFFORD AND SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIPS

#### RICHLAND TOWNSHIP

Richland Township, situated in the western tier, was organized as a civil township in September, 1837, as a whole congressional township, and Jacob Weirick was appointed its first supervisor. At the first election but six votes were cast, and William Showers was elected justice. The first settler was Joseph Miller, who, in August, 1836, cut his way in from his father's clearing in Jackson, and located on land two miles west and half a mile south of Auburn. This was in territory now included in Keyser Township. Within a few months he was followed by Jacob Weirick and Joshua Feagler, the latter of whom is commemorated by the local geographical appellation of "Feagler's Corners." Calvin Calkins, who left Sandusky County, Ohio, in the fall of 1839 on foot, carrying his scanty provisions in a knapsack, also arrived here and settled on a quarter-section south of Corunna. He had a race to the land office at Fort Wayne to get ahead of a competitor who wanted a part of the same land, and arrived there only an hour ahead of him. Solomon Showers, who built a small cabin in the northeast part of the settlement, gave lodging and entertainment temporarily to the new settlers arriving in the locality, which became known as Showers' Settlement; and the corners south of Sedan were named for Lyman Green. Other pioneers of the township were Daniel Webber, William Beck, William Showers, Japhet Ingraham, Samuel Jones, Thomas Daily, Dimick Harding, Henry Willis, and the Moody Connelly, and Haynes families. Henry Willis, who was afterwards sheriff, and who subsequently settled in Waterloo, located in the northeastern part of the township on a sugar-timbered tract. He manufactured sugar, which he obtained from the maple trees, and which he exchanged for breadstuffs.

The first schoolhouse was erected at Green's Corners prior to 1841. This, of course, was a log building, but it was replaced by a frame in 1849. In 1842 a log schoolhouse was built half a mile northeast of Calkin's Corners, in which Loretta Rawson taught fifteen pupils. The Baptists erected the first log church at Calkin's Corners. Obadiah Bear put up the first grist-mill at Corunna, and John Weaver built a water saw mill on section 16. The first steam saw mill was erected by Burgess and Green on land belonging to Mr. Green.

#### CORUNNA

Corunna is a little village which sprang up on the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad, and now has a population of a little over 300. The Methodist Church, built there about 1870, is still flourishing. In 1914 Claude E. Wilsey established the "News," which he conducted intermittently as editor and publisher for awhile, but the paper is now out of existence. The postoffice has two rural routes, and the Thomas Exchange

Bank, which was organized in 1897, has been conducted successfully to the present time. The village, which is unincorporated, contains a feed mill, besides several stores.

#### SEDAN

Sedan is another station on the same railroad, now the New York Central, and lies east of Corunna. At one time it gave promise of being a town of some importance, but its population has dwindled, and the post-office has been discontinued, mail facilities being supplied by a rural route from Auburn. There is one general store. The assessment list for 1918 showed the following valuations: For Richland Township: lands, lots and improvements, \$552,700; personal and corporation property, \$684,600; total net value of taxables, \$1,200,650. Town of Corunna: lands, lots and improvements, \$55,230; personal and corporation property, \$118,560; total net value of taxables, \$172,280.

#### JACKSON TOWNSHIP

Jackson Township, in the southern central part of DeKalb County, was organized by the commissioners January 1, 1838, and John Watson was appointed inspector of elections. The first election was held at his house in April the same year. One of the first settlers in the township was John Wyatt, who came in the fall of 1836, from Richland County, Ohio, in search of a location for a future home. With David Butler as a pilot, he plunged into the woods, which were full of a dense growth of wild pea-vine, prickly ash, and other obstructive vegetation which soon reduced his trousers almost to tatters. On reaching the south line of section 34, he selected his land, to which he brought his family in the fall of 1837. In October, 1836, a number of other settlers arrived together, the party consisting of Samuel Henderson and family, John Watson, William Watson, Willis Bishop, John Hursh, James Means, Edward Porter and their families, with a few unmarried members of the different families. They made the first settlement in the southern and eastern part of the township. Thomas L. Yates, the eccentric judge, was another early settler in Jackson, and so was William Miller, whose son Joseph was the first county surveyor. Among the settlers on the east side of the township were: William Means, justice of the peace; Samuel Farney, Henry Dove, Abraham Johnson, Amariah Johnson, William R. Moore, William McClure, Henry Brown, William Squiers, John Matthew and William George, Samuel Geisinger and Nelson Griffith. In the center of the township the first settlers were Joseph Walters, once county commissioner, Mr. Essig and William McNabb.

These settlers found a heavy clay soil and much swamp land, which for some time made agriculture a rather unprofitable occupation but subsequent drainage has done much to improve the character of the farms, and the township now contains many prosperous citizens who have built up their fortunes from the soil.

#### AUBURN JUNCTION

At Auburn Junction in the northwest corner, three railroads cross—the Vandalia, Baltimore & Ohio, and the New York Central, formerly the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern, but the close vicinity of Auburn has prevented the Junction from attaining any distinction as a center of population.

The assessment list for 1918 showed the following valuations for Jackson Township: lands, lots and improvements, \$779,340; personal and corporation property, \$619,980; total net value of taxables, \$1,349,870.

#### STAFFORD TOWNSHIP

The fractional Township of Stafford, lying in the eastern central part of the county, was originally a part of the township known as DeKalb, which was organized in 1837; but in March, 1838, it was detached and annexed to Wilmington, later being given a separate organization. It is crossed in the southeast corner by the St. Joseph River, and Big Run has its course west and east across the north end. The New York Central and the Vandalia railroads cross the northern and northwestern parts of the county respectively. The surface of Stafford Township is generally level, with bluffs toward the south on the river. Near the water courses the lands are quite fertile, while the intervening portions have been much improved by cultivation and are capable of producing all the ordinary crops.

In the summer of 1836 the first white settler, James Lytle, arrived, but he remained but a short time. Soon after him there came a colony of 26 persons, including John and Hazzard Webster, Rufus Coats and John Rose and their families. John Webster erected a good saw and grist mill, and was useful in supplying the incoming pioneers with corn, potatoes and other provisions. Among other early settlers were: Jacob Gunsenhouser, John Rose, Rufus Coats, James W. and James E. Rose and Daniel Coats, and these were followed by still others in 1838, 1839 and later. Some became quite prominent, such as Henry Fusselman, who was justice of the peace and county commissioner. The Methodists and the United Brethren soon established religious societies, and a school was started which was taught by Emily Handy in a cabin owned by Walter Slaughter. The first schoolhouse was erected in the Wanemaker settlement. Among the early millers, in addition to Mr. Webster, were Daniel Martin, whose mill stood on the south branch of Cedar Creek, and a Mr. Fansler, who constructed a mill on the west branch of the same stream, about a mile below the lake. The first reaper for harvesting used in the township was introduced by Norman Blake. The assessment of Stafford Township for 1918 showed the following valuations: lands, lots and improvements, \$312,990; personal and corporation property, \$320,730; total net value of taxables, \$621,010.

#### SMITHFIELD TOWNSHIP

Smithfield Township occupies the northern central part of DeKalb County. It is drained by a number of small streams, all tributaries of the Cedar, and on section 30 is Cedar Lake, a pretty body of water. The soil is largely mixed with sand and gravel, and has but little clay. It is capable of producing excellent crops and the township is now covered with fruitful farms. The Fort Wayne, Jackson & Saginaw Railroad, now the New York Central, was built through the county in 1870, running north and south, and at the highest point, in the northern part of the township, a station called Summit was established where the engines replenished their supply of wood. The place was previously known as Mottinger and Gramlin's Crossing, and a thriving little town grew up there, of which there now remains but a few dilapidated buildings.

#### ASHLEY

A more conspicuous instance of the vicissitudes of towns having a rapid and mushroom-like growth is Ashley, which was platted in 1892, on



the building of the Wabash Railroad, which runs along the northern border of the county. The railroad company, under the name of the Indiana Improvement Company, bought land there and established a division, which naturally drew a large influx of population. The town, which straddled the county line between Steuben and DeKalb counties, was incorporated in 1892, and for fifteen years more the tide of prosperity rolled on. But in 1907 the railroad company moved its division point to Montpelier, Ohio, and the tide began to ebb. The town has steadily declined and is now a quiet place exhibiting very little of the activity of former years. The Ashley News, a weekly paper, was established in 1909, and was conducted for awhile by Arthur C. Wolfe, but is no longer issued. A few manufactures have survived up to the present time, or until recently, and the surrounding country is noted for its production of onions and for general farming. The postoffice has one rural route leading into Steuben County. In 1895 an electric light plant was installed at a cost of \$5,000, and is owned by the town. For the year 1918 Smithfield Township was assessed as follows: value of lands, lots and improvements, \$746,480; personal and corporation property, \$390,740; total net value of taxables, \$1,103,710. Town of Ashley: lands, lots and improvements, \$89,290; personal and corporation property, \$40,460; total net value of taxables, \$124,720.

## CHAPTER XC

### NEWVILLE, FAIRFIELD AND TROY TOWNSHIPS

#### NEWVILLE TOWNSHIP

The Fractional Township of Newville, situated in the southeastern corner of DeKalb County, was made a part of DeKalb Township in 1837, at a later date being given a separate organization. It contains twelve whole and six half sections. The St. Joseph River flows through the northwestern corner of the township from northeast to southwest, and in the southwestern corner there is a smaller branch of the same river. The land may be divided into three classes—the rich river bottom lands, the wheat lands, which were originally heavily timbered with oak, and the sugar maple timbered lands in the southern part of the township. In the summer of 1834 two white men, John Platter and Solomon DeLong, entered Newville Township and camped on the border of a prickly ash swamp. Being tormented by thirst, they dug a hole in the ground with their axes, and succeeded in finding water, though it was so heavily impregnated with the juices from the roots as to be hardly drinkable. Both of them remained in the township, Mr. Platter settling on section 7, where he lived for many years. His daughter Marilla was for a long time one of the noted teachers in the common and graded schools. Solomon DeLong settled on the St. Joseph, across from Newville. He was one of the early county commissioners, and a lieutenant colonel in the Civil war. Among the other early settlers were Daniel Strong, Dwight Moody, J. S. Peck, John Thompson, I. N. Blood, Alva Lawrence and Ephraim Strong. H. S. Bartlett and family came in 1836, and George Weeks about the same time.

On section 7 the pioneers found one of those peculiar constructions known as "mounds," the work of a people of whom little is known, and who may have formed a branch of the Indian race, or have been of different origin. It was opened in the fall of 1837 by Silas H. Bartlett, Daniel Strong, Jr., John Platter and Fraser Bartlett, who found a quantity of human bones about three feet from the surface. From general appearances the mound had been used as a sepulchre and also, possibly, as a fortification.

#### NEWVILLE

The first election in Newville Township was held at the house of Washington Robinson, who was the first justice of the peace. Mr. Robinson owned land on the northwest bank of the river, and in March, 1837, he engaged George W. Weeks to lay out the plat of a town on the southwest quarter of section 6. This town was first called Vienna, which name was later changed to Newville. N. L. Thomas, a Methodist minister, opened the first store there, and a tavern was opened by a man named Dodge. John Cary, a shoemaker, was an early justice of the peace, and Dr. John Lattman was the pioneer physician. The Methodists built the

first church, a log structure; a United Brethren church was organized in 1842, and the Newville Christian Church in the fall of 1851. The first school in the township, and also, it is said, the first in the county, was taught in 1837 by Eunice Strong. The schoolhouse was a frame building standing on section 7. Newville Township is crossed by the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, constructed in 1875, but there is no station within the township. The assessment of Newville Township for the year 1918 showed the following valuations: lands, lots and improvements, \$309,010; personal and corporation property, \$192,660; total net value of taxables, \$479,600.

#### FAIRFIELD TOWNSHIP

Fairfield Township lies in the northwest corner of DeKalb County, and contains neither railroad nor town. Its surface is somewhat broken and there are more hills than in most of the other townships. This irregularity, diversified by bluffs, ravines, winding streams, and limpid lakes, gives it an element of the picturesque, attractive in itself, in addition to which it possesses a good, and in many places, a rich soil. Its remoteness of situation, however, caused it to be one of the last of the early-formed townships to become settled. Another retarding element was the fact that much of the land at an early date was bought by speculators, who held it for a rise in value without making permanent settlement or improvements. In these transactions Wesley Park, of Auburn, acted as agent. But in time conditions changed, and the land came into the hands of genuine settlers who laid the foundations of the township's present agricultural wealth.

Fairfield Township was organized in accordance with a petition received by the board of commissioners, March 7, 1844, and which was signed by Rufus R. Lounsberry, George W. Story, A. Ball, Oran B. Story, Miles Allen, C. Allen, George Powell, Benjamin Hunt and Nathan W. Powell, all of whom were voters in the township. The first election was ordered to be held in April, the same year, at the house of Mr. Lounsberry, to choose a justice of the peace. The Story family, five in number, were the first immigrants of Fairfield and located along the northern border of the township. Willard Childs, who had walked from his home in Onondaga County, New York, to Fort Wayne, and thence to Kendallville, entered Fairfield Township, DeKalb County, accompanied by a guide, on March 4, 1837. He selected and paid for 120 acres on section 27. He then set out again to Fort Wayne, where he stopped long enough to earn money to take him home. He returned in October, 1844, to view his land and pay taxes, and in 1846 came again and made his home temporarily with Benjamin Chaffee who sold his place to Mr. Childs, and made another settlement in the north part of the township. At a later period he became postmaster at Corunna. A few other families or individuals had in the meanwhile entered the township and built log cabins. In the southeast was David McNabb and family; farther east was Wilbur Powell, and just to the north the clearing and cabin of George Powell, the first justice of the peace, besides one or two others. William and Isaac D. Rager, Hiram Thomas, Miles Allen, John Shook, Henry Hartman and the Wilsey family also came in, making about fourteen families in the township, but at this time not more than eighty acres had been cleared.

Until 1850 there were few new arrivals. Then the speculators began to sell their land, and it was soon taken up and occupied by a flood of immigrants. The first frame building was a barn, 24 by 30 feet in size, which was put up in the spring of 1847. The bents were put on by noon of the day the work was started by thirty men and three boys, to whom



refreshments were served, and similar scenes were taking place in other parts of the township. In 1848 a frame schoolhouse was erected in district 10, Alvin Thompson being the first teacher. In 1855 the Methodists erected a frame church. A small hamlet grew up in time on the line between sections 15 and 22, which took the name of Fairfield Center, but it never attained any size worth mentioning, trade being attracted to Waterloo, Corunna and other towns. The assessment list of 1918 showed the following valuations for Fairfield Township; lands, lots and improvements, \$771,670; personal and corporation property, \$398,240; total net value of taxables, \$1,111,260.

#### TROY TOWNSHIP

The Fractional Township of Troy is situated in the northeast part of DeKalb County, and was at first included in the Township of Franklin, organized in July, 1837. It is watered by Fish Creek and its branches. The soil in the northern and southwestern portions is largely clay, while that in the central and southeastern parts is a rich sandy loam. The water-power facilities were a stimulus to early settlement and promoted the erection of mills. Isaac T. Aldrich was the earliest settler, but he later removed to Franklin. Roger Aldrich, a brother of Isaac, came a year later, and was followed by Simeon Aldrich, who erected the first frame building. Other permanent settlers were George Skinner, Asa Haynes, G. Williams, R. Reed, Willard Eddy, S. Call, and John and A. S. Casebeer. The last mentioned built a saw and grist mill on the creek at an early day, which proved of much advantage to the settlers. Amos Stearns arrived early in the fall of 1838, but was soon taken sick, and home work on his place devolved on the women of the family. Peter and Jacob Helwig, Updegraff Clawson, I. Clawson and W. R. Herbert were well known pioneers. A Lutheran church was organized in 1843 at the house of John Zimmerman, on section 20, a house of worship being built later on section 28. The church flourished for many years, until reduced by deaths and removals.

Arctic postoffice was established in 1850, and for ten years Amos Stearns was postmaster. It was discontinued in 1865, but re-established in 1884. Since then it has been again discontinued, and the hamlet and the vicinity has free rural delivery from Botha, five miles distant. Arctic has a population of about forty persons, and there is a general store and wagon shop. On February 18, 1914, there occurred a costly wreck on the Wabash Railroad, fifteen loaded cars being thrown down a twenty-foot embankment.

The assessment list for 1918 showed the following valuations for Troy Township: lands, lots and improvements, \$328,450; personal and corporation property, \$242,570; total net value of taxables, \$547,290.

## CHAPTER XCI

### KEYSER TOWNSHIP AND CITY OF GARRETT

The construction of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad through DeKalb County in 1875 gave rise to the Town of Garrett, which lay directly on the line between Butler and Richland townships. To avoid the inconvenience of having the town in two townships, the new township of Keyser was organized, reducing the area of both Butler and Richland. The history of the township, therefore, is practically identical with that of the two last mentioned, plus that of Garrett.

#### GARRETT

The Town of Garrett was laid out by Beverly L. Randolph, son of James L. Randolph, chief engineer for the Baltimore & Ohio, the town being named in honor of John W. Garrett, president of the railroad. Fifty acres were set apart by the railroad company for their purposes and several hundred acres were purchased by B. D. Thomas, with a number of Ohio men. The original plat was recorded in Auburn, April 9, 1875, and the first lot was sold April 13, to Nathan Tarney, which was lot 1, in block 18, though previous to this O. C. Clark, who was an early settler of the county, residing two miles west of the new town, had contracted for lots on the corner of King and Randolph streets. Mr. Clark built the first house in Garrett, in April, 1875, it being now owned by the Reyher drug store. The building was first occupied by the Lancaster brothers as a dry goods store, and on the second floor was the post-office, with A. W. Pratt as the first postmaster. The actual work of the office, however, was performed by T. G. Baylor, as Mr. Pratt was engaged in engineering the construction of the B. & O. shops. The early growth of the town was rapid, stores of various kinds being started at practically the same time. Among these early merchants, in addition to the Lancasters, were: John L. Davis, of Auburn, who started the first hardware store and also a branch store which was managed by John Robbins; F. E. Davenport, of Auburn, and Eli Kuhlman, who opened a drug store in the same building as the hardware store; Litman Brothers & Co., who engaged in the dry goods business; U. Upmeyer, boots and shoes; Samuel G. Lemmon, wholesale grocery; Roons & Rowe, furniture; Charles Beckmeyer, jeweller; Clark & Embry, meat market; G. W. Pierce, lumber. Among the hotels put up were the De Kalb House, owned by M. and G. Ohmer and operated by C. Kennecht; the City Restaurant, by J. W. Wagner; the Tarney House, by N. Tarney, and the Sargent House, by W. E. Sargent. The DeKalb House was built by the Baltimore Land & Improvement Company. It was provided with all modern conveniences, and was opened January 1, 1876. Its name was later changed to the Keyser Hotel.

The railroad depot was opened to the traveling public on July 4, 1876. The dining and lunch room were opened by N. & G. Ohmer, but were in charge of Thomas Taggart, who achieved great popularity among

the railroad men and remained until 1879. He later became county auditor of Marion County, Indiana, mayor of Indianapolis, and democratic national committee man for Indiana. In addition to the stores and office buildings erected, there were a number of saloons, some of which were patronized by the railroad men. One of the most popular resorts of this kind was that of Gus Thienel, which was the headquarters for the men's "free and easy" social meetings, which occasionally became too uproarious.

The Garrett News, the first newspaper in the town, was printed in a two-story frame building erected by George Cady, which has been since occupied by the postoffice. The census of Garrett taken just before its incorporation, showed a population of 257. The town was divided into three wards, and the election of officers took place January 8, 1876, the following being the fortunate candidates: Hiram M. Hogue, Charles Linkenheit and William A. Pratt, councilmen; Thomas Maloney, clerk;



STREET SCENE, GARRETT

A. H. Putt, assessor; Joseph Hyman, treasurer. The first meeting of the town board was held in Dr. C. E. Pratt's office, on the corner of Keyser and Cowen streets. At this meeting J. R. Skilling was named as the first marshal of Garrett. In April, 1893, Garrett was incorporated as a city, in accordance with the vote of the people; and the last meeting of the town board took place on May 18, 1893. The first mayor was Charles W. Camp. The city was redistricted, the limits of the wards being defined as follows: First Ward, all the territory within the city lying north of the center of King Street; Second Ward, all that territory within the city lying between the center of King and Houston streets; Third Ward, all that territory within the city limits lying south of the center of Houston Street.

The City Water and Light Company, which is owned and controlled exclusively by the City of Garrett, was established in 1896, at a cost of \$75,000. The water is supplied from a system of eight-inch wells, which were driven down into a strata of gravel at a depth of from 200 to 250 feet. Ornamental posts with cluster lights give the streets a brilliant illumination. The fire department is a very efficient volunteer organization, of about twenty-four men, and there are fifty-five fire hydrants at convenient places within the city limits. An excellent sewerage system



has been gradually built up, with piping under the main streets, and the outlet into Cedar Creek, at a distance of four miles, with a thirty-foot fall. The Indiana Light & Fuel Company, of Fort Wayne, supplies the city with gas. The principal streets are well paved, some with brick, but a larger mileage with asphalt.

Plans for the erection of a city hall were decided upon in 1912, and in October of that year, Mayor Schultness and the city council purchased at public auction, for \$4,500, two lots at the corner of Randolph and Keyser streets. These lots had a fifty foot frontage and a depth of 125 feet. The estimated cost of the building was \$25,000, but the actual cost, when completed, was nearer \$31,000. The building is of brick construction, and of Tudor style of architecture. It contains the mayor's office, clerk's office, council chamber, fire department, jail, city scales and public lavatory. A private telephone system connects every office within the building, and steam heat is furnished by the City Water and Light Company, by means of underground pipes, this system being the first of the kind installed in the county.

Previous to the organization of the public library board in 1911, two rooms for library purposes had been opened down town, books being donated by the people. A tax was levied to support the institution. In 1912, after the organization of the board, an appeal was made to Mr. Carnegie, who responded favorably, and the present handsome building was completed in 1915, at a cost of \$10,000. The library serves a rural population of about 1,000, in addition to the inhabitants of the city. It now contains about 4,000 books. The librarian since 1912 has been Miss Grace Zerkle. The original members of the board, who worked hard to secure the present fine institution, were J. S. Patterson, D. Brinkerhoff, F. M. Merica, J. C. Little, Mrs. Ord Mountz, Mrs. B. A. Byers and Mrs. Mary Copenhagen.

One of the important institutions of Garrett is the Sacred Heart Hospital, which for nearly eighteen years has fulfilled a noble mission in the care and treatment of the sick. The desirability of such an institution was recognized at an early date in the history of the city, but there being talk at one time of the removal of the railroad shops to Defiance, the building of an expensive hospital was delayed until definite knowledge was forthcoming. After it became known positively that the shops would remain at Garrett, the Catholic Church bought the necessary ground in 1901, and the hospital was constructed in 1902, at a cost of \$62,000. It is a modern institution in every detail, and is under the able management of the Franciscan Sisters.

The present population of Garrett is in the vicinity of 5,000. An account of its banks and churches may be found in the chapters of this volume devoted to those subjects. Garrett City Lodge, No. 537, Free and Accepted Masons, was united under dispensation on July, 17, 1876, its charter being dated May 15, 1877. Garrett Chapter No. 129, Royal Arch Masons, was united under dispensation May 23, 1903, its charter being dated October 22, 1903. Both lodges have large memberships, also has Harmony Chapter, No. 67, Order of Eastern Star.

The Knights of Pythias established a lodge in June, 1886, and a lodge of Pythian Sisters was organized in June, 1892. The Odd Fellows lodge was instituted August 29, 1883, and has had a prosperous career. In 1914 the lodge erected a fine building. Charles Case Post, G. A. R., was chartered in 1883. It existed for a number of years, but with the depletion of its ranks by death it was finally disbanded.

A short distance to the west of Garrett, on the interurban railroad, is the small hamlet of Altona, where there is a postoffice and church.

The assessment list for 1918 showed the valuations for the City of Garrett, to be as follows: lands, lots and improvements, \$1,037,850; personal and corporation property, \$495,310; total net value of taxables, \$1,367,880. For Keyser Township the figures were: lands, lots and improvements, \$598,030; personal and corporation property, \$510,820; total net value of taxables, \$1,079,930.

## CHAPTER XCII

### GRANT AND SPENCER TOWNSHIPS AND CITY OF WATERLOO

#### GRANT TOWNSHIP

In response to a petition of tax payers and voters, the county commissioners, on September 8, 1889, made the north half of Union Township into a new township, to be known as Grant. It is the youngest township (excepting Spencer) in DeKalb County and comprises eighteen sections.

#### WATERLOO

The first improvement in the vicinity of Waterloo was made by Wesley Park, of Auburn, then sheriff of the county, who in 1838, put up a board shanty on the site of the present suburb of Uniontown, as a shelter for two men employed to build a bridge over Cedar Creek. In this cabin D. Altenburg, L. Walsworth, with their families and the two bridge builders passed a night while the settlers were on their journey from Steubenville to their selections of land in Union Township. From its position on the state road from Fort Wayne north through Angola, and sufficiently remote from other settlements, the place was thought a good site for a town, and Frederick Krum accordingly laid out a plat. George Trout put up a building and opened a store, thus becoming the pioneer merchant, and he was not long without competition, as M. & A. Hale also started a store. A water-power saw-mill was erected by James Bowman, who, about 1856, after the laying out of Waterloo, changed it to a steam-power mill. The earliest village blacksmith was Richard Burnistin. A cabinet shop was operated by a man named Smith, while George Wareham followed the trade of gun-smith. Doctor Jones was the pioneer physician.

A new era began with the construction of the Air Line of the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railroad in 1855-56. Miles Waterman, who was for several terms representative in the state legislature, had purchased a tract of land south of Uniontown, lying on both sides of the railroad tract. On this land Miles Waterman and John Hornberger laid out the town of Waterloo, at first called Waterloo City, the acknowledgement being taken before George Wolf, justice of the peace, March 14, 1856. A railroad office was the first building erected, and then Eli Williamson, the pioneer carpenter, put up the first dwelling house. James Irving and John Wood erected store buildings, the former renting to Willard & Keller, who opened a grocery and restaurant. The sale of lots was proceeding rapidly, new stores and residents were building, and settlers were coming into the town, many of whom remained permanently and aided in its development. Among them was T. Y. Dickinson, who in 1859 began the publication of the Waterloo Press; Dr. J. N. Chamberlain, who was sheriff of the county from 1860 to 1862; Henry Willis, who filled the same office from 1864 to 1868; Jacob Kahn, who became one of the leading mer-



chants; General Lewis, J. Blair and others. The first tavern, later known as the Central House, was built by John Shull. Josiah and Jonathan Weaver erected and conducted a grist mill in Uniontown in 1868, but the first mill in Waterloo was built by George Thompson, and was later operated by Duncan Brothers. Subsequently the Star Mills were erected by Best, McClellan & Moody, and did a prosperous business until the fine brick building was destroyed by fire in 1876. Another important industry of the same kind was the flouring-mill conducted in the early '80s by Bower & Weirich.

The S. A. Bowman Handle Factory was established in the '80s, and for a number of years manufactured hand-shaved handles, achieving a high reputation for the quality of the goods. This industry has been maintained up to the present time, though the shaving is now done by machinery. S. A. Bowman is the head of the business.

Large quantities of eggs are brought to Waterloo by the farmers and are bought and shipped to market by three flourishing concerns: the



STREET SCENE, WATERLOO

Goodwin Poultry Company, of which S. L. Goodwin is the head, E. Winegardner & Son; and R. L. Hull. The two latter concerns also buy and ship poultry. The Martin Mills and Schlosser Bros., cream stations, buy cream from the farmers and deal in butter fat. An account of the banking interests and of the churches may be found in the special chapters devoted to those subjects.

Waterloo City Lodge, No. 307, Free and Accepted Masons, was organized in 1861, and has continued to flourish with a good membership. An Eastern Star lodge was also established and is still existing. The Knights of Pythias lodge was organized about twenty years ago; but the oldest fraternal order in the town is that of the Odd Fellows, who perfected an organization here in 1860. Waterloo Post No. 52, Grand Army Republic was mustered in in March, 1882, and is today one of the three Grand Army posts still existing in the county, the other two being those at Auburn and Butler.

Waterloo has now a population of about 1,325. Its location on two railroads makes it a convenient shipping point for the surrounding country. The Waterloo Telephone Exchange was organized in 1899 by Alfred Kelley, who continued to manage it until his death in 1911, at

which time the control passed into the hands of his son, Eugene Kelley, who is now the head of the concern. It covers the town and the rural districts in the vicinity, having about 400 phones. A sewerage system was installed in Waterloo in 1915, but as yet covers only the north part of the town, its extension to the south part being deferred until 1920, when Wayne Street will be taken over for the state highway, running north and south between the county seats of Auburn and Angola. The system includes an aseptic tank, which renders the sewage innocuous before it empties into Cedar Creek.

The water works and electric light works are owned and operated by the Indiana Utilities Company, which supplies electric light for several towns. This company was established in Waterloo about seven years ago, supplanting an older system, which had existed for about eleven years. The power is generated at Angola.

The fire department of the town is a volunteer organization, consisting of about twenty men. The water is obtained from fire hydrants,



PUBLIC LIBRARY, WATERLOO

and has a pressure of about sixty pounds to the square inch. A chemical engine is used in addition to the ordinary apparatus. The latter includes an old hand engine that is occasionally used to pump water from the creek in an emergency, and which saw service in Cleveland and Toledo before coming to Waterloo years ago.

The Waterloo postoffice is an international money order office, class 3, and is a postal savings depository. It has three rural routes. Eugene Kelley is the present postmaster.

On November 11, 1911, Waterloo was visited by a violent wind-storm, which swept over the town from a northeasterly direction and entailed a loss of \$100,000. Among the buildings destroyed was the old town hall, and the erection of a new building became an imperative necessity. The work was begun in 1912, and the building was completed in the spring of 1913, after continuous work all winter. The old foundation was used and some of the material of the old building, but the new structure is thoroughly modern both in appearance and equipment. Its erection cost the town \$14,000. Two of the rooms are occupied by the primary department of the school.

The Town of Waterloo has now a community nurse, Elsa Deutsch-



The Old Mill.

Spencerville Ind.



bein, who is employed by the Red Cross, and who commenced her duties on November 1, 1919. She is under the jurisdiction of DeKalb County Chapter, this branch covering Waterloo, Grant Township, South Smithfield Township and West Franklin Township. Her primary duty is to look after the school children, but she also gives advice to the public in case of sickness, charging a fee of 50 cents for visits, which money is turned over to the Red Cross Society.

The Waterloo Public Library is an institution in which the people of the town may well take pride. The movement for its establishment was started in the summer of 1911, when the president of one of the literary clubs opened a correspondence with the state library board, and in response Miss Ora Williams, state organizer, addressed a meeting of the people in the old United Brethren Church. A committee was appointed to canvass and raise funds to secure a tax levy, but having failed to arouse enough enthusiasm, the work was temporarily dropped. In the summer of 1912 a new committee, consisting of Mrs. Karl Gerner, Mrs. J. E. Showalter, Mrs. Claud J. Meyer and Mrs. H. C. Willis, took up the work and made a whirlwind canvass which was successful, and an order was issued by Judge F. M. Powers establishing the library board and appointing Mrs. Gerner, Mrs. Showalter and Col. S. A. Bowman as members. Mrs. Willis and J. A. Denison were appointed by the town board, and the school board appointed Mrs. Claud J. Meyer and W. J. Eberly as its representatives. Mrs. Karl Gerner was elected president, Mrs. Claud J. Meyer, vice president, and Mrs. H. C. Willis, secretary. Grant Township was invited to participate in the work and J. H. Reed as trustee and H. D. Boozer from the township became members of the board. A room was rented in the Denison block and an appeal sent out for a donation of books, to which there was a generous response. In January, 1913, a correspondence with the view of obtaining funds for the erection of a library building was commenced with Andrew Carnegie, being conducted by Mrs. H. C. Willis, who pointed out the need of such an institution as a means of offsetting the pernicious attractions of pool rooms and similar places of resort inimical to the morals of youth. Through this means exceptionally prompt action was secured, as within six weeks a favorable reply was received from Mr. Carnegie, who donated the sum of \$9,000. The building, of tasteful architectural design, was dedicated January 26, 1914, and when opened was already supplied with 1,000 books, to which numerous additions have since been made. The present librarian is Leora Yeagy.

The assessment list for the year 1918 showed the following valuations for the City of Waterloo: lands, lots and improvements, \$179,580; personal and corporation property, \$318,440; total net value of taxables, \$492,060. For Grant Township the figures were: lands, lots and improvements, \$411,810; personal and corporation property, \$636,040; total net value of taxables, \$1,033,070.

#### SPENCER TOWNSHIP

Spencer Township was organized from the lower half of Concord, on June 7, 1909, the division being made for school purposes only. At the time there was much controversy and considerable opposition to the plan, but the feeling has since subsided, and both townships are enjoying prosperity.

## SPENCERVILLE

Spencerville is an old settlement and the only town of any importance. It lies in the southern part of the township, and is two miles east of the Wabash Railroad, transfer accommodations being provided to the station. The town has a population of about 350. It contains an Evangelical Lutheran and Methodist Episcopal Church; also the Farmers and Merchants State Bank, with a capital of \$25,000. There is a grain elevator and several stores. An excellent school building was erected in 1909, at a cost of \$7,000. The postoffice has two rural routes. The assessment list for 1918 showed the following valuations for Spencer Township: lands, lots and improvements, \$391,990; personal and corporation property, \$324,200; total net value of taxables, \$700,150.

**In the original Volume I, the pages that relate to Noble,  
LaGrange and Steuben Counties have been omitted  
from this DeKalb County reprint.**

**Pages 1-177 LaGrange**

**Pages 178-317 Steuben**

**Pages 318-463 Noble**

**Separate reprints are available for these counties.**





# **Biographical Section**

**Originally Volume II of**

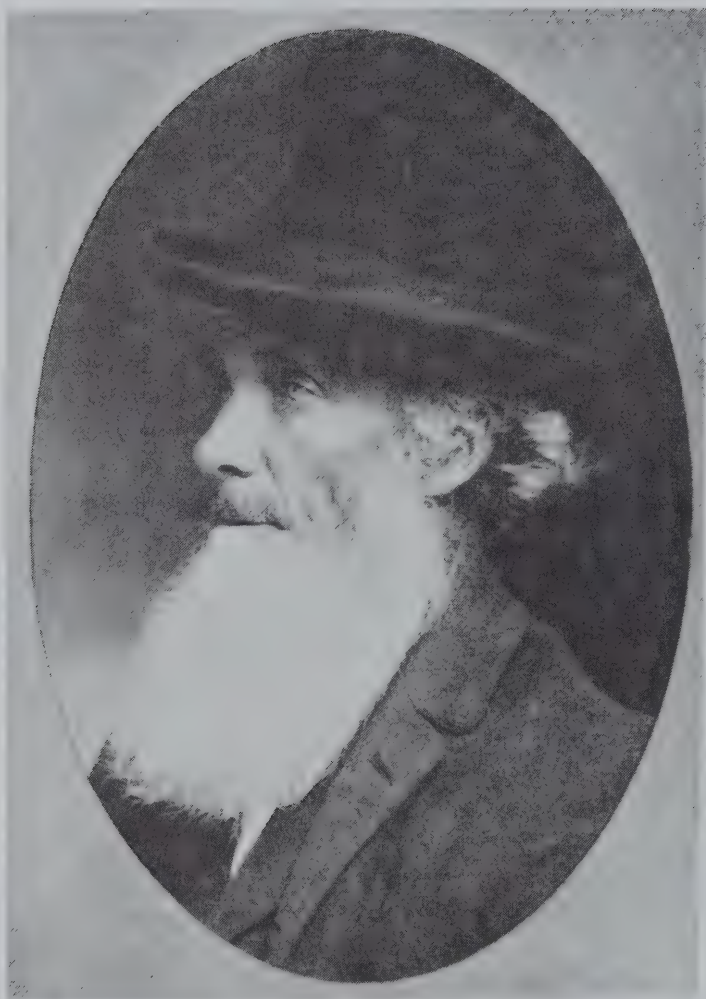
## ***History of Northeast Indiana***

**In the original Volume I, the pages relating to Noble, LaGrange and Steuben Counties have been omitted from this DeKalb County history; however, because of overlapping of counties in the biographical section, all of the biographies from the four counties are included in the biographical section.**









*L. O. Bullock*

# History of Northeast Indiana

LEWIS OSCAR BULLOCK is one of the oldest residents of Milford Township in LaGrange County, having been in this locality over sixty-six years, and is proprietor of a fine farm  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles north and two miles west of South Milford.

Mr. Bullock is a lineal descendant of the Pilgrims that landed at Plymouth Rock December 20, 1620. He was born in the Town of Middleport, Western New York, August 16, 1842, a son of Israel Lewis and Thalia Eunice (Bullock) Bullock. His maternal grandfather, William Bullock, was born in Vermont in 1755, and was a Green Mountain volunteer of 1777 in the Revolutionary war. He was with Washington at Valley Forge during the winter season, and suffered all the terrible hardships of that period. The paternal grandfather of Lewis O. Bullock, Israel Bullock, was born in Connecticut, and grew to manhood, raised his family of six children and died there in 1812. Israel L. Bullock was a native of Connecticut, born in 1802, the youngest of his parents' children, and was ten years old when his father died. As the family were in poor circumstances he was bound out until he was twenty-one years old. His wife was a native of Otsego County, New York, born in 1804. They were married in 1831, and lived at Middleport, New York, until they came West in 1844, settling thirty miles north of Detroit, in Oakland Township, Oakland County, Michigan. From there they came to LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1853, making the journey by wagon, and located on land in Milford Township which Israel L. had acquired previously. He made that his home for fifteen years, and then sold his farm and again located on a fruit farm along the lake in Allegan County, Michigan, where he died. The widowed mother afterward came back to LaGrange County, and died at LaGrange in 1881. Israel L. Bullock was an active whig in politics, and in 1856 became identified with the republican party. He was one of the early trustees of Milford Township. In his family were four children: Margaret, who died in infancy at Middleport, New York; William M., Lewis O., and Myron O. William died in 1915, and the only one living today is Lewis O. Bullock.

He was ten years old when brought to Indiana, and has acquired the most of his education in the common schools of LaGrange County. On October 6, 1865, he married Carrie M. Eastlick, who was born in Johnson Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, October 8, 1844, a daughter of William and Jane (McDonald) Eastlick, formerly of Mercer County, Pennsylvania. Their happy union was continued for more than half a century. In 1915 they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary and on February 24, 1917, the wife and mother passed away. Both were active members of the Church of

God and Mr. Bullock is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Pythian Sisters and has held offices in this fraternity. Through long years of industry he has accumulated an estate of 133 acres of good farming land. In the family of Mr. and Mrs. Bullock were five children, of whom Warren Oscar died in 1869; John Ai died in 1877, aged eight years; C. Dale died in 1902, aged twenty years; and two are living, Lewis E., a farmer in Milford Township, and Ray E., who is unmarried and lives at home.

Lewis E. Bullock, who lives on his farm two and a half miles north and a mile and three-quarters west of Milford, was born in Milford Township January 21, 1878. He attended the district schools, and after leaving school worked for a time in a sawmill in Northern Michigan. He came back to Indiana, worked out by the month, and then married Grace Latta, a native of LaGrange County and a daughter of William Latta. She is a graduate of high school, and before her marriage was a successful teacher. Since his marriage Mr. Bullock has farmed his father's place, and in 1918 he bought the eighty acres where he now lives and which joins his father's place. He is a breeder of good grades of live stock, is a republican in politics, and a member of the Ancient Order of Gleaners. He and his wife have one son, Dean O., born September 4, 1911.

JOHN B. PARSELL has a record as a farmer, public official and banker, and that record is in keeping with the high standing of the Parsell family, which became identified with Steuben County in pioneer times and has furnished many worthy citizens of the community.

John B. Parsell was born in Jackson Township of Steuben County, October 25, 1857, and is a son of Thomas B. and Caroline (Klink) Parsell.

His grandfather was Moses S. Parsell, who was born February 12, 1797, near Newark, New Jersey. He was reared in that state, learned the trade of shoemaker, and in 1817 married Mary Campbell, who died in 1824. Moses Parsell was again married, March 17, 1825, to Hannah D. Crilley, and they became the parents of five children: Aaron G., Abijah D., Thomas B., Sarah W. and Elizabeth S.

In 1838 Moses Parsell came West with his family and bought a tract of unimproved land in section 35 of Jackson Township, Steuben County, and went to work to improve it. After paying for the land and building a small frame house, his plans were interrupted by his death in November, 1839. He left a widow and five children, the oldest less than fifteen years old. The mother played the good part of a pioneer, and kept the children together until she



died in 1846. The old eighty-acre homestead of Moses Parsell is now owned by his grandsons, Austin and Ichabod Parsell, Austin still occupying the land. Of the children, Aaron G. was for many years a successful physician in Steuben County and died in 1904, aged seventy-eight. Abijah D. died in April, 1882, at the age of fifty-five. Thomas B. is mentioned below. Sarah W., after a life of service for others, died unmarried, April 19, 1905, aged seventy-five. The daughter Elizabeth became the wife of Avery Emerson and died April 11, 1915, aged eighty-two.

Thomas B. Parsell was born near Newark, New Jersey, January 12, 1829, and was nine years old when brought to Steuben County. He had limited advantages in the public schools, and early went to farming to assist his mother. Later he acquired a good farm of his own comprising 160 acres in section 35, Jackson Township, and that farm is now owned by his son, George T. Parsell. He died March 10, 1872. He was a republican in politics, and he and his wife were both active in the Presbyterian Church.

February 6, 1853, Thomas B. Parsell married Caroline Klink, who was born near Tiffin, Ohio, December 5, 1830. Her parents were Christian and Mary (Faylor) Klink. Christian Klink was born in Germany in 1794 and was a soldier in the famous army of Blucher and fought in the battle of Waterloo. He spent five years in the army, then came to America and married, and in 1846 brought his family to Steuben County, settling in Salem Township, where he acquired a farm of 200 acres in sections 1 and 2. He died there in 1872. The Klink children were: Louisa, the oldest, became the wife of William Brugh, and died in Fulton County, Indiana, May 29, 1919, aged ninety-two; John, who died in 1870; Caroline, Mrs. Thomas B. Parsell, living on the farm, aged eighty-nine; Catherine, wife of Morris Brown, of Steuben County, aged eighty-five; Christina, who married E. H. Wilson and died in 1907; Michael, who died in 1903; Mary, who became the wife of Newell Wilson and died in 1914; Elizabeth, widow of W. W. Parsell and living at Ashley; and Eli Klink, who died at Angola in 1909.

Thomas B. Parsell and wife had three children: John B.; Mary Elizabeth, widow of Hiram M. Crain, and living in Angola, Mr. Crain having died at the farm home near Angola August 14, 1918; and George T., owner of the old homestead.

John B. Parsell grew up on the old farm in Jackson Township, attended the public schools and later Angola Academy, and for several years was employed in teaching winter terms of school. In 1886 he bought the Henry Butler farm of 200 acres in sections 5 and 8, Salem Township, and was busily engaged in improving and making a living from that property until 1895. In that year he moved to Angola to take up his duties as clerk of the Circuit Court, to which position he was elected in 1894. He was the incumbent of that office four years, retiring November 1, 1899, after which he spent a summer on the farm and then returned to Angola and in February, 1901, entered the Angola Bank. In October, 1903, he became one of the organizers of the First National Bank, the first bank of Steuben County to receive a national charter. He was assistant cashier for six years and since then has been cashier and director and has had much to do with the successful management of the institution. Mr. Parsell is a republican, is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Angola and with both branches of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

January 1, 1887, he married Miss Carrie J. Abbey, a daughter of Giles T. and Martha A. Long Abbey.

Her father was one of the early settlers of Steuben County and is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Parsell at the advanced age of ninety-two. Mrs. Parsell is a member of Pleasant Lodge, Daughters of Rebekah and of Angola Chapter of the Order of Eastern Star. Mrs. Parsell's mother died in 1864. Mr. and Mrs. Parsell have two children. Florence is a graduate of the Angola High School and from the musical department of Tri-State College, and received a diploma from the Chicago Art Institute in June, 1918. The son, Lewis, is a graduate of the Angola High School and of the electrical engineering courses of Tri-State College and of Purdue University.

GILES T. ABBEY is one of the few surviving early citizens of Steuben County. He is now in his ninety-second year and his memory of events in this section of Northeast Indiana runs back fully eighty years.

He was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, November 24, 1827, son of Alanson and Lucy (Daggett) Abbey. Alanson Abbey was born in Ontario County, New York, January 16, 1792, and was a soldier in the War of 1812. His father, Joshua Abbey, fought in the Revolutionary war. Lucy Daggett, daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, was born in Ontario County, New York, in 1793. In 1819 they moved to Sandusky County, Ohio, and in the fall of 1838 came to Steuben County, Indiana. Two years before Alanson Abbey had entered land in section 22 of Steuben Township, and he improved it with a log house and set out an orchard. Later he sold this and lived on the shores of Pleasant Lake. He was a carpenter by trade and built many of the early barns in his neighborhood. Alanson Abbey was a whig and republican, and he and his wife were members of the Free Will Baptist Church but later he joined the Christian Church. He died at Pleasant Lake in February, 1877, and his first wife died in 1840. His children were: Henrietta, Lucy, Jacob D., Nancy, Giles T., George J., and Minerva and Harvey, twins. The sons Jacob and George were both soldiers in the Civil war. Alanson Abbey was twice married.

Giles T. Abbey was eleven years old when brought to Steuben County. He first attended school at Clyde, Ohio, and his teacher was Lydia Chase, grandmother of Gen. James McPherson, one of the most gallant Union leaders in the Civil war. It was three years after the family settled in Steuben County before a school was established convenient to the home. Giles T. Abbey then completed his education, and one of his teachers was George Emerson, an uncle of Fred Emerson, the present postmaster of Angola. He also attended a school kept by Dr. Aaron Parsell, an uncle of John B. Parsell. Mr. Abbey taught school for six terms when a young man. He first began farming by entering forty acres of Government land when nineteen years old. Later he bought 102 acres in Steuben Township, selling this after two years and buying 240 acres near Flint. There being no improvements, he rented the John Thompson farm and soon sold the land to Daniel Benninghoof. He left the farm and rented and operated for three years the Union Mills, and then bought eighty acres in Steuben Township adjoining forty acres he previously owned, and lived on it four years.

While on that farm his first wife died. Her maiden name was Martha A. Long. They were married in 1850. She was the mother of two children: Ella J., wife of Wellington H. Hollister, of Waterloo; and Carrie J., wife of John B. Parsell, of Angola. In 1867 Mr. Abbey married Martha

Davis. There were two children of that marriage, Edith L., wife of Albert F. Theiss, of Memphis, Tennessee, and Earl G., of Kansas City, Missouri.

In 1864, the year his first wife died, Mr. Abbey moved to Waterloo, Indiana, and was employed in a grist mill there three years. He was also the first agent for the Fort Wayne, Jackson and Saginaw Railroad. For twenty-seven years he served as cashier of the DeKalb Bank at Waterloo. He finally retired to a small farm adjoining that town and at present makes his home with his daughter, Mrs. John B. Parsell. Mr. Abbey has been a lifelong republican and has been affiliated with the Masonic Order about fifty-four years. His second wife died in 1884, and he then married Sophia McEntarffer, who died February 17, 1909.

**LEON ROSE.** While the City of LaGrange regarded the removal of Leon Rose to another and larger city in the summer of 1919 as a distinctive loss to its citizenship and prestige, there remained the satisfaction that the constructive work he had performed as a banker and business man is a permanent asset of the community, and also that Mr. Rose, though far removed from his birthplace, retains many interests in his home city and county.

Mr. Leon Rose was born at LaGrange March 17, 1869. His family have been prominent as merchants and bankers of LaGrange for over sixty years. His father was the late Solomon Rose, who was born at Naumburg, Germany, November 2, 1833, a son of Isaac and Eliza (Blum) Rose. Solomon Rose came to America in 1850. For three years he worked as a bookkeeper at Little Falls and Plattsburg, New York, and Worcester, Massachusetts. Coming to Indiana in 1853, he lived three years at LaPorte, then identified himself with the community of LaGrange, which he was proud to consider his home the rest of his life. When he came he had only a few hundred dollars, and with this opened a small stock of clothing in the north room of the old Betts Block. Later he moved to another frame building, occupying the site of the present Elsner store. In 1865 his brother Silas Rose joined him as a partner at LaGrange, another brother, Elias, was a clerk in their store, and still another brother, Lazarus, was a grocery merchant in the town. Soon after the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad was built through the county in the early '70s Mr. Rose erected the first elevator on the right of way and for many years did an extensive grain and wool business. His mercantile interests rapidly increased, demanded larger quarters, and he built for their accommodation the brick block now occupied by C. B. Hinkley. He and his brother Silas and later his son Isaac conducted a store, carrying the largest stock of dry goods and clothing in LaGrange, until 1889, in which year Mr. Solomon Rose retired from merchandising and thereafter gave his entire time to banking.

The First National Bank of LaGrange was organized in September, 1874, with John S. Merritt, president, Solomon Rose, vice president, and R. S. Hibbard, cashier. Three years later Mr. Rose became president of the First National Bank. When it was reorganized as the National Bank of LaGrange he continued in the same office, and was the real as well as the titular head of this splendid financial institution until the day of his death.

On April 10, 1861, Solomon Rose married Caroline Myer, of New York City, but a native of Wuerzburg, Bavaria. Most of their married life was spent in the pleasant old Rose home located in a grove on Hawpath Avenue. In this old homestead their eight children were born. Later Solomon Rose built and furnished a beautiful home on Michigan Street.

In that environment he spent his last days, and death came to him November 10, 1906. He was a member of the Hebrew faith and was affiliated with the Masonic Order.

Leon Rose as a boy in LaGrange attended the public schools, and also was a student in Notre Dame University at South Bend. For a few years he was in the mercantile business at New York City with his brother-in-law, Jacob David. On returning to LaGrange he became a merchant, his store occupying the site of the present building of the National Bank of LaGrange. After five years he sold out and entered the mercantile business with the Sol Mier Company of Ligonier.

At his father's death he became manager of the National Bank of LaGrange, and was soon made its vice president and in January, 1919, he was elected president, and resigned this office six months later to accept an opportunity to associate himself with his brother Samuel Rose at Kansas City, Missouri. He is still one of the stockholders in the National Bank and one of the directors and owns four large farms in LaGrange County. When he succeeded his father as manager of the bank its resources were about \$33,000, with capital, surplus and undivided profits of \$80,000. In a dozen years the bank has grown to aggregate resources of \$1,000,000, with its capital, surplus and undivided profit approximating \$125,000. Mr. Rose had three purposes in retaining the management of the bank after his father's death. They were to make the National Bank of LaGrange one of the strongest institutions in Northern Indiana, also the largest financial institution in LaGrange County, and to build for its accommodation one of the most beautiful banking homes in the Middle West. All these three purposes were accomplished before he resigned his major responsibilities.

Leon Rose was chairman of the four Liberty Loan organizations of LaGrange County and of the Victory Loan Committee. The response of the county to the Liberty Loan campaigns was the outstanding feature of the war activities in this section. Under the direction of Mr. Rose, with the assistance of local banks and loyal people generally, nearly \$2,000,000 were raised and turned over to the uses of the Government. Mr. Rose has for several years been vice president of the LaGrange Corn School Show. Each year he has given \$150 for prizes on yellow corn and in 1919 he gave \$175, the largest contribution for that specific purpose made to any institution in the State of Indiana.

**BURDETTE B. GOODALE**, assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Angola, is a son of the late Dr. Charles W. Goodale and member of one of the old and well known families of Steuben County.

He was named for his grandfather, Burdette B. Goodale, who with his wife, Mary Ann Goodale, came from Cleveland, Ohio, and settled in Steuben County in 1842. They were among the pioneers of York Township, where the grandfather died June 15, 1855, at the early age of thirty-eight. His widow survived him many years. There were four children: Albert N. was a soldier in the Forty-Second Illinois Infantry, and died of wounds received at Chickamauga in October, 1863. Orville F. Goodale served at one time as clerk of the County Court. The daughter, Amelia, married Abraham Stevens.

Dr. Charles W. Goodale, who died January 5, 1905, was born in York Township of Steuben County May 11, 1844. He lived on the home farm, attended district schools, the Angola High School and Hillsdale College. While a student at Hillsdale he enlisted in the Thirtieth Michigan Infantry and



served about six months. He began the study of medicine under Dr. Hugh D. Wood at Metz, and finished his preparation in Rush Medical College of Chicago, where he was graduated in 1868. He returned to Metz and took up practice. From 1871 to 1874 his home was in Reed City, Michigan, and the next four years he devoted to merchandising at Metz. In 1878 he located as a physician at St. Joe in DeKalb County, but returned to Steuben County in 1880, and for several years was again in business as a merchant. He resumed his practice in 1884 and continued in his profession the rest of his life. He was for many years a republican, a member of the Knights of Pythias, and active in the Christian Church. September 5, 1869, he married Miss Margaret A. Parrott, who was born January 9, 1842, and is still living. Her parents were Sylvester and Henrietta (Ogden) Parrott, who were early settlers in Richland Township of Steuben County. Doctor and Mrs. Goodale had six children: Burdette B.; Alice, wife of E. F. Rose, of York Township; Frank, who died at the age of twelve years; Paul, of Huntington, Indiana; Mildred, wife of S. C. Huffman, superintendent of schools at Waseca, Minnesota; and Ford, a resident of Indianapolis.

Burdette B. Goodale grew up at Metz, attended public schools there, also the Tri-State College at Angola, and spent one year in Purdue University. For several years he taught school and then engaged in the drug business at Metz.

In 1904 he was elected county treasurer, and filled that office four years, two terms. He then purchased from his uncle, Francis Macartney, an interest in the Goodale Abstract Company, and in August, 1914, assumed his present duties with the First National Bank of Angola. Mr. Goodale is a republican and for many years has been a leader in his party in the county. Both he and his father were charter members in the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Metz. He and all his family are members of the Christian Church.

January 6, 1897, Mr. Goodale married Miss Margaret Allman, daughter of Barnabas Allman, a well known farmer in Richland Township. Mr. and Mrs. Goodale have two children. Dorothy, born January 21, 1898, is a graduate of the Angola High School, took further courses in the Tri-State College and is now a successful teacher. Charles D., born January 18, 1900, is also a high school graduate and is now attending the Tri-State College. Mr. Goodale is interested in farming and owns a farm in Pleasant Township.

U. C. BROUSE, present mayor of Kendallville, has been a resident of Noble County all his life, was a practical and progressive farmer in Allen Township for a number of years, and has been identified with business affairs at Kendallville as a merchant and in other relations.

His father, Curtis Brouse, who is now living retired at Kendallville, was born in Medina County, Ohio, October 20, 1840. He was fourteen years of age when he came to Noble County, and he lived in Allen Township until he retired from his farm. He was educated in the district schools, and in August, 1861, at the age of twenty-one, enlisted in Company F of the Thirtieth Indiana Infantry. He saw active service for twenty-one months. At the battle of Stone River he was shot through the left lung, and lay on the field of battle until the night of the second day before he was discovered and taken to a hospital. On account of this wound he received his honorable discharge May 11, 1863, and then returned to Noble County. For practically a half century he was engaged in farming and stock raising, and has

also been active in local affairs, serving as trustee of Allen Township and two terms as a county commissioner. He is a republican and a member of Nelson Post No. 69, Grand Army of the Republic, July 1, 1864, Curtis Brouse married Elvira E. Matthews. She was born in Grant County, Indiana, May 7, 1846.

U. C. Brouse, only child of his parents, was born on the farm in Allen Township, June 1, 1865. While a boy he attended the local schools and also the public schools at Kendallville. Being an only child he saw his duty on the home farm, and for many years conducted the place of 140 acres, doing a successful diversified farming business, raising registered hogs of the Chester White strain, and some fine wool sheep. On retiring from the farm he was in the grocery business at Kendallville for five years. For the past ten years he has been secretary of the Fair Association at Kendallville, and has been one of the leaders in that organization from the first. In the fall of 1917 Mr. Brouse was elected mayor, and has given Kendallville a very progressive municipal administration. He is a republican and has served as a member of the Central Committee of Noble County. He is also a member of the State Board of Agriculture. Fraternally his affiliations are with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of the Maccabees.

Mr. Brouse married Miss Jennie Tyler, also a native of Allen Township, and they grew up in the same community. Mr. and Mrs. Brouse have one son, of whom they are justly proud. This son, Don Brouse, born August 19, 1895, is a graduate of the Kendallville High School and had two years in Purdue University. He is now with the American Army in France, as second lieutenant in Company H of the 335th Infantry, Eighty-Fourth Division.

WILLIAM F. BAUGHMAN has been an enterprising factor in the commercial life of Ashley for a number of years and is proprietor of a general store and of a large business with that community.

He was born in Smithfield Township, DeKalb County, May 17, 1871, a son of B. R. and Margaret (DeVore) Baughman, both natives of Holmes County, Ohio. His father was born July 16, 1842, and is still living. As a youth he served in the Civil war, and has long been an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He is a democrat. He and his wife were married in Ohio and came to Indiana in 1865, locating in DeKalb County. The mother died here April 6, 1880. She had four children, three of whom reached mature years, W. F., D. I., of Steuben County, and J. A., of Holmes County, Ohio.

William F. Baughman grew up on a farm south of Ashley, and besides the advantages of the district schools attended the Tri-State College at Angola. He has followed several different occupations and for a time was an employee of the Wabash Railroad. Later he engaged in the hardware business, also was a druggist, and today has a stock of general merchandise.

Mr. Baughman married Elba Lyle, formerly a resident of Iowa and a native of New York State. He is affiliated with Ashley Lodge No. 614, Free and Accepted Masons, with Ashley Chapter No. 152, Royal Arch Masons, and is a member of the Scottish Rite Consistory at Fort Wayne. He has served as worshipful master and high priest in the Masonic Order and is a past chancellor of Ashley Lodge, Knights of Pythias. Politically he is independent.

JOHN W. PRIEST. A business man of thirty years experience, John W. Priest has become the central



figure in several of the important businesses located at Topeka, where he is proprietor of the lumber yards and vice president of the Farmers State Bank.

He was born in Williams County, Ohio, June 20, 1868, a son of Joel and Catherine (Schwartz) Priest. His father, who was born in Holmes County, Ohio, in 1837, at the age of nineteen moved to Bryan, Ohio, where for several years he was active in the saw mill and lumber business. About 1886 he bought a farm in Williams County, and later sold that and moved to Topeka, Indiana. He finally went to Michigan. He is a member of the Methodist Church and is a past grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and a democrat in politics. His wife died in 1916. They were the parents of eleven children, three of whom are still living: John W.; George, of Camden, Michigan; and James, of Reading, Michigan.

John W. Priest grew up on his father's farm. He acquired a good education, the advantages of the district schools being supplemented by work in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola. For three years he taught school and since then has been engaged in the lumber business.

He married Miss Gertrude Grose. Their son, Leroy, is a graduate of high school, spent some time in college, and is now associated with his father in business. John W. Priest is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, also a member of the Chapter and Council in the York Rite.

MAJOR GUY J. SHAUGHNISS, assistant postmaster at Angola, was one of the local citizens of Northeast Indiana whose qualifications and abilities as a soldier were brought out and developed with the stress of the great war recently brought to a successful conclusion.

Major Shaughniss was born in Otsego Township of Steuben County July 13, 1874, grew up on a farm, attended district schools, also the high school at Angola, and in 1900 graduated from Hillsdale College in Michigan. He has since been a well known and prominent young citizen of Angola. He has filled the office of assistant postmaster since 1909.

Major Shaughniss became interested in military affairs in 1902 when he enlisted in the National Guard. He was promoted to second lieutenant in 1905, to captain in 1907, and in 1915 to major. He saw six months of duty on the Mexican border and on August 5, 1917, was mustered into the Federal service of the National army, becoming major of the First Battalion of the Third Indiana. On October 1, 1917, he was transferred to the One Hundred and Thirty-Seventh Field Artillery.

Major Shaughniss is a republican in politics, and is affiliated with the Masonic Order and Independent Order of Odd Fellows lodges at Angola. He was united in marriage to Lydia Jane Pence December 18, 1918.

He is a son of William and Eliza (Clark) Shaughniss, the former born near Ann Arbor, Michigan, and the mother in Otsego, Steuben County, New York. Her father, James Clark, and his wife, Elizabeth Johnson, came to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1840, settling on a farm in Otsego Township. Later James Clark moved to Branch County, Michigan, and spent his last days there.

William Shaughniss came to Steuben County, was married there, and spent his active life as a farmer. He was a democrat and a member of the Masonic Order.

Besides Major Shaughniss, who was his youngest

child, there were three other sons, Wilson J., James A. and John. John died in infancy.

James A. Shaughniss, who was born August 5, 1867, attended public schools, the high school at Quincy, Michigan, and Hillsdale College, and for twenty-two years has been engaged in the carriage business at Angola. A republican, he was elected county auditor in 1908 and gave a very successful administration of the office for four years. He has also been a member of the City Council, and is affiliated with the Masons and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. December 24, 1918, he married Mrs. Laura (Deller) Deal, of Angola.

CHARLES L. SMITH has been a factor in business and local affairs at Albion for over forty years, and out of his work, good management and judgment acquired the competence which enables him to spend his declining years in comfort and peace.

He was born at Tiffin, Ohio, April 30, 1847, and has now passed the age of three score and ten. His parents, Lewis C. A. and Anna M. (Reif) Smith, were both natives of Germany, his father born April 29, 1816, and his mother December 11, 1820. They grew up in their native country, but were married after they came to Tiffin, Ohio, July 7, 1846. Lewis Smith was a gunsmith and locksmith and followed that occupation in Tiffin until 1859. He then located on a farm a mile and a half south of Tiffin, but about 1872 retired to the town and died at Tiffin in 1907. His wife passed away in the same city January 15, 1908. They were members of the German Lutheran Church, and the father was very active and liberal in its support. As an American citizen he voted the republican ticket. There were seven children, and five are still living: Charles L.; Mary, wife of Jacob Marquart; Amelia, wife of John Wisher; Emma, wife of Fred Bender; and Albert, who lives at Tiffin.

Charles L. Smith grew up in Tiffin or on the farm nearby, and acquired his education in both the district and the city schools. He lived at home till the age of twenty-two. He was in the butcher business at Tiffin until 1876, when he removed to Albion and started his shop. Four year later, in 1880, he bought out his partner, and continued active in that business, supplying many of the best people of the town and surrounding country with good meats until 1900. It was through steady application to this business that he made his competence. In 1878 a fire destroyed his shop, but in a few years he had recovered all his lost ground. Mr. Smith has invested in real estate, and now owns two good farms, one of 230 acres and another of a 113 acres.

December 18, 1877, he married Miss Melissa Beck. She was born at Albion November 4, 1856, and her father, Michael Beck, a pioneer of Noble County, is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have three daughters. Leona, a graduate of high school, is the wife of Edwin Hicks, of Auburn, Indiana; Kate, also a high school graduate, married Ray C. Dilgard; May, a high school graduate, married Walter Bonham. Mrs. Smith is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics he votes as a republican. He has never sought official honors and has been content to perform his community service as a business man. He is a director in the Farmers Bank at Albion.

J. E. JELLISON is the man chiefly responsible for giving Auburn one of its thriving industries, the Auburn Broom Company, of which he is one of the proprietors. Mr. Jellison is a broom maker of wide

experience, and is a man of affairs generally. He is well known as a public speaker, having gained his early reputation as a schoolboy orator, and is frequently heard in democratic party campaigns, his services in that line being much in demand.

Mr. Jellison was born in Randolph County, Indiana, May 17, 1879, a son of Joseph and Mary (Cullen) Jellison. His father was also a native of Randolph County, and when eight years old ran away from home to join the army in the Civil war. While he was much too young for active service the company managed to keep him as a sort of mascot until the close of the war. His wife, Mary Cullen, was born on Kelly's Island near Sandusky, Ohio, and came to Indiana when nineteen years of age, her father being a man of wealth at Union City, Indiana. After the war Joseph Jellison entered the railroad service, helped grade the Panhandle Railroad, was a brakeman for some years and later a conductor of the Big Four. He was a Catholic and a democrat. There were five children in the family: Florence, deceased; J. E.; Alice, wife of O. C. McLaughlin, of Dayton, Ohio; Leo, who is married and lives at Dayton; and Marie, unmarried and living at Portland, Indiana. The father of these children died March 7, 1907.

J. E. Jellison spent three years of his early life at Indianapolis, but secured his education chiefly at Portland and Union City, graduating from the Portland High School in 1898. While in high school he represented the Town of Portland in an oratorical contest held at Richmond and was awarded third honors. For a time he was a drug clerk, was with the Adair Brothers in the drug business from 1899 to 1901, and in the latter year became a broommaker at Ridgeville, Indiana. After three years he returned to Portland and bought a drug store, which he conducted for two years. He resumed the broom making business at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, where he remained three years, was similarly engaged at Richmond, Virginia, for two years, and then returned to Ridgeville and was secretary of a broom company there and later its sales manager. Mr. Jellison came to Auburn in 1916 and has built up the plant and industry of the Auburn Broom Company and made it one of the flourishing concerns of DeKalb County.

In April, 1901, he married Miss Blanche Burke, of Jay County, Indiana. She is also a graduate of the Portland High School. They have three children: Guinevere, born in November, 1903; Gareth, born in May, 1905; and Francis, born in January, 1908. Mrs. Jellison is a member of the Presbyterian Church, while he was reared a Catholic.

**WARREN H. THROOP.** Through three generations and for over eighty years the Throop family have maintained a vigorous and influential position in Clear Lake Township of Steuben County. Several of the first settlers bore the name of Throop, and the confidence the family still enjoys in that community is well testified to by the fact that the present township trustee is Warren H. Throop, a grandson of one of the pioneers of the '30s.

Warren H. Throop was born in the same township September 3, 1864. His grandfather, Hiram Throop, was born in Canandaigua, New York, in 1799. He married a Miss Sanford. The first recorded settlers in Clear Lake Township entered land in 1836. Among them were Charles and Clark Throop, while in 1840 Hiram Throop came to the township. The name frequently appears in the early as well as the later annals of the township. Hiram Throop's home was in section 28, and he lived in the township until his death in 1872. His

children were Roxie, Mary, Estella, Samuel, Allen and Albert.

Allen Throop was born June 14, 1832, and on April 12, 1857, married Cloa Dickinson. She was born in Chenango County, New York, in 1833, a daughter of James and Maria (Atwood) Dickinson. Allen Throop acquired his education largely in the district schools of Clear Lake Township, also attended school at Hillsdale, Michigan, and as a young man began farming in his home township and spent the rest of his life there. At the time of his death he owned 200 acres, all of it paid for. He died three weeks before his father, in 1872. His widow has survived him for over forty-five years, and has proved a capable business manager and has increased the homestead by the purchase of sixty acres. She was the mother of seven children: Frank; Louisa, who became the wife of Frank Gowthrop; Elva, who married Fred Wigent; Clara, who died in childhood; Warren; Nellie, who became the wife of George Gowthrop; and Carrie, who died in childhood.

Warren H. Throop attended district school in Clear Lake Township and acquired his early knowledge and experience of farming on the homestead. For eight years he farmed in Scott Township, but with that exception has always lived on the place where he was born. Today he owns 200 acres in section 28, known as Clear Lake Jersey Farm. He does general farming, but for several years has specialized in the breeding of high grade Jersey cattle.

Mr. Throop's public record includes ten years of service as township assessor. In January, 1919, he entered upon his duties as township trustee.

He married Marilla Kellog, daughter of Josiah and Emelie (Swager) Kellog. To their marriage were born six children: Walter, who married Ida Chandler; Ray, who married Clela Elgekrout; Harry, whose wife was Lela Becker, by whom he has children, Robert and Victor; Guy who married Mabel Brouse and has two children, Mildred and Cleon; Carl, who entered the National Army and died while in the Great Lakes Training Camp at Chicago; and Lawrence.

**HERBERT H. WILDMAN** has spent all his life in the village of Wolcottville, began his career there as a merchant but for ever thirty-five years has been identified with banking, and is now president and principal owner of the Wildman State Bank.

He was born at Wolcottville, April 5, 1860, son of Levi L. and Louisa M. (Taylor) Wildman. His father was a native of Massachusetts. Herbert H. Wildman attended the common and high schools of Wolcottville, and his first business venture was as restaurant proprietor. Later he was in the general merchandise business at Wolcottville until he and his father started a private bank. In 1884 they re-organized, with his father as president and Herbert H. as cashier. Levi Wildman died in 1893, and was succeeded in the presidency of the bank by Herbert Wildman. In 1917 the bank was organized under a state charter as the Wildman State Bank, with Herbert H. Wildman, president, Lee S. Jennings, vice president, and G. H. Weaver, cashier. The only change in officers at the present time is that George C. Morgan is cashier. The other directors are Harry E. Roy, V. D. Weaver and Clyde A. Walb.

Mr. Wildman married at the age of eighteen, Minnie C. Parks. They had four children: Viola W. is a high school graduate, finished her education in the Fort Wayne College, and is the widow of Charles S. Smith. Vida, a graduate of high school, is the wife of Clyde A. Walb of LaGrange. Leon L. after leaving high school took the full course at





Warren H Throop  
Billa Throop





Wabash College and two years in Johns Hopkins University at Baltimore, and is now credit man for the Bowser Company at Toronto, Canada. The fourth child, Wilman, is deceased.

Mr. Wildman is a member of the Baptist Church, served a number of years as its chorister, and all his children are musicians. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, with the Lodge and Chapter of Masons at LaGrange, and in politics is a republican.

OLIVER P. BROWN has been a fixture in the commercial life and service of the Village of Hamilton for thirty-six years. In fact he is regarded as the town's oldest resident, and the place is important to him also as his birthplace.

He was born there August 17, 1857, a son of John and Susan (Mann) Brown. His father was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1821, and his mother in the same state in 1834. John Brown came to Steuben County, Indiana, in the early '50s, and was a school teacher in DeKalb County, where he married. After he settled at Hamilton he became a merchant and followed business there for many years, until his death in 1884. His widow survived him until 1911. John Brown was a democrat and held the office of justice of the peace. He and his wife had the following children: Oliver P., Jane W., Lawson, Charles M., Eda, Mary E. and Kate.

Oliver P. Brown grew up in his native village, attended the public schools there, and for over a third of a century has kept a confectionery store and barber shop. He owns the building in which he does business and has other property there. Mr. Brown is a stanch democrat, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Masons and attends the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1883 he married Miss Elva J. Fifer. She was born in Salem Township of Steuben County April 23, 1866, daughter of Lewis and Martha Fifer. Her father came to Steuben County in 1861, and was a farmer and a resident of the county for over forty-five years. He died July 25, 1906, and his wife passed away July 15, 1911. In the Fifer family were the following children: Elva, Margaret Laura, John Adam, Orlando and Jessie Alvada. Mrs. Brown's mother had for her first husband Sylvanus George, and there is one child by that union, Edward Melvin George.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown have two sons. Grover Cleveland, the older, was born January 10, 1884, had a high school education, and is a barber by trade. He married Mary Crane, and their children are named Oliver Perry, Mildred Ann, Jessie Alvada, Leander Timothy and James Kenneth. The second son, Cleland Kenneth, born July 15, 1889, was educated in the Hamilton grammar and high schools, and is now a successful young farmer in Franklin Township of DeKalb County. He married Audra Chilchote.

EDWARD E. PRAY. In LaGrange, Noble and Steuben counties the name Pray for at least half a century has been prominently identified with numerous business affairs. It is characteristic of the family to promote new activities and keep business lively wherever they are. Edward E. Pray represents the third generation of the family since they came to Northeast Indiana. He has figured conspicuously as a merchant, public official and farmer in the Helmer community of Steuben County, where he resides.

He was born in Milford Township of LaGrange County November 10, 1868, son of Daniel and Sarah (Rhoads) Pray, his mother a native of Delaware

County, Ohio, and a daughter of John Rhoads. His grandparents were John Williams and Charlotte Pray. John William Pray was born on the Susquehanna River near Horseshoe Bend in Pennsylvania, moved from there to Sunbury, Ohio, later located near Kendallville in Noble County, Indiana, and spent the rest of his life on a farm. He and his wife had six children, named Daniel, Charles, David, Rhoda, Mary and Eunice.

Daniel Pray, who was born at Sunbury, Ohio, in early youth, learned the trade of shoemaker. He was not satisfied with what he could turn out by his individual skill and established a business at Middletown, Ohio, and prospered until he had to meet the competition of machinery in making shoes. At one time he employed seven men in this shop. From Ohio he came to Milford Township of LaGrange County, Indiana, bought eighty-five acres of land, and after a few years established a brick yard near Kendallville, looking after the management of this business while his wife and family remained on the farm. After a few years he returned to the farm in Milford Township, and for several years his chief occupation was making brick there. He also made brick at Angola. In 1898 he moved to Helmer, taking charge of the grain elevator, which he operated for eight years. At the same time he was in partnership with his son in a general store at Helmer under the firm name of D. Pray & Son. Before moving to Helmer he conducted a general store at Turkey Creek. He has been retired from business affairs since 1905, and is now living in Milford Township of LaGrange County. He and his wife had a family of six children: Carrie B., Emma A., William, Edward E., Alice F. (who died young), and Grace V.

Edward E. Pray has spent almost as busy a life as his father. He acquired his early education in the district schools of Milford Township, finished the eighth grade at Kendallville and for two years was a student in Angola. He helped work the home farm, also assisted in running the store on the farm, and in the fall of 1889 became a partner with his father in a general store at Turkey Creek. This business was moved to Helmer in 1897, and the partnership between father and son was continued until 1905, after which Mr. Pray operated the store alone until September, 1915. He then sold his business. For twelve years he was postmaster of Helmer, keeping the office in his store. Mr. Pray owns a good farm of 107 acres in section 34 of Salem Township, and since selling his store has continued to make his home in Helmer and from that point supervises his farm. He has held a commission as notary public for fifteen years. He was for many years affiliated with Helmer Lodge No. 424 of the Knights of Pythias, until the lodge lost its charter. Mr. Pray in 1909 married Clara Metz, a daughter of Emanuel Metz.

IRVEN O. BUCHTEL, M. D. A physician and surgeon of the homeopathic school whose skill and abilities are widely appreciated over DeKalb County, Doctor Buchtel has practiced at Auburn many years and is a native of Northeast Indiana.

He was born at Ligonier August 6, 1862, a son of Charles C. and Sarah E. (Simmons) Buchtel. His parents were both natives of Stark County, Ohio, were married in that state, and coming to Indiana located in Ligonier, where they spent the rest of their lives. The father was a carpenter and contractor, was active in local affairs, serving as constable and member of the regulators, and was a democrat in politics, while his wife was a member of the Christian Church. Doctor Buchtel is one of

six children and he has two brothers still living: S. E., a merchant at Knightstown, Indiana, and C. W., in business at Cleveland, Ohio.

Doctor Buchtel grew up at Ligonier, graduated from the high school there, and attended Buchtel College, now Akron University, in Ohio, where he received his Bachelor of Science degree and took his medical work in the Hahnemann Medical College in Chicago. He also had three years experience and training in New York City and one year in Chicago. Doctor Buchtel is a member of the State Institute of Homeopathy and the American Association of Official Surgeons. He is treasurer of the Auburn School Board, a democrat in politics, is a member of the Masonic lodge, the Commercial Club and a stockholder in the City National Bank of Auburn. April 28, 1889, Doctor Buchtel married Nettie E. Dowell. They have a daughter, Lucile, who has graduated from the Auburn High School and is at home.

**JOHN GASSER.** The Gasser family has been identified with Steuben County for over three quarters of a century. As good substantial farmers and equally substantial citizens they have contributed their share to the development and progress of this locality, and their name is one justly respected and esteemed.

The father of Mr. John Gasser, now a retired resident of Angola, was the late Benedict Gasser, who lived in Steuben County over sixty years. He was born in Berne, Switzerland, August 9, 1817, son of John and Anna Gasser, who in 1833 brought their family of nine children to the United States and settled in Sandusky County, Ohio, where the mother died the same year and the father the next year. This left the children unprovided for, and they were cared for by different parties. Benedict was a young man when his parents came to this country, and he did his part in providing for his own living and helping his brothers and sisters. In Sandusky County, Ohio, in 1840 he married Caroline Albert. She was born in Hesse, Germany, November 18, 1819. It was two years after their marriage that Benedict Gasser and wife came to Steuben County and located in section 20 of Scott Township. He bought forty acres of wild land, built his log cabin in the woods, and worked steadily until he had most of it under cultivation. Later he increased his farm to 120 acres, and two years before his death moved to Angola, where he died in 1905, at the age of eighty-seven. His good wife passed away in 1893, aged seventy-five. Benedict Gasser was a democrat and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife had nine children: Sanford and Margaret, deceased; John; Josephine; Mary, deceased; Frederick, Addie, Eva and Ida.

John Gasser was born in Steuben County February 8, 1848, and spent his early life on the old home place, acquiring his education in the public schools. After reaching manhood he acquired the other interests in the old farm, and not only handled it successfully but added to its area by fifty acres, giving him a fine place of 170 acres in Scott Township. Not long ago he sold this farm for \$137.50 an acre, and the sale set a record for high prices paid for land in large farms in Steuben County. On February 21, 1918, Mr. Gasser moved to Angola, and has one of the good homes in the town, with a large lot running from one street to another and a vacant lot, where he keeps himself busy in the summer time gardening. He also employs his spare time as a fur buyer, and has been

buying furs for about thirty years and is an authority on that branch of commerce.

In politics Mr. Gasser is independent and strongly favors prohibition. He has never aspired to political office and he and his wife are members of the Christian Church. In 1893 he married Miss Ella Moss, of Steuben County. She died in 1906. In October, 1909, Miss Sarah L. Crawford, of Williams County, Ohio, a cousin of his first wife, became his bride.

**SAMUEL H. GALLOWAY** has long been a citizen of prominence and usefulness in Sparta Township, where he is the present trustee and also a successful farmer, has been identified with school work as a practical school man and teacher, and altogether has filled his rather brief life with intense activities.

Mr. Galloway, whose home is on his farm in section 33 of Sparta Township, was born in the same locality September 20, 1886, a son of John F. and Eliza (Brown) Galloway, the former a native of Sparta Township and the latter of Kosciusko County, Indiana. His father was a farmer in Noble County for many years. He was twice married, his second wife being Ellen Burns. By the first marriage there were four children: Samuel H.; Rosa A., a graduate of the common schools and wife of Ernest Wilkinson; Sarah E., wife of Ray Prentiss; and Mary E., who is unmarried and lives at home.

Samuel H. Galloway grew up on his father's farm, and was liberally educated. He is a graduate of the Cromwell High School, attended the Tri-State Normal School at Angola, and also was a student in Valparaiso University. His work as a school man has covered a period of about thirteen years. He owns a well kept and well managed farm of forty-three acres, and has about seventy acres in farming use. He is also a stockholder in the Sparta State Bank at Cromwell.

October 12, 1912, Mr. Galloway married Jennie Piper, daughter of Charles and Viola Piper. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Cromwell and Mr. Galloway is also superintendent of the Sunday School of the Broadway Christian Church. He is affiliated with the Masonic and Knights of Pythias lodges at Cromwell and in politics is a republican.

**CHARLES O. JONES** has been a member of the farming community of Millgrove Township for over thirty years, and his own work and interests have supplemented the record of a family that through its different branches have been a part of Steuben County history since earliest times.

Mr. Jones was born in Franklin Township of DeKalb County, Indiana, September 21, 1861, and has lived in Steuben County since early childhood. His father, Hiram S. Jones, was born in Vermont in January, 1834, a son of Samuel and Jerusha Jones. In 1843 the Jones family came to DeKalb County, Indiana. Samuel Jones spent the rest of his life there as a farmer. His children, included Julius, Sidney, Henry, Miller, William, Sarah, Hattie and two that died in infancy.

Hiram S. Jones had an eventful experience in California during six years of his early manhood. October 21, 1860, he married Nancy J. Clark, who was born at Lockport, New York, in 1836, a daughter of Isaac and Jane M. Clark, natives of New York, who moved to Fulton County, Ohio, in 1857, in 1860 to DeKalb County, Indiana, and two years later to Kalamazoo, Michigan. Isaac Clark also spent some time in Steuben County. His children were named Nancy, William, Alice, Mary and James.



Hiram S. Jones farmed for a number of years in DeKalb County, also lived on the Clark farm in Kalamazoo County, Michigan, and in 1872 bought back his old homestead in Jackson Township of Steuben County. He died while attending the County Fair on October 18, 1877. He and his wife had five children: Charles O., Frank B., Fred A., and Lillie and Leila, twins. The mother of these children was married in 1884 to Almon W. Thorpe.

Charles O. Jones acquired most of his education at Orland, also attended school at Flint, and in 1889 began farming his present place in Millgrove Township. He has specialized in thoroughbred stock, breeding Poland China hogs of the big type and also Shropshire sheep. His farm comprises seventy acres situated in sections 33 and 28. Mr. Jones is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Orland.

November 27, 1883, he married Myrtia Turner, a daughter of William and Susan Turner. Her father was born in Connecticut in 1831 and her mother in Steuben County in 1839. Her mother was a Salisbury. Both the Turner and Salisbury families figure prominently in the history of Steuben County, as noted on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Jones had four children: Murl, wife of Joseph Moffett and the mother of Helen and Florence; Urban, who married Vera Waters and has a daughter, Martha; Bruce, who married May Nash; and Beulah, who was a trained nurse and died in a Chicago hospital.

**CHARLES CARTER.** The coming years loom large with economic problems, but of them all, none are as important as the production of foodstuffs in sufficient quantities to supply not only the constantly increasing domestic demand, but that of European nations now partially dependent upon American farmers for the necessities of ordinary existence. Because of these conditions the status of the farmer has very materially improved and his calling is recognized as one of the most important, and those men of experience in agricultural activities are urged to remain in harness during the next few years, which are to prove so potent in the world's history. One of the men of Steuben County, Indiana, who has spent his life in cultivation of the soil is Charles Carter, who owns a valuable farm in Steuben Township.

Charles Carter was born on his present farm March 18, 1854, son of Samuel and Sarah Ann (Frink) Carter, and grandson of Jonas Carter, the founder of the family in Steuben County, Indiana, and also a grandson of Selah Frink. The birth of Jonas Carter took place in Worcester County, Massachusetts, in June, 1767, but he left his native county in young manhood, going to Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, and investing quite heavily in farm land there, upon which he lived for many years. After locating in that county he was married to Catherine Wheeler, born in New Jersey in 1774, who was taken to Pennsylvania by her parents after the frightful massacre of Wyoming, from which they fortunately escaped. After the birth of eight of their nine children Jonas Carter and his wife moved to Delaware County, Ohio, making the trip in November, 1815, once more entering upon the privations and hardships of pioneer life. They were among the very earliest settlers of that county, and here they improved a farm and reared their children. Animated by the same spirit which prompted Jonas Carter to migrate, his sons struck out for themselves, pushing a little farther westward, into northeastern Indiana. In October Lewis and John Carter sons of Jonas Carter, entered several hundreds of acres comprising portions of sections 13, 24 and 25, Steuben Township, Steuben County. They returned to Ohio in the fall, but John came back

to their claim the next year, bringing his family with him, and he erected a log cabin in July, 1836, in section 24. In July, 1837, Lewis Carter returned to Steuben County, bringing with him not only his own family but his father and his family. Jonas Carter located on a farm later owned by his son Samuel, and lived in a log cabin Samuel had erected for him, and this continued his home until his death in November, 1842. His wife died from the effects of a fall into the cellar while on a visit to her son-in-law, Mr. Jackson, in 1853. The children of Jonas Carter and his wife were as follows: Sarah, Rufus, Lewis, Abigail, John N., Jonas, James, Samuel and Mary Ann.

Samuel Carter was born in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, June 27, 1814. His first trip to Steuben County, Indiana was made in June, 1835, and he located here permanently in 1836, in the latter year entering about 620 acres of land in Steuben Township. He worked his father's farm until the demise of the latter, when he acquired it, and moved upon a portion of the land he had entered, but within four years moved to the homestead, where he died in August, 1873. His wife also came of a pioneer family, and was born in Madison County, New York, a daughter of Selah Frink, a soldier of the War of 1812. She died in April, 1873, having borne her husband six children, namely: Mary L., Sarah H., Charles, Lucy J., Ellen and Celestia.

Charles Carter attended the public schools of Steuben Township, and was brought up on his father's homestead. After attaining his majority he began operating his father's farm, but after his marriage he went to Virginia and lived on a peanut farm for a year, returning in 1900 to the homestead and conducting it for two years. For the subsequent six years he was engaged in farming west of Angola in Pleasant Township, and then once more came back to his birthplace. In 1909, Mr. Carter went to DeKalb County, Indiana, and spent a year, and the next year he was in Steuben County. Going back to DeKalb County, he resumed his farming in that locality, and remained for four years, and in 1917 returned to the Carter homestead, where he has since resided. His property is one of the best farms in the township and his buildings, fences and machinery show that he understands his business and takes a pride in his premises. He belongs to the Masonic fraternity and the Grange, and Mrs. Carter is a Gleaner.

In 1890 Charles Carter was united in marriage with Mrs. Mary Hanselman, widow of Charles Hanselman, and a daughter of John and Mary (Crum) Willemar. By her first marriage Mrs. Carter had three children, namely: Jennie, who married Fred Frisbie; Earl, who was the second in order of birth; and Mabel, who married Frank Dirrim. Mr. and Mrs. Carter are numbered among the very best people of this section of the county, and their pleasant home is the gathering place for their friends upon numerous occasions, for they enjoy dispensing a generous hospitality to those to whom they are bound by ties of affection.

**EMERY WHITE.** The name of Emery White has been associated for a long period of years with the ownership of a good farm in Salem Township, and with the substantial financial interests of that locality.

Mr. White, who came to Steuben County forty-five years ago, was born in Richland County, Ohio, in May, 1852, a son of Henry and Susan (Breise) White. His parents were both natives of Columbia County, Pennsylvania, lived in Richland County, Ohio, for a number of years and in 1873 came to Steuben County and located in Jackson Township.

In 1875 they moved to Salem Township and had twenty acres at Flint and later lived on the farm now owned by their son Emery. The father died in 1907, at the age of eighty-six. There were seven children: Amanda, deceased, Emery, Mary and Matilda deceased, Francis and Nettie, twins, the former deceased, and Minta. The father was independent in politics and attended the Methodist Church and later the Church of God.

Emery White received his education in Richland County, Ohio. As a youth he learned the trade of tanner and worked in a leather store at Mansfield and Plymouth, Ohio. He came with his parents to Steuben County in 1873 and in 1875 bought a farm of eighty acres. At present he has 240 acres in his home place and thirty acres near Hudson. He still does some farming, though most of his land is rented. Several years ago a fine barn was struck by lightning, entailing a loss of \$2,000, but was rebuilt with an equally good structure the same year. Mr. White for a number of years has been in business as a money lender. He has been very successful in financial matters. Mr. White is unmarried and is a republican voter.

**CHRISTIAN E. SLABAUGH.** Many long years of hard and earnest labor have given Christian E. Slabaugh their proper reward in a prosperity measured by large land holdings and a wealth of community esteem. Mr. Slabaugh is no longer actively identified with farming pursuits, but is still living in his country home in section 10 of Perry Township,  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles northwest of Ligonier.

A native of Indiana, he was born in Clay County, September 29, 1846, son of Elias and Mary Slabaugh, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Germany. His parents were married in Pennsylvania, and coming to Indiana settled in the western part of the state, in Clay County. That was their home for about ten years, but in 1852 they moved to Elkhart County and bought another farm. Several years later they traded for land in Perry Township of Noble County, and on that place spent the rest of their days. Elias Slabaugh was a well to do farmer and had made all his wealth through his own efforts. He was a member of the Dunkard Church and a democrat in politics. Of five children, three are still living: Nancy, wife of John Emmett, of LaGrange County; William, who lives in the State of Washington; and Christian E.

Christian E. Slabaugh was six years old when his parents moved to Elkhart County, and he has spent nearly all his life in that and in Noble counties. He had a common school education, and lived at home until the age of twenty-one. In 1870 he married Catherine Bowsher, who was born in Perry Township, Noble County. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Slabaugh rented land for one year, and he then bought sixty acres, the nucleus of his steadily increasing estate, which is represented now by the ownership of nearly 900 acres here and elsewhere, including 400 acres of land in New Mexico. He also owns some real estate in Central Colorado. Mr. Slabaugh is a stockholder in the Citizens Bank at Ligonier and in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator of the same city. He is a democrat and has served as township supervisor.

Mr. and Mrs. Slabaugh have four children: Sidney, of Perry Township; Willard, of Perry Township; Ollie, wife of John Larimer, of the State of Montana; and Ray, of Perry Township.

**HARLEY H. WEBB** is cultivating acres that were once cultivated by his father, and is living on the same farm where he was born in Millgrove Town-

ship, in section 26. Mr. Webb is one of the highly thought of citizens of that community, and his family is one of the best in Steuben County.

Mr. Webb was born April 3, 1876, a son of Arthur and Permilla (Case) Webb. His mother was born in Pleasant Township of Steuben County. Arthur Webb was born in England in 1828, son of John and Grace (Harrison) Webb, both natives of England who came with their family to America in 1830. The Webbs settled in Steuben County as pioneers in 1845, coming here from Michigan.

Arthur Webb in 1850, when a young man of twenty-two, left Steuben County and went overland by mule team to California. He lived in the gold districts of the Pacific Coast for about five years, and on returning to the States came by boat and around Cape Horn. From New York City he returned to Millgrove Township and spent the rest of his life in that locality, where he died in 1912. He was four times married. His first wife was a Miss Heath, and she was the mother of two daughters, Eva and Amy. For his second wife Arthur Webb married Rose Case, and her children were Delmer, Jessie, Zella and Rosa. For his third wife Arthur Webb married Permilla Case, a sister of his second wife. His fourth wife was Martha Hallet, and she is still living.

Harley H. Webb, only child of his father's third marriage, acquired his education in the district schools of Millgrove Township and has been farming since early youth on the place where he now lives. He owns 110 acres in section 26, and besides farming and stock raising keeps bees as a source of pleasure as well as profit. He is one of the skilled bee keepers in the county.

In 1897 Mr. Webb married Miss Alida McGrew, a daughter of Melvin McGrew. Her family, and its various connections and interests in Steuben County, is described on other pages of this publication. Mr. and Mrs. Webb have two children, Hilda and Joyce.

**CHARLES LIBEY.** While Mr. Libey's work and interests for many years have been identified with one farm in Salem Township of Steuben County, the record of his family in its different connections runs through two counties of Northeast Indiana, Steuben and DeKalb.

Mr. Charles Libey was born in Steuben Township of Steuben County, July 31, 1870, son of George E. and Matilda E. (Houser) Libey. The parents were both natives of Coshocton County, Ohio, his mother being a daughter of John and Mary (Gonser) Houser. John Houser was one of the early pioneers of DeKalb County, Indiana, locating in Fairfield Township in 1847 and living there until after the death of his wife in 1894, when he moved to Salem Township of Steuben County and lived at the home of his daughter Mrs. George Libey until his death also in 1894. He had the following children: Matilda, Sarah, Ella, Katie and Louisa.

William Libey grandfather of Charles Libey, came from Pennsylvania to Ohio and from the latter state to Fairfield Township in DeKalb County, Indiana, in 1847. His farm cornered on that of John Houser. He and his wife died there, leaving a family of small children, George E., the oldest, David, Mary, Jacob, Elizabeth and Margaret.

George E. Libey left DeKalb County in 1869 and located on a farm now within the corporation limits of Ashley in Steuben Township. He remained there about four years and then established his home on the farm in section 25, Salem Township, now occupied by his son Charles. In 1901 he and his wife moved to Hudson, where he died in April, 1902, and his wife in the following December. Both were active members of the United Brethren Church at







*Orlando Kinnell*

Hudson. They had eight children: Frank, who died in 1900; Ulysses G.; Sarah E., wife of William Fink; Almon G.; Charles; John E.; Bert W., and Ora W.

Charles Libey grew up in Salem Township, attended the Osborne school there, and about the time he turned his majority he began farming the home place and also rented other fields near by. He bought forty acres of the old farm in 1903, and gradually has expanded his property with the increase of his means until he now owns 100 acres. He has remodeled and added to all the buildings, and has one of the best sets of farm buildings in the township, including a house of modern equipment and comfort.

Most of his time is now taken up with the business of his home place. For six years he was honored with and gave a most efficient administration of the office of trustee of Salem Township.

July 8, 1897, Mr. Libey married Mis Carrie Clink, daughter of Charles and Catherine (Ritter) Clink. Her father was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, in 1838, a son of George and Catherine Clink, and at the age of twenty years he came to Steuben County, later going back to Ohio, and in the spring of 1861 returned to Steuben County and in August of the same year enlisted in Company A, of the Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry. He was with his regiment two years, then reenlisted, and served until honorably discharged in September, 1865, holding the rank of sergeant. He was in many of the great battles of the war, including Fort Donelson, Stone River and Chickamauga. Charles Clink in 1869 bought a farm of 120 acres in Salem Township, and besides working the farm he also followed more or less the carpenter's trade.

Mr. and Mrs. Libey have two children. Lucille is a graduate of the Hudson High School, has taken three terms in the Tri-State College at Angola, and is now a teacher in the schools of Metz. North C. is also a graduate of the high school at Hudson.

CHARLES E. WELLS is one of the older merchants of Angola, and for many years has served some of the best town and country trade as a grocer.

His people were identified with the early settlement of this county, and he was born here February 8, 1864, son of Friend S. and Adaline (Howard) Wells. Both parents were also natives of Steuben County. The grandfather, L. Wells, came to Steuben County when it was practically a wilderness. He married Ann Soule. The father of Adaline Howard was Morris Howard. Friend S. Wells was reared and educated in Steuben County and followed the trade of carpenter until his death. He was a democrat and at one time served as trustee of Pleasant Township. He was also active in the Christian Church. His widow is still living. They were the parents of two sons, Charles E. and Archie, both of Angola.

Charles E. Wells attended the public schools of Angola, and after leaving high school took a business course in Valparaiso College. He learned merchandising by practical experience as a clerk in some of the Angola stores, and then entered business for himself. He has been a merchant for twenty-two years and now owns a well-stocked establishment at the corner of Elizabeth and Maumee streets, where he has been in business for twelve years. Mr. Wells also owns a farm in Pleasant Township. He has never cared for the honors and responsibilities of public office, is a democratic voter and is affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees.

In December, 1886, he married Miss Hattie Mor-

row. She was born in Pleasant Township of Steuben County in 1865, daughter of Henry and Era (Tolles) Morrow. Her parents came from Hammondsport, Steuben County, New York, first settling in LaGrange County, Indiana, where they lived sixteen years and then removed to Angola, where both of them died. Mrs. Wells' mother died in 1918, at the age of ninety-one. Mrs. Wells is one of three daughters, Elizabeth, Lucy and Hattie, all of whom live at Angola. Elizabeth is the widow of John Richardson and Lucy is the widow of Joseph Beil. Mr. and Mrs. Wells have two sons. Cleon M., born in 1887, was well educated in the high school and the Tri-State College and is now with his father in business. He married Lila Brown. The second son, Leighton B., born in 1893, has earned distinction as a professional musician. He graduated from the Angola High School and studied music in the Bush Conservatory of Music at Chicago. He is now following his profession at Chicago, and married Miss Ina Brant, who came from the vicinity of Kansas City.

JOHN R. REESE has been identified with the farming community of Perry Township in Noble County practically all his life, and has been an active factor therein for over a quarter of a century. He is a veteran of the threshing business, and owns a large acreage and a valuable farm which represents to a large extent his varied industry and capabilities. His home is two miles east of Ligonier.

He was born in Perry Township, June 30, 1871, son of John and Elizabeth (Peters) Reese. His parents were born in Germany, came to the United States when young, and two years later were married at Buffalo, New York. They subsequently removed to Noble County, Indiana, and settled in Elkhart Township. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. John Reese after acquiring American citizenship voted as a democrat. They had eight children, but only two are now living, Elizabeth and John R. Elizabeth is the wife of Ernest Sorgenfrei and lives with her brother.

John R. Reese has spent his entire life in the vicinity of his present home. He acquired a common school education and after reaching manhood he bought out the interests of the other heirs in the old homestead of 113 acres and has since made steady progress toward the acquisition of a large landed estate, and now has 422 acres all in Perry Township and most of it adjoining. He uses this land for the raising of general crops and livestock. As a thresherman he ran an outfit for twenty years, and became known to all the farmers in his and a number of adjoining townships. Mr. Reese is a democrat in politics, is affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Eagles and with Ligonier Lodge No. 123, Knights of Pythias.

ORLANDO KIMMELL. Of the older residents of Noble County few have made themselves more prominently a part of the community and have enjoyed more of the well ordered prosperity that comes with long years and hard work than Orlando Kimmell, whose name is perpetuated in the Village of Kimmell, and whose home is in York Township on the Lincoln Highway, two miles southeast of the village of that name.

Mr. Kimmell was born at Canton in Stark County, Ohio, March 25, 1830, and has now attained that venerable age where he can survey in retrospect more than fourscore years. His father, Joseph Kimmell, was a native of Pennsylvania, son of Joseph Kimmell, Sr., a native of the same state, who became



an early settler in Stark County, Ohio, and lived and died there. Joseph Kimmell, Jr., married in Stark County Catherine Amich, a native of that county. They lived there until 1851, when they removed to Noble County, Indiana, and in this county Joseph Kimmell acquired a farm of 195 acres and was one of the well known and substantial residents the rest of his days. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church and was quite active in republican politics, serving as trustee and as a justice of the peace in Ohio. He was the father of five children: Cyrus, who spent his life in York and Sparta townships in Noble County; Harriet, who married John Arnold; Orlando, the only living member of his father's family; Maria, who married Nathan White; and Emeline, who became the wife of George Casper.

Orlando Kimmell was twenty-one years of age when he came to Noble County. He had attended the log school houses of Ohio, and in that way acquired a practical education. On January 24, 1856, Mr. Kimmell married Jane White. She was born in Marion County, Ohio, and was brought to Noble County, Indiana, when a girl. She attended some of the old log school houses of this county. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kimmell settled on his father's farm, and rented for thirteen years. His energy as a farmer and as a general business man enabled him to accumulate at one time 1,200 acres of land, and he still owns 1,120 acres. The town of Kimmell was built on land which he owned, and it was through his instrumentality that the railroad right of way was located as it was and the station established bearing his name. Mr. Kimmell made most of his money raising livestock, and has been a buyer and seller of livestock for many years. He is now practically retired from all the heavier responsibilities of business.

Mr. and Mrs. Kimmell had ten children, two of whom died in infancy. Mr. and Mrs. Kimmell were happily married over sixty years. She passed away in June, 1918, and was a devout and loyal member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Of the children to grow up the following record is made: May, wife of Willis Kinnison, of Garden City, Kansas; Lillian, unmarried and living with her father; Jennie, wife of Doctor Shoab, of Ligonier; Maud, wife of Ed Eagles, of Albion; Thela, wife of Martin Beck, of Albion; Morton, unmarried and living at home; and Claudius, who is married and lives on his father's farm.

Mr. Kimmell is a member of the Masonic Lodge and was formerly an Odd Fellow. In politics he has always been a republican since the formation of the party. He served four years as trustee of his township and for two terms was county commissioner. He was elected and served as a member of the Indiana Legislature in the session of 1877, and though renominated for that office declined to make the campaign. He was also nominated in 1890 as candidate for Congress from the Twelfth District, but declined the nomination. Mr. Kimmell is a stockholder and is president of the Cromwell State Bank, the other officers of which are A. Meyer, vice president, and Bert Tucker, cashier. He is also a stockholder in the Wolf Lake Bank. Mr. Kimmell, though not a member of that denomination, contributed \$3,000 to the building of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Kimmell, and has always exercised a similarly liberal spirit in behalf of all community undertakings. He was one of the organizers of the Ligonier Livestock Association, serving as president of the organization during two years of its early existence. He was for thirteen years president of the Noble County Agricul-

tural Society, and these and other positions indicate the high esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens of that county.

**WILLIAM E. IDDINGS.** There are several careers of younger men in Steuben County which illustrates the fact that opportunities are not all gone for making a success of farming from small beginnings. One of them is that of William E. Iddings, who came to Northeast Indiana comparatively poor in purse, was at one time a farm hand, and has won prosperity and a large farm in Jackson Township, making the most of his property during the trying years that beset agriculture and the farmer prior to the present great wave of prosperity.

Mr. Iddings was born in Belmont County, Ohio, July 3, 1865, and is a member of an old and prominent family in that section of Eastern Ohio along the Ohio Valley. His parents were Joseph and Teresa (Close) Iddings. His father was born in Jefferson County, March 25, 1836, and his mother in Belmont County. Her father, Josiah Close, was a Belmont County farmer. The paternal grandfather, Joseph Iddings, also had a farm in the early days of Belmont County. Joseph Iddings followed farming in Belmont County, where his wife died in 1875. She was the mother of the following children: William E.; John C., who was born July 6, 1870, and now lives on the old home farm in Belmont County; and Thomas J., who was born July 22, 1873, and was killed while on construction work in New York City in August, 1903. After the death of his first wife Joseph Iddings married Sina Hogue. Both are still living in Belmont County.

William E. Iddings acquired his education in the public schools of Belmont County, and in April, 1883, when about eighteen years old, came to Steuben County, Indiana. He farmed the first year in Jackson Township, and after two years worked out by the month. He has remained in that one locality, and with his hard earned savings and experience he eventually acquired some land of his own, seventy acres, and with that as a start has built up a large and valuable homestead of 230 acres, devoted to farming and stock raising. He is one of the successful hog raisers of the county, is a good manager, and knows how to make farming pleasant as well as profitable.

October 6, 1887, Mr. Iddings married Lottie E. Benninghoof, a daughter of Reuben and Susan (Metzger) Benninghoof. They have two daughters, Violet W. and Iona P. Violet is a graduate of the Flint High School and is now continuing her higher education in DePauw University at Greencastle, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Iddings are members of the United Brethren Church at Pleasant View.

**MARY THAYER RITTER, M. D.** The Thayer and Ritter families were connected with the pioneer life and enterprise of Steuben County. These are family names that have always been associated with the best interests of the community, and it is in conformity to the traditions of her ancestors that Mary Thayer Ritter should choose some special form of usefulness, and in her choice of the medical profession she has achieved success and for fifteen years has been one of the most capable members of her profession in Angola.

Doctor Ritter's mother was Helen Thayer, who was born in Steuben Township of Steuben County September 14, 1843. She was a daughter of Eber and Amy (Golden) Thayer, both natives of New York State. The Thayer family came to Steuben County when most of the land was covered with heavy woods. Amy Golden Thayer became the mother of six children: Mrs. Fronia Carver; Mrs.



Lucinda Kratzer; Mrs. Emily Scoville; Mrs. Susie Hunter; William A. and Mrs. Helen Ritter.

Doctor Ritter's paternal grandparents were Theobald and Catherine (Hartzel) Ritter. They were Ohio people and in 1854 settled in Steuben Township, on the land where Doctor Ritter was born. Theobald Ritter died in 1877 and his wife in 1869. Their children were Simon, Peter, Sarah, Margaret and Lucy. Theobald Ritter married for his second wife Ruth (Fishbaugh) Johnson, and had two sons, Enos and Eli. Eber Thayer also married a second wife, Laura Mason, and by that union had children named Frank, Charles, Judson and Carrie. Carrie was the wife of Onslow Nixon, and they had two sons in the late war, Mason E. Nixon, who as a member of the Signal Corps was killed in France October 7, 1918; and Clark Nixon, who is also in the Signal Corps and is still in France.

Doctor Ritter, who was born in Steuben Township, is a daughter of Simon and Helen (Thayer) Ritter. Her father, the late Simon Ritter, was born in Wayne County, Ohio, November 15, 1836, and came to Steuben County with his parents at the age of sixteen. He spent his life actively and usefully on the farm where his parents had settled and attained the good old age of nearly eighty-one. He died at the home of his daughter Doctor Ritter in Angola September 15, 1917. In 1858 he married Helen Thayer. They were the parents of thirteen children seven of whom grew to manhood and womanhood, the others dying in infancy. Mrs. Helen Ritter died in 1894. Both were members of the United Brethren Church and Simon Ritter was a Republican. The names of his children were Charles, Amy, Loretta, Nettie, Vira, Mary, Lettie, Judson, Fielding, Pearl, Effie, Bertha and Guy. The son Pearl died in 1905 and the son Charles in 1899.

Doctor Ritter grew up on the homestead farm, though from 1871 to 1875 her parents lived in Kansas. In 1884 they left the farm and moved to Angola, where Doctor Ritter attended High School and the Tri-State Normal College. After five years of successful work in teaching she took up the serious study of medicine, spending two years in the Woman's Medical College of Pennsylvania at Philadelphia, and in 1903 graduated from the Indiana Medical College at Indianapolis. Doctor Ritter has been enjoying a busy practice at Angola since April 18, 1903. She is a member in good standing of the County and State Medical Associations, the Woman's Medical Association, and the American Medical Association, and is a member of the Sorosis Circle and of the Christian Church.

FREDERICK WERNER, who has been a figure in the business life of Steuben County for many years, is the present postmaster of Orland, and was the first incumbent of that office after it was raised to a third-class postoffice.

Mr. Werner was born in Jackson County, Michigan, November 24, 1870, a son of George and Pauline (Nooding) Werner, both natives of Germany. His father was born in 1832 and his mother in 1830. George Werner came to the United States at the age of fifteen, reaching New York City with only \$5 in money. He was a tailor and worked at that trade in New York City for a time and also spent two years on a farm. About 1858 he moved to Michigan, and in that state followed farming. Eventually he acquired 312 acres in Jackson County, and was one of the prosperous men of that section. He retired when about sixty-five years of age and lived at Somerset Center in Hillsdale County until his death in 1915. His wife died in 1913, at the

age of eighty-three. He was an independent democrat in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife had ten children: George; Joseph, who died when one year old; Jennie; Hallie, who died in 1899; Jacob, Josie, Frank, John, Ernest and Frederick.

Frederick Werner grew up on his father's farm in Jackson County, Michigan. He had a public school education and as a boy learned the trade of harness maker with his brother Jacob. He first came to Orland in 1890 and opened a shop of his own. In 1895 he went to Quincy, Michigan, and engaged in the harness, agricultural implements and buggy business. In October, 1898, his shop was burned out, and then for four years he was traveling salesman for the McCormick Harvester Company. Later he represented the Portland Cement Company of Bronson, Michigan, and for six years engaged in the hardware business at Orland. He served as postmaster when Orland was a fourth-class office and the grade was raised to the third class in July, 1916. His appointment as postmaster bears date of December 20, 1916. Mr. Werner has been quite prominent in democratic politics. While living at Bronson, Michigan, he served as treasurer of Bronson Township two years, and also as township clerk. At Quincy he was city treasurer two years, and was precinct committeeman when appointed to the office of postmaster. Mr. Werner is affiliated with Star Lodge No. 225, Free and Accepted Masons, Orland Chapter No. 100, Royal Arch Masons, and both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star and of the Congregational Church.

In 1894 he married Miss Grace Parker, daughter of John and Elmina (Luce) Parker. Her mother is a daughter of one of Michigan's most noted governors, Cyrus G. Luce. Mr. and Mrs. Werner have one daughter, Pauline Elmira. She was born December 23, 1896, and was educated in the Orland High School and two years in the Hillsdale College. She is now the wife of Lieutenant Frederick Seitz of Hillsdale, a son of Frederick Seitz, who for many years has been with the Lake Shore Railroad Company. Lieutenant Seitz is a graduate of Hillsdale College, and entered the officers' training school at Camp Custer, later was sent to Camp Lee of Virginia, and received a commission as lieutenant. He was honorably discharged from the army in February, 1919.

MITCHELL S. CAMPBELL is the present superintendent of the County Farm of Steuben County in Pleasant Township. He is a young man well qualified for his administrative responsibilities, is a capable farmer, a vocation to which he has been trained since early boyhood, and is a native of Steuben County.

He was born in Richland Township, May 27, 1887, a son of William and Sophronia (Haswell) Campbell. His parents were both born in DeKalb County, where the grandparents were pioneers. The paternal grandfather, James Mitchell Campbell, was one of the early settlers in that county and developed a farm and spent the rest of his life there. His farm was on Fish Creek. William Campbell was born in 1848 and his wife in 1851, they were married in DeKalb County and in the late '70s moved to Steuben County and bought a farm in Richland Township, where the father lived until his death in 1893. His widow is now living with her son Hugh in Richland Township. They had six children: Viola, deceased; Clara; Florence; Lizzie; Mitchell S.; and

Hugh A. Campbell also served four years as superintendent of the Steuben County Farm and is now a resident of Richland Township.

Mitchell S. Campbell grew up on the home place in Richland, acquired a district school education, and by practical experience has become a good farmer. He also took the Jesse Berry Horse Training Course, and is well qualified to handle and train horses. Until his appointment to his present duties he was a farmer and owned thirty-three acres in Scott Township. In March, 1918, the County Board of Commissioners appointed him as superintendent of the County Farm. Mr. Campbell is a republican and is liberal in his religious views.

In 1917 he married Miss Verle Holbrook, of Steuben County, daughter of Frank and Elizabeth (Folck) Holbrook, of Fremont, Indiana. They have one daughter, Mildred Elizabeth, born December 15, 1918.

EDGAR J. WILSON. The prosperity which Edgar J. Wilson now enjoys, surrounded by his rich and productive acres in Millgrove Township, has been earned by many years of well directed industry. At one time he was a farm laborer, working for a monthly wage, and only through thrifty habits, good judgment and all round business ability has advanced to the stage of independence.

Mr. Wilson was born in Jackson Township of Steuben County, May 4, 1866, son of Edwin H., and Christina (Klink) Wilson. His mother was a daughter of Christian and Mary Klink, of a prominent old family of Northeast Indiana. Edwin H. Wilson was born in Richland County, Ohio, a son of John and Hannah (Bodley) Wilson, the former a native of New York State. John Wilson was one of the pioneers of the "thirties" in Steuben County, reaching Salem Township in 1836. He settled near the Block Church, and remained the rest of his life in that township. His children were named Margaret, Elizabeth, Melvina, Harvey, Edwin H., and Rebecca.

Edwin H. Wilson spent most of his active life as a farmer in Jackson Township. In 1881 he moved to Millgrove Township, and in 1890 retired to Milford Township of LaGrange County, where he died. He and his wife had seven children, named Lillie, May, Edgar and Edson, twins, Edwin, Edna and Addie.

Edgar J. Wilson acquired his early education in Jackson Township, attending the Morgan School and District School Number Seven, and for one year attended school in Millgrove Township. He left home and began working out for wages when sixteen years old, and continued in that way for a period of sixteen years. The first farming he did independently was in Millgrove Township in 1896, and for over twenty years he has been enjoying a constantly rising position of influence and prosperity. He bought ninety acres there in 1904, added thirty-five acres a few years later, and on selling that first place bought his present farm of 110 acres in section 22. Since 1918 Mr. Wilson has leased his farm and is now practically retired.

November 5, 1899, he married Miss Zella L. Webb, a daughter of Arthur and Rosana (Case) Webb. Her father was a native of England and the Webbs were early established in Steuben County. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have two daughters, Mabel and Iva. Mabel is the widow of Claude Brown, and has a daughter, Dorothy. Iva married Homer Fisher, and has a daughter, Mattie Lorene.

CYRUS KINT, of Clear Lake Township, came to Steuben County in the role of a hard working farm

hand and renter, and gradually the years have brought him their sure reward, and he is today a prosperous farmer and land owner and a citizen entitled to the respect he enjoys.

He was born in Williams County, Ohio, December 15, 1856, a son of Simon and Mary Jane (Hight) Kint. His father was a son of Simon Kint, Sr., and they cleared up 120 acres of land in Superior Township of Williams County. Simon Kint was a Republican and a member of the Reformed Church.

Cyrus Kint was only six years old when his father died. At the age of thirteen he was bound out to John Snyder, with whom he lived a few years and then worked by the month on a farm and rented land. In 1886 he came to Steuben County, working for Dwight Lewis in Salem Township and later rented William Kinser's farm for five years. In 1900 he acquired his first farm, 103 acres in Clear Lake Township. He moved to the land in 1901. It was a tract of heavy brush land, and year after year he has broadened the area of cultivation, has improved it with good buildings, and enjoys a well earned independence. Mr. Kint is a Republican and a member of the Baptist Church.

In October, 1882, he married Miss Alice E. Rogers. She born in Northwest Township of Williams County, Ohio, December 10, 1862, a daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Robbins) Rogers. Her grandparents, Adolphus and Amelea (Whaley) Rogers, were pioneers in Williams County, and both of them spent their last years at Marion Center, Kansas. The old Rogers homestead today is owned by Lyle Shank, county superintendent of schools of Steuben County. Adolphus Rogers at one time was a merchant in Williams County, also a teacher, and on his farm kept an early day tavern. Joseph Rogers, the father of Mrs. Kint, was a farmer and died in Williams County in 1910, at the age of seventy-four. Mrs. Kint's mother is still living, aged seventy-five. Mrs. Kint's great-grandfather on the maternal side was Thomas Whaley, a very early settler of Williams County who took up government land and made a farm of it.

Mr. and Mrs. Kint have two children: Carl, was educated in the public schools, the Tri-State College, and took a course in the Michigan State School of Agriculture at Lansing. He is a practical and scientific farmer and lives in Clear Lake Township, where he owns 164 acres and rents 120 acres. He married Fannie Gowthrop, and they have one son, Carl Vere. Emma L. Kint, is a graduate of high school, took the teacher's course in the Tri-State College, and later graduated from the Indiana State Normal at Terre Haute. She has a state license, and for many years has been a successful teacher. She taught in Clear Lake six years, also taught in Angola six years, and is now connected with the Tri-State College.

CHARLES H. BRUCE has lived at Ashley for over a quarter of a century, and has been a man of great usefulness in that community. He is a lawyer by profession and training, for many years was in the railroad service at Ashley and elsewhere, and is now serving the town and surrounding community effectively in the office of postmaster.

Mr. Bruce was born in Noble County, Indiana, March 31, 1854, a son of Charles F. and Sarah A. (Hammond) Bruce. His father was born at the head of Skaneateles Lake in New York State in 1823, and his mother was born in the same year at Lockport, New York. The paternal grandfather, Ezra Bruce, came to Noble County about 1838, after a residence in Erie, Pennsylvania, and acquired government land in Swan Township. Ezra and his



wife Susannah spent their last years in Noble County. Charles F. Bruce was only a boy when brought to Noble County, and he grew up here, followed farming, and at one time kept the tavern in Swan Township. He was a whig and later a republican, but had no official aspirations. He was a member of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. He and his wife had eight children, of whom Charles H. is the only survivor. Two died in infancy and the others were named Edward, Alice, Anna, Luella and William. Charles F. Bruce died in 1882, and his widow survived him and passed away at the age of eighty-three. She lived at Kendallville, but her death occurred while visiting her son at Ashley.

Charles H. Bruce spent his boyhood on the old homestead, and after the public schools entered Oberlin College in Ohio, where he graduated in the law department. For a number of years he was a skillful telegraph operator, employed by the Wabash Railway Company. He was located at various places and at different times was at Kalamazoo, Mendon and Cedar Springs in Michigan. In 1893 he came to Ashley, where he began the practice of law, and for several years was also chief clerk in the Wabash Machine Shops. He has been one of the leading spirits in community affairs there. He served about six years as city clerk of Ashley, and is now serving his fifth year as postmaster. He is a democrat in politics and is affiliated with Ashley Lodge No. 614, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Ashley Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, Kendallville Commandery, Knight Templars, and also the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his family attend the Christian Church.

In 1882 Mr. Bruce married Miss Lyda Chittenden of Lenawee County, Michigan. Their only daughter is Bessie, a graduate of the Ashley High School and the wife of Jay Gage of Ashley. Mr. and Mrs. Gage have one child, Grace.

HARRY BLACK is now the active head of what is probably the oldest mercantile establishment at Albion, and one of the oldest in one location and under the direction of one family in Northeast Indiana.

The Black family has been in Noble County for over fifty years. The ancestry goes back several generations to about the time of the Revolutionary war, when a German boy came to this country and settled in Pennsylvania. This German immigrant was the father of Peter Black, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1787. Peter Black served as a loyal soldier in the War of 1812. His son Owen Black was born in Pennsylvania in 1813, and grew up in Richland County, Ohio. Owen Black came to Albion, Indiana, in 1856, and in the fall of that year established a partnership with Mr. Love in general merchandising. Three or four years later he conducted the business himself, and was at its head until 1862. In that year Samuel Foster became a member of the firm. In 1863 the store was burned and Owen Black then re-established the business for himself under the name Black & Son. This title was continued until 1870, when, upon the death of his son and business partner, another son, Jackson D. Black, was taken in. Finally Owen Black retired, and the firm was Black & Brother for a number of years. Finally Jackson D. Black took over the business alone and continued it until about 1905, when he took in his son, and the firm has since been conducted as J. D. Black & Son.

Jackson D. Black was born in Richland County,

Ohio, April 3, 1846, and died at Albion, May 9, 1916.

Mr. Harry Black is a son of Jackson D. Black and was born at Albion in December, 1879. His brother, Albert Black, associated with the business, was called to the army May 15, 1918, and was an instructor at Camp Perry, Ohio, with the title of captain. He was discharged January, 1919, and is now at home in the same business.

Harry Black married Miss Bertha Belt. They have three living children: Harry D., born in 1907; Marian, born in 1911; and John, born in 1915. Mr. Black is a democrat in politics. The Black mercantile firm is regarded as a fixture and landmark at Albion, and has been doing business in one location for sixty-two years.

Bertha Belt, wife of Harry Black, is the daughter of Edwin Belt, who came to Noble County from Newark, Ohio. He married Eugenia Kline, daughter of John and Louisa (Potts) Kline. The Potts family were pioneers of Noble County, locating here more than eighty years ago.

JOHN B. RODGERS. One of the most interesting families of Steuben County is that of John B. Rodgers, a prosperous farmer of the highest standing in the community of Jamestown Township. Mr. Rodgers comes of sturdy and long lived ancestry, tracing his descent from a victim of the English religious wars, John Rogers, who was burned at the stake. The habit of large families seems to have persisted in nearly all the generations of the family, though Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers hardly measure up to the earlier generations in that particular.

Mr. Rodgers was born in Millgrove Township of Steuben County, May 29, 1858, son of James M. and Betsie (Bennett) Rodgers. His maternal grandfather was Daniel Bennett, a pioneer of Steuben County who settled in Jackson Township in 1838 and became one of the prominent farmers and land owners, owning 400 acres of land. Daniel Bennett on May 5, 1795, married for his first wife Sally Sayer. Their children were Thomas, Abraham, Isaac, Mary, Peggie (who died in childhood), Samuel, Sally, Rebecca (who died in infancy), and Prudence. The mother of these died in 1809, and in the same year Daniel Bennett married Rebecca Norris. Daniel Bennett was the father of twenty-four children by these two wives, those of the second marriage being Mary, Peggie, Polly, Hilly, Daniel, Jr., Betsie, Alzina, Norris, Christopher C., Benjamin, Rebecca, John, Orilla, Judson, and the youngest died in infancy.

In the paternal line Mr Rodgers is a grandson of Ithuriel Rodgers, who was born October 3, 1778. In 1800 he married Betsie Dodge. Ithuriel Rodgers was a New York State farmer, and his children were Almena, Sabria, John A., Alphonso, William H. H. and James M.

James M. Rodgers was born in New York State July 9, 1816. His wife, Betsie Bennett, was born in the same state, April 20, 1819. James Rodgers arrived in Jackson Township of Steuben County in May, 1837, bought land, but after a few years moved to Springfield Township in LaGrange County. In 1850 he joined the tide of emigration to the gold coast of California, making the journey overland. He remained in the Far West a year and a half and about 1854 he moved from Springfield Township to Millgrove Township in Steuben County. In 1880 he retired from his farm to the village of Orland, where he died March 9, 1890. His wife passed away April 2, 1876. They had a family of sixteen children, twelve of whom reached mature years.



The names of the sixteen were Madison, Bradley, Antoinette, Hila, Romeo, Lodaska, Fernando, Mary Bell, Austin, Orvilla, Romeo, the second of the name, Lina, Zoe, John, Jabez and Alzina.

John B. Rodgers as a boy attended district schools in Jackson and Millgrove townships, finished his education in the Orland High School, and has been farming since early manhood. On October 19, 1880, he married Alma Hall. She was born near Nevada Mills in Jamestown Township, April 2, 1863, a daughter of James M. and Mary (Ford) Hall. Her father was born in 1821 and her mother in 1823. James M. Hall was a native of New York State and in 1838 went to Michigan and in 1861 settled in Jamestown Township of Steuben County, where he died in 1892. The mother of Mrs. Rodgers died March 4, 1907. In the Hall family were seven children: Maria J., John R., James, who died in childhood, Thomas, William, Ida, who died in infancy, and Alma. Mr. and Mrs. Rodgers are members of the Order of Gleaners. Besides their four children they have a number of grandchildren. Theo M., the oldest of their children, married Ora Laird, and their family consists of Olive I., Cecil B., Robert W., John M., and Wilma Lorine. Maude C. Rodgers is the wife of Irving A. Wickman, and their four children are Roger I., James A., Alma Mary and Herbert. Hazel M. is the wife of William D. Souder and she has a son, John William. Frank Bennett Rodgers married Ida C. Reynolds, and to them were born five children, Kathryn L., Lucile M., Bennett, who died in childhood, Earl and Wilford J.

GEORGE FRANKLIN SLICK, whose home is in Jackson Township of Steuben County, has grown crops in that part of Northeast Indiana for thirty years or more, and his own record is a worthy contribution to a family history which has been associated with this county from the earliest pioneer times.

Mr. Slick was born just east of the Block Church, on the farm now owned by Dell Wood, on January 30, 1856. He is a son of Holister and Lavina (Shafstahl) Slick. Holister Slick was born in Rochester County, New York, April 23, 1827, a son of John and Mary (Hempstead) Slick. John Slick was a soldier in the War of 1812, so that the American record of this family goes back more than a century. John Slick brought his family to Steuben County in 1840 and settled south of Salem Center, acquiring forty acres of government land. He and his wife spent their last days in that locality.

Holister Slick was about thirteen years old when brought to Steuben County, finished his education there, like most of the family, took up farming as his vocation. He owned fifty acres east of the Block Church, and lived there in comfortable circumstances until his death on August 15, 1909, at the age of eighty-two. His wife who died September 30, 1908, at the age of seventy-five, was born in Crawford County, Ohio, December 24, 1832. She was a daughter of Christian and Christina Shafstahl, who came to Steuben County in 1846. Christian Shafstahl, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1807, on moving to Steuben County settled in Salem Township and lived there until his death in 1880. A number of his children became well known and prominent in this part of Northeast Indiana.

Holister Slick and wife were the parents of nine children: Sarah, deceased, George F., Alice, Nancy, Adam, Christina, Mary, Susan and William.

George Franklin Slick grew up on his father's farm and started life with a public school education. The first land he owned was forty acres in Salem Township. After selling that he bought eighty-five acres in Jackson Township, improved it with good

buildings, and on April 7, 1917, bought his present place of thirty-six acres. He has always been progressive in the matter of improvements, and in the spring of 1919 was engaged in the erection of his fifth barn, having put up four other barns on the other farms he owned.

April 12, 1883, Mr. Slick married Miss Emma Green. She was born in Pleasant Township of Steuben County May 22, 1861, a daughter of Marvin and Flora (Jones) Green. Her father was born in Medina County, Ohio, September 6, 1833, and her mother in Licking County of the same state in 1836. The Green family came to Steuben County in 1837, when Marvin was four years old. His parents were John and Louisa Green, who as pioneers settled on land in Pleasant Township which is now the Henry Jordan farm. John Green and wife both spent the rest of their days in that locality. Mrs. Slick's father after growing to manhood bought a farm of 113 acres in Scott Township, and he died in Fremont in 1912. His widow is still living at the age of eighty-three. In the Green family were the following children: Lewis, Ella and Emma, twins, Elmer, deceased, Sarah, Matilda, Bert and Charles. Mrs. Slick's maternal grandparents were Ziba and Flora Jones, likewise identified with the early settlement of Steuben County, and more particularly mentioned in connection with other branches of the family. Mr. and Mrs. Slick had four children. Ella is the wife of John Ritter. Nellie is the wife of Shermie German, and their children are Emma Paulina, who died in infancy, Violet, Raymond, Gladys and Evelyn. The son William married Ona German, and they have a son, Lawrence. Ethel is the wife of Francis Wyatt and has one child, Max.

MARTIN M. BURCH has been longer in business as a merchant at Metz than any of his present competitors and associates. For over thirty years he has sold goods and furnished an adequate mercantile service in his particular line, and enjoys an enviable reputation in commercial circles.

Mr. Burch was born in Otsego Township of Steuben County August 11, 1860, son of Halbert C. and Mary (Rhinehart) Burch, and a grandson of Chester Burch. Chester Burch was born in Vermont March 22, 1810, a son of Oliver and Anna Burch. In 1825 his parents moved to Washington County, Ohio, where he grew up and where in 1831 he married Polly Davis. She was born in that Ohio county April 4, 1812. Chester Burch was one of the early pioneers of Steuben County, Indiana, arriving in the year 1837. Three years later he bought eighty acres in section 10 of Otsego Township, and lived there until his death on January 26, 1879. He was one of the leading members of the Christian Church in that township. He and his wife had seven children.

Halbert C. Burch was born in New York State, but was reared and educated in Otsego Township. He served three years and three months in the Union army, and then returned home and took up farming. His career was terminated at the age of thirty-eight, in 1872, when he was accidentally killed by being thrown from a wagon. His widow survived him many years and passed away at the age of seventy-two. Halbert Burch was a republican and a member of the Christian Church. He and his wife had four children: Martin M., Eugene, Lorenzo and John Chester.

Martin M. Burch grew up on a farm in Otsego Township, had a public school education and was busily engaged as a farmer until 1886. He came to Metz in that year and opened a harness shop and

later expanded into a general store, and has been in business at the old stand now for over thirty years.

Mr. Burch has taken an active interest in local affairs, is a republican, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Christian Church and works for every worthy movement.

In 1879 he married Miss Deetle Woodcox. She was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, December 26, 1862, daughter of Curtis and Mary (Morrell) Woodcox. Her parents were early settlers of DeKalb County. Her father died at Millersburg, Indiana, in 1890, at the age of fifty-two and her mother in 1873, aged thirty-two. There were five children in the Woodcox family: Martin, Deetle, George, Bell and Blanche, all of whom are still living. Curtis Woodcox married for his second wife Sarah Greenwood, and they had two children, Frank and Nelson. His first wife was Ida Spears, and she became the mother of one son, Glen. Mrs. Burch's father moved to Metz in 1872, and was successfully engaged in the practice of medicine in and around that village until about six years before his death.

Mr. and Mrs. Burch are the parents of five children: Clara, the oldest, is the wife of William Miller and has a son, named Willis. Meda is the widow of Zach Pillsbury and has a son, Marion. Virgil married Naomi Lindow and has two sons, Virgil and Lindow. Floyd enlisted in May, 1918, in the National army and in the spring of 1919 was at Camp Grant, Illinois. He married Louise Loweren. Marie, the youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Burch, is clerk in the Stiefel store at Angola.

A. HOWARD SMITH represents a family that has been identified with the agricultural community of Noble County for over half a century, and his own efforts as an agriculturist have given him a substantial reputation in several communities, chiefly in Perry Township, where he owns one of the good farms, located a mile and a half east of Ligonier.

He was born in Elkhart Township of Noble County, July 2, 1871, son of Abraham H. and Mary E. (Dumm) Smith. His father and mother were both born in Licking County, Ohio, the former on August 18, 1841, and the latter in 1843. They were married at Brownsville, Ohio, and in 1864 came to Noble County and located in Elkhart Township. They had their home in that community for many years, developed a good farm, and in 1901 retired and removed to Ligonier, where the mother died in 1911 and the father in 1915. They were very active members of the Primitive Baptist Church, the father serving as clerk of the church. He was a democrat in politics. There were nine children in the family, one of whom died in infancy. Those to grow up were: Charles L.; Emma L., wife of Curtis Cole; Ella M., wife of Dr. A. J. Hostettler, of LaGrange; Frank R., deceased; A. Howard; Bruce, who is a conductor with the New York Central lines; Edwin D., of Ligonier; and Edith M., wife of Walter Robinson, of Ligonier.

A. Howard Smith grew up on the home farm in Elkhart Township and had a district school education. After leaving school he remained with his father helping to till the fields and carry on the work of the farm until he was thirty years of age.

In October, 1894, Mr. Smith married Lillie Schwab. She died in 1895. On March 12, 1901, he married Minnie Burket. Mrs. Smith was born in Perry Township and had a common school education. After their marriage they lived for three years in Elkhart Township, and in 1911 moved to their present farm of 112 acres in Perry Township.

They also own thirty-four acres in Elkhart Township. This is a valuable property, and represents to a large degree the earnest efforts of Mr. Smith since he started life on his own responsibility. He and his wife have one daughter, Mildred M., born May 15, 1905, and now attending school. Mr. Smith keeps good grades of livestock of all kinds and is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator at Ligonier. He is affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees and the Eagles, and is a democrat.

ROSS MCNETT. More than seventy years have passed since the McNett family became settled in Steuben County. As a family they have been hard workers, successful farmers, earnest citizens and always identified with the religious and moral forces of their communities. Of the third generation Ross McNett is a representative, a capable and progressive young farmer in Jamestown Township.

He was born on the farm where he lives today, August 29, 1882. The founder of the family in this county was his grandfather, Jacob McNett, who was born in Greene County, Ohio, May 21, 1824. He grew up in Logan County, Ohio, and in 1846 came to Steuben County and lived for three years on Jackson Prairie, and in 1849 located on the west bank of Lake Gage, and remained a resident of that neighborhood until his death in 1880. He owned a farm of 180 acres and had the physical ability and power to give a good account of himself as a farmer and was a man of strong will and great Christian spirit and for many years was an active leader in the Methodist Church. He married at the age of twenty-one Mary Jane Rock, and they had seven children: Sarahett, who died in childhood; George Sylvester; J. C.; Marietta; Orpha, who died in childhood; and John and Jane, twins.

George Sylvester McNett was born in Millgrove Township, March 6, 1848, and spent his life in Steuben County. He began farming in Millgrove, later lived in Jamestown Township, and for many years had his home on the farm now occupied by his son, Ross. He died April 22, 1903. He was active in public affairs, serving four years as township assessor, and completed one term as county commissioner and was on his second term at the time of his death. George S. McNett married for his first wife Gelane Miller, who died leaving one son, George. For his second wife he married Eliza Arnold, who was born in New York State, October 20, 1851. She is the mother of two children, Lulu, wife of Ray Terry, and Ross.

Ross McNett acquired his education in the district schools of Jamestown Township. For two years, 1906-08, he lived with his mother in Angola, but with that exception has spent all his life on the home farm. He owns fifty acres under contract for sole ownership at the death of his mother, also a tract of eighty acres. He is a successful general farmer and stock raiser.

December 11, 1907, he married Lillie May, a daughter of Albert and Catherine May. They have four children, named Mildred, Mabel, Melvin and Merle.

ORDA B. GALLOWAY is a native of Northeast Indiana, his people having been pioneers in Noble County, and after a number of years of successful practice as a dentist in his native county he moved to Steuben County, and is now enjoying a large practice and well satisfied clientele at Angola.

He was born south of Ligonier, near Cromwell, November 25, 1878, son of Anderson and Harriet (Miller) Galloway. The Galloway family came



originally to Northeast Indiana from Greene County, Ohio, and acquired extensive tracts of wild land in Noble County. Doctor Galloway's grandfather was Joseph Galloway. Anderson Galloway was reared and educated in Noble County, and for many years was one of the successful farmers of that locality. He and his wife now live retired at the Village of Cromwell. He was born March 12, 1840, and his wife July 5, 1845. He is one of the ardent republicans of Noble County, is a member of the Masonic Order and his wife is active in the Lutheran Church. They had a family of ten children: Groase, Clara, Etta, Prentice, Cora, Serepta, Verna, Orda B., Ora and Oakley. Prentice, Cora, Serepta and Verna are deceased.

Orda B. Galloway grew up on his father's farm at Cromwell and lived there until he was about twenty-one years of age. His education began in the district schools, was continued in the high school at Cromwell, and for two and a half years he was a student in Hillsdale College in Michigan. He received his degree Doctor of Dental Surgery at the Dental College of Indianapolis in 1905. He at once returned to his home locality at Cromwell to begin his professional work, and had a good business there for ten years. In 1915 he moved to Pleasant Lake and in the fall of 1918 opened his offices in Angola. Doctor Galloway is a republican and attends the Congregational Church at Angola. In 1915 he married Mrs. Frank Mayfield, of Noble County. Her one son by her former marriage, Jack Mayfield, is now thirteen years old.

J. CLIFTON McNAUGHTON, though a native of Branch County, Michigan, has spent most of his life in Steuben County and is a member of a family that came here in pioneer days, establishing a home in the wilderness more than fourscore years ago.

The pioneer head of the family was his grandfather, Alexander McNaughton, a native of New York State, who married Maria Crawford, also of the same state. Alexander McNaughton, accompanied by his wife and four children, made the long journey by ox team and wagon from New York to Fremont Township of Steuben County in 1836. Only the previous year had the first home been built in that township. They settled on a piece of wild land two miles south of the present Village of Ray. Alexander McNaughton sold that land a few years later and bought 160 acres in section 13. The Village of Ray stands on part of that quarter section. Alexander McNaughton spent the rest of his life there as a farmer, and he platted the Village of Ray and gave its first impulse toward growth. His children were named Eliza, Joseph, Archibald, Robert, Maria and Sarah Jane. The wife of Alexander McNaughton died March 30, 1867, and he passed away January 24, 1884.

Robert McNaughton was born in New York State and was a small child when brought to Steuben County. After getting his education he taught school in Fremont Township, made his first efforts as a farmer in the same locality, and after a few years moved to California Township in Branch County, Michigan. When the railroad was built and the Village of Ray came into existence, he was one of the first men on the ground and established a general store and had his home in the village. He continued as a merchant there for about thirteen years. He and his brother Archibald also built the first grain elevator. From Ray he moved to Jamestown Township, living there about three years. His second wife died in Jamestown and soon afterward he took up his home with his son J. Clifton, and died there. Robert McNaughton married for his

first wife Carrie Lathrope. She was the mother of one son, Delbert. His second wife was Jane Duguid, a daughter of John and Helen (Stewart) Duguid. To that union were born nine children, three of whom died in childhood. Those to reach mature years were Kent, Charles B., Alma, who died when a young woman, J. Clifton and Elton.

J. Clifton McNaughton was born in Branch County, Michigan, October 31, 1877, and attended his first schools in that county. For one term he was a student in a school in Fremont Township. As a boy he worked on his father's farm, but since early manhood has been concentrating his efforts upon the place where he now lives. He owns 160 acres in section 13 of Fremont Township, and his friends and neighbors speak of him as one of the most efficient young farmers in that locality.

Mr. McNaughton married in 1897 Bertha Handy, a daughter of Spencer and Sarah (Kaylor) Handy. They have two children. Lorene is a graduate of Fremont High School and has taken work in the International Business College at Fort Wayne. Clayton, the son, is also a graduate of the Fremont High School.

MRS. MARIUM E. CAMPBELL. It was in 1847 that the early members of the Campbell and Childs families came to DeKalb County, Indiana. They have been quiet, thrifty people and always identified with the development of the county in a worthy way. The late Edward Campbell was long one of the county's honored and representative citizens.

Edward Campbell was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1841, hence was six years old when he accompanied his parents, Abel and Jane (Taylor) Campbell, in May, 1847, to Indiana and settled in Smithfield Township, DeKalb County. They had six sons and two daughters. Abel Campbell died on an historic day of the nation's history, the same on which Abraham Lincoln was first elected President of the United States. Edward Campbell remained on the home farm and looked after the comfort of his widowed mother and subsequently became the owner of the farm and continued its operation for many years. His death occurred there on March 7, 1914, and by loving friends and with Masonic rites, he was laid to rest in the family plot in the Waterloo cemetery.

On May 4, 1865, Edward Campbell was united in marriage to Marium E. Childs, whose parents, Bleeker E. and Jane A. (Wood) Childs, came from Wayne County, New York, to DeKalb County, Indiana, settling in Fairfield Township, the family consisting of three sons and five daughters, Mrs. Campbell at this time, September, 1847, being three years old. She grew up in Fairfield Township, attended school diligently and fitted herself for teaching and later taught schools in Fairfield, Smithfield and Waterloo, and has always been a lady whose intellectual acquirements have been recognized in the family and in society. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Campbell on the pleasant old farm in Smithfield Township, namely: Frank, Elnora, Albertus, Clark and Thomas. Frank married Almira Buchanan, and they have one son, Robert Leander. Elnora, who is deceased, was the wife of Oliver Hinman, and is survived by one daughter, Willo Hinman. Albertus married Laura Walker, and they have two sons, Edward and Jeremiah E. Clark married Mrs. Dora (Walker) Kelley. Thomas resides with his mother at Waterloo, to which city Mrs. Campbell removed shortly after Mr. Campbell's death, although she still retains the ownership of the old Smithfield homestead of 200 acres. Mrs. Campbell is a member of the United Brethren Church





*Edward Campbell*



at Waterloo and takes an interested part in its many avenues of useful beneficence.

The early members of the Campbell and Childs families considered politics not only a necessary part of good citizenship, but the male voters of those days were apt to be emphatic partisans. In both families the whig element prevailed, but when the republican party was organized, its principles proved more acceptable. At the present time Albertus Campbell is serving as a member of the Board of County Commissioners of DeKalb, being one of the few republicans in this county so honored.

The late Edward Campbell joined the Masonic Lodge at Auburn and ever afterward he was a member in good standing. He was faithful in all observances and for years never missed a lodge meeting, traveling the seven miles to Auburn on every occasion no matter what might be the condition of the weather. By transfer he later became a charter member of Waterloo lodge. On the fiftieth anniversary of his becoming a Mason, brethren of the Auburn and Waterloo lodges celebrated the event and because of Mr. Campbell's feeble health at the time, went in a body to his farm, where, with appropriate and beautiful ceremony, they presented him with a Masonic emblem that signifies great and special honor. During the remaining year of his life Mr. Campbell prized this mark of appreciation and friendship as one of his dearest treasures, and it is equally prized by his eldest son, Frank, also a Mason, upon whom his mother bestowed it. Mrs. Campbell has a wide acquaintance in the county and at Waterloo, and is held in the highest esteem everywhere.

**CAPT. GEORGE H. COSPER.** For many years a retired resident of Hamilton, Capt. George H. Cosper spent his active years chiefly in DeKalb County and went from that locality when a youth to serve in the Union army during the Civil war. The Cosper family established itself in the wilds of DeKalb County three quarters of a century ago, and of the names longest identified with that locality that of Capt. George H. Cosper is held the highest honor.

He was born in Chemung County, New York, July 2, 1842, a son of Charles and Lucinda (Weeks) Cosper. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1808 and his mother in Vermont in 1812. They married in New York State and in 1844 came West by such means of conveyance as were then available and secured Government land in Wilmington Township of DeKalb County. A log house was their first home in the wilderness, and successive years brought them increased material circumstances and comfort. About the beginning of the Civil war Charles Cosper left Indiana and went to Minnesota. He died at Glenville in that state in 1872. His widow then returned to Steuben County and lived at Hamilton until her death in October, 1893. Mr. Cosper was a whig and republican in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife had the following children: Ransom, Elizabeth, Emeline, Mary, Wesley, Catharine, George H., Amy, James, Lucretia, Martha and Henry. Those still living are Emeline, Catharine, George, Amy, James, Lucretia, Martha and Henry.

George H. Cosper spent his boyhood in the woods of Wilmington Township and acquired his education largely through study at home and as opportunity offered. There were few good public schools in his early youth. In the first summer of the Civil war he enlisted in Company F of the Forty-Fourth Indiana as a private. He was in camp two months before he was sworn in and mustered on September 21, 1861. He saw nearly four years of

service, receiving his honorable discharge September 14, 1865. He was in all the battles of the Forty-Fourth Regiment, and was promoted to the rank of captain. He received a shot in the face at Shiloh, and was again wounded at Stone River.

The war over, Captain Cosper returned to DeKalb County and was engaged in farming until 1885, when he sold his place and bought property in the Village of Hamilton, where he has enjoyed the comforts that are his due for his record as a soldier and his industry as a citizen. Captain Cosper has always been a staunch republican, but has never sought office. However, while in DeKalb County he served as constable. He is present commander of Lemay Griffith Post No. 387 of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a member of the United Brethren Church.

February 18, 1864, he married Miss Evaline Dirrim. She was born in DeKalb County, April 17, 1845, where her parents, Isaac and Eleanor (Wycoff) Dirrim, had settled in the preceding February. Her parents developed a farm in that county, but spent their last years in Hamilton, where her father died in 1892 and her mother in 1900. There were ten children in the Dirrim family: Sarah, Eliza, Hannah, Evaline, Cyrus, Lavina, Peter, Martha, Mary and Ida. Those still living are Eliza, Evaline, Lavina, Peter and Mary.

Captain and Mrs. Cosper have had a happy married life for fifty-five years, having celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1914. With five children of their own they have seen numerous grandchildren grow up around them. Their oldest child, Marshall, was educated in the public schools and is now a farmer in Otsego Township of Steuben County. He married Ida Sanxter, and their children are Harley, Lena, George, Pearl and Addie. The second child of Mr. and Mrs. Cosper was named Addie, and died at the age of six years. Florence is the wife of Monroe Garber, of Quincy, Michigan, and they have three children, Lola, Floyd and John. Mary was first married to Ernest Wright, by which union she had two daughters, named Anna and Alta, and is now the wife of Elmer Wideman, of Detroit, Michigan. By her second marriage she has two sons, Albert and George. Leona is the wife of Fred Spurling, station agent at Hamilton. She has reared one of her sister Mary's children, Alta, who is now attending high school.

**CHARLES H. TURNER** has been one of the busy and useful men of Steuben County for a great many years, and the greater part of his efforts and experience has been applied to developing a farm which his father once owned in Millgrove Township.

Mr. Turner was born in that township, November 2, 1862, son of William W. and Susan (Salisbury) Turner. His mother was born in Steuben County in 1839, daughter of a prominent pioneer, Chester D. Salisbury. The record of the Salisbury family will be found on other pages. William W. Turner was born in Connecticut in 1831, a son of Joseph and Sally Anna (Horton) Turner. Sally Anna Horton was born in Coldbrook, New Hampshire, in 1805. Joseph Turner was a shoemaker by trade and followed that occupation for many years in New York State. William W. Turner when about eighteen years of age, in 1848 came from New York to Indiana, settling in Millgrove Township of Steuben County. He lived with his older brother, Nathan, for a time, worked out for other farmers, and after a few years bought a piece of wild land in section 14. Some of it had been cleared, but he put up his first buildings among the trees and worked



along steadily increasing the area of cultivation and giving the farm other improvements until he had a valuable place of 152 acres. He and his wife had three children: Charles H., Myrtle, wife of C. O. Jones, and Julia M., wife of C. C. Mitchell.

Charles H. Turner, only son of his parents, acquired his education in the Turner School of Millgrove Township, graduated from the high school at Orland, and for two winter terms he taught in one of the country districts. He was in the old home with his parents until 1895, in which year he built his present commodious residence and has been farming independently there for a quarter of a century. He owns 180 acres in sections 14 and 23, and does general farming and stock raising. Like his father he is a member of the Grange.

Mr. Turner married in 1894 Lucy M. Shutts, a daughter of Herman C. and Mary (Collins) Shutts. Her father came to Steuben County in 1860, and some of the important facts in his family history are published on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Turner have three children: Hilda M., born in 1895, is a graduate of the Orland High School and of the South Bend Business College; Marian H., born in 1900, is a graduate of high school and is the wife of Lyston C. Keyes; and Willa S., who was born in 1910.

THOMAS A. PARKER. The County Farm advisor for Steuben County is Thomas A. Parker, who has spent practically all his life in this section of Northeastern Indiana. He was born in Kosciusko County, a son of Elijah J. and Ada Mary (Orr) Parker. His father was born in Kosciusko County and his mother at Westminster, Ohio. His father is still farming in Kosciusko, and on the home farm Thomas A. Parker grew up. He is a graduate of the Warsaw High School and received his degree Bachelor of Science from Winona College in 1915. He also graduated in 1917 from the College of Liberal Arts at Winona.

Mr. Parker was formerly a teacher in the high school at Pierceton, Indiana, and for one year taught in the Vocational School at Metz. In March, 1918, he was appointed county agricultural agent of Steuben County, and took up the duties of that office in the same year, and all through the critical season of 1918, when American agriculture meant so much to the world welfare, he was busy doing his part in the agricultural communities of Steuben County.

He is a member of the Rotary Club of Angola, is a Baptist, and a Mason and Knight of Pythias. In January, 1917, Mr. Parker married Esther H. Parker, daughter of Murray and Margaret (Morris) Parker. They have one son, Thomas A., Jr., born May 27, 1918.

EMMET B. CHARD is a successful farmer of Scott Township, who has applied himself not only to his individual labors as a producer, but also to some of those broad movements and efforts now affecting for the better agricultural conditions and the interests of farmers.

Mr. Chard was born in Richland Township of Steuben County January 11, 1885, a son of Robert and Dorcas (Thompson) Chard of Angola. He grew up on a farm as a boy, attended public schools and the Tri-State Normal College, and has taken the short course in agriculture at Purdue University. Since early manhood he has given his best energies and study to farming, and is now making a success of the management of the 200-acre farm owned by his father in Scott Township. His father bought this place February 22, 1899. Mr. Chard is a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and Percheron horses.

He is a member of the Angola Co-operative Shippers Association and was formerly identified with the Valley Shippers Association. He is also active in the Bate Farmers Club, composed of twelve families and holding social and business meetings once a month. He has served as chairman of the club. In politics he is a republican and is a member of the Christian Church.

December 31, 1909, Mr. Chard married Miss Pearl Beard, daughter of Gates and Louise Beard of Scott Township. They had two children: Esther, who died in infancy, and Robert Gates, born June 9, 1915.

ALBERT F. STRAW. The enterprise of the Straw brothers at Fremont is a reflection of the increasing interest paid to the dairy business in Steuben County. Straw brothers operate a model creamery and are also manufacturers of ice cream in large quantities, a delicious product that is distributed over many towns around Fremont.

The Straw family was one of the first to locate at the Village of Fremont, and three generations have lived there. The first generation was headed by Frederick Straw, who was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, June 9, 1811, a son of George and Elizabeth Straw. In 1832 Frederick married Catherine Wagner, who was born in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, in 1813. They came with their children to Indiana in the spring of 1856 and bought land just west of the present site of the depot at Fremont, which then contained only a store and a blacksmith shop. Frederick Straw cleared up most of his land from the heavy timber and improved a farm of 180 acres. His wife died June 17, 1871, and he passed away about 1891. He was a Jackson democrat until the republican party was formed, after which he was one of its firm adherents. Frederick Straw and wife were the parents of eight children.

One of them was Elias Straw, who was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, November 9, 1834, and was married there in 1855 to Catherine Baker. She was born in the same county in 1839, a daughter of Frederick Baker. Elias Straw came to Steuben County at the same time with his father and bought a tract of land in section 28. Later he bought another place and for many years was successfully identified with farming. He was a republican in politics, but his chief interest outside of his farm and family was the Evangelical Church. He organized a society of that denomination near his home, and was very attentive to his duties as a church man, being class leader for many years. He and his wife had the following children: William R.; John, who died at the age of thirteen; Albert F.; Granville E.; George W.; Augusta, who died at the age of two years; Harvey H.; and Herman, who is associated with his brother Albert in the creamery business as a member of the firm Straw Brothers.

Albert F. Straw was born in Fremont Township, January 6, 1861, and spent his boyhood days on a farm, attending the local public schools. For many years he has been a practical farmer and owns a place of 104 acres in Fremont Township, besides property in the village. In 1913 the Straw Brothers Creamery was built at Fremont, and since that time it has consumed a large part of the dairy products in that locality. The brothers are very enterprising business men and know their special line thoroughly.

Mr. Straw is a republican and a member of the Evangelical Church. In 1889 he married Mary Ackerman. She died in 1894, leaving no children. In 1899 he married Belle Wise, who died in 1902. Mr. Straw married for his present wife in 1904

Linnie Friday. They have three children, Arva, Virgil and Clifton.

**LEWIS A. KEESLAR.** While Mr. Keeslar for over thirty years has been identified with the farming and community interests of Steuben County, his home is still close to the locality of his birth, over the state line in the historic Gilead Township of Branch County, Michigan. He represents some of the old and prominent families of Southern Michigan, people who developed that region from a wilderness of swamps, woods and "oak openings."

Mr. Keeslar was born in Gilead Township, July 9, 1858, and is a son of William and Sally (Green) Keeslar. Peter Keeslar, his grandfather, was born in New York State in 1800 and died in 1887. He arrived in Gilead Township of Branch County in 1836, entering ninety acres of timbered land. He put all the buildings and other improvements on the farm and lived there until his death. His children were Joseph, Wiliam, George and Clarissa by his first wife and by a second marriage he had children named Charles, Daniel, John, Mary and Jennie.

On the maternal side Lewis A. Keeslar is related to an even older pioneer family of Gilead Township. His maternal grandfather was David Green, who married Maranda Chocker. Both the Greens and the Keeslars were remarkable for much of the development that has transformed a beautiful region of Southern Michigan into beautiful farms and homes. They lived in the same community where Bishop Chase, the first Episcopal bishop west of the Alleghany Mountains, had his home in old Gilead Township.

William Keeslar, who was born in New York State in 1827, and died February 15, 1912, spent many years as a farmer in Gilead, beginning with forty acres of wild land which he paid for by money earned at work by the month. The first forty acres he increased to the extent of 120 acres, and in 1874 left his farm and spent one winter in Coldwater and then moved to a farm near Burr Oak, where he remained nine years. In 1884 he bought 115 acres in Millgrove Township of Steuben County, Indiana, and lived there until his death. His wife, who was a native of Seneca County, New York, died July 8, 1900. Their children were five in number, two of whom died in infancy. Those to reach mature years were Louisa C., Lewis A. and Alfred R.

Lewis A. Keeslar acquired his early education in the public schools of Gilead Township, attended school in Coldwater one winter, and finished his education at Burr Oak. He has been farming in Millgrove Township for over thirty years, and made his first purchase of twenty acres in section 16 of that township in 1888. Gradually as a result of many years of toil and good management his property has grown until it now comprises 175 acres, ninety-five in Millgrove Township and eighty acres across the line in Gilead Township of his native county. It is divided into two farms, and on one of these Mr. Keeslar has erected practically all of the substantial buildings. In recent years the heavier responsibilities of managing these places have developed upon his two sons.

Mr. Keeslar married June 18, 1881, Miss Jennie D. Cross, daughter of Leonard and Asenath (Arnold) Cross. Their two sons are Glenn and Carl. Glenn married Janet Gillis and has three children, Orion, Evelyn and Duane. Carl married Bessie Berry, and their family consists of Donald, George, Helen and Ray.

**DEWITT EWERS,** who for a third of a century has been identified with the business of brick manufac-

ture and is manager of the Angola Brick & Tile Company, one of the largest industries of its kind in Northeast Indiana, is a native of Steuben County, and represents several of the oldest families established here, including the Stockers and Sowles.

He was born in Pleasant Township December 21, 1869, a son of Sylvester and Estella (Stocker) Ewers, who were also natives of Pleasant Township, the father born in 1845 and the mother in 1854. The paternal grandparents were James Benjamin and Harriet (Sowle) Ewers. Harriet Sowle was born January 7, 1814, and was one of a number of this family to become identified with the earliest pioneer development in Pleasant Township. James B. Ewers and wife were married in Ashland County, Ohio, and came to Steuben County in 1838. The Sowle ancestry goes back 700 years in English annals and to the year 1140 in France. James B. Ewers was a cooper by trade and died in 1872, at the age of sixty-two, while his widow survived him until 1898. Of their fifteen children only one is now living, Mrs. Melissa Dixon of Sparta, Wisconsin.

Mr. DeWitt Ewers' maternal grandparents were Leland Howard and Lucy (Mallory) Stocker, the former a native of Vermont. They were also among the early settlers of Steuben County.

Sylvester Ewers received a public school education and learned the trade of brick mason. In the '70s he also took up the manufacture of brick and in 1879 moved to Jamestown and in 1880 to Angola, where he started a brick yard, which was the primary industry now known as the Angola Brick & Tile Company. For a number of years he was associated with his brother Ora under the name Ewers brothers, brick manufacturers. He bought out his brother's interests in 1889 and continued the business until 1893, when it was incorporated as the Angola Brick & Tile Company. Sylvester Ewers owned three-sevenths of the stock in that corporation. He continued giving his time and attention to his business affairs until his death on July 9, 1910. He was a good business man and an equally good citizen and helped make the City of Angola what it is today. Politically he was a democrat and at one time was a greenbacker. He was affiliated with the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and was a member of the Christian Church. His widow is still living at Angola.

They had a family of nine children, named DeWitt, Eugene, James, John, Lucy, George, Maud, Mildred and Elizabeth. Three are now deceased, John, Lucy and Elizabeth.

DeWitt Ewers was educated in the schools of Angola, where he has spent most of his life. He attended the Angola High School, and finished the commercial course of the Tri-State Normal. For thirty-three years he has been connected with the brick and tile company and was an active associate with his father and uncle for seventeen years and since the incorporation of the company has been its manager.

Mr. Ewers is a prohibitionist in politics. He was a member of the first council of the City of Angola. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge and Knights of Pythias and of the Christian Church. In 1893 he married Miss Ida May Eckman, who was born in Whitley County, Indiana, daughter of George and Marion (Taylor) Eckman. She was only seven years old when her mother died, and her father afterward came to Steuben County and died at Metz, where Mrs. Ewers lived until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Ewers have two children. Leland, born August 31, 1894, was educated in the grammar and high schools of Angola and is now associated with his father and is also engaged in the coal business. Marion, born March 18, 1901, is a student



of the Angola High School. Mr. Ewers' nephew, Ralph Ewers, a son of his brother Eugene, is now serving in the One Hundred and Forty-Sixth Artillery with the Army of Occupation in Germany.

MAURICE C. LEMMON has been figuring as one of the leading men in the agricultural industry of Steuben County for over thirty years. He has a large farm in Steuben Township, his address being at Pleasant Lake. He is a native of that county, and his people have lived there for over three-quarters of a century.

Mr. Lemmon was born in Otsego Township November 9, 1862, a son of David Riley and Lorana (Tuttle) Lemmon. The grandparents, Maurice and Lucinda Lemmon, came to Steuben County in 1842 and acquired the farm which their son David Riley afterwards owned. Grandfather Maurice Lemmon died at the age of thirty-two and his wife at forty-eight. They had four children, Bert, David Riley, Brace and Clay. The mother of these children afterward married David Lemmon, a brother of her first husband, and by that union also had four children, Tina, Adhill, Mildred and Burr.

David Riley Lemmon was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, November 26, 1839, and was about three or four years old when his parents came to Steuben County. He grew up on the homestead, made a choice farm of it, and of the 160 acres he sold sixty-two and a half acres to his son Morton. He also owned forty acres in another place and still another tract of fifty-five acres. In politics he is a republican. His wife, Lorana Tuttle, was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, April 15, 1838, and they were married February 20, 1861. Her parents were Lemmon and Lora Tuttle. Mrs. David R. Lemmon died May 12, 1899, and a few years later her husband moved to Pleasant Lake, where he is now living retired. They had a family of nine children, all still living, named Maurice, Cora, Morton, Lora, Chaplin, Vira, Bessie, Ethel and Elsie.

Maurice C. Lemmon spent his early years on his father's farm and attended the district schools and the Pleasant Lake High School. He has given all his time and energies to farming since he was twenty-two years of age, and after renting for three years he bought in 1889 the place where he now lives, comprising 152 acres. Much of the land was rough and uncleared, and he has since put it into cultivation and has improved the farm with good buildings. Mr. Lemmon is a republican, but has never sought political office.

In 1884 he married Miss Anna Beecher, daughter of Truman and Statira (Brown) Beecher. Her mother died in 1901 and her father is now living at Hamilton. Mr. and Mrs. Lemmon have three children: Russell finished his education in the Pleasant Lake High School and died in 1906, at the age of twenty years. Bernice, who was educated in the Pleasant Lake High School, married Clarence Brooks, of Pleasant Lake, and they have two children, Alice Jean and Maurice George. The son Beecher also had a high school education, and on July 27, 1917, enlisted in the regular army, and served until granted an honorable discharge April 25, 1918. At the time of his discharge he was a sergeant in the quartermaster's corps.

TRUMAN A. BEECHER, one of the oldest residents and business men of Hamilton, Indiana, where he has lived more than sixty years, was born in Crawford County, Ohio, May 25, 1837, a son of Truman and Hannah (Sloane) Beecher. His father was

born at Litchfield, Connecticut, and his mother near Steubenville, Ohio, and they were married in the latter state in 1824. Truman Beecher and a partner built the first ten locks on the Ohio Canal at Akron, Ohio. Later he moved to Fredericksburg in Wayne County and also lived at Wooster, the county seat of that county. His business as a contractor took him to various localities. He also lived in Crawford County, and in 1845 brought his family to Franklin Township of DeKalb County, Indiana. He soon moved to Albion in Noble County, where his wife died in 1850. About that time he fitted up a company for the overland route to California, and while on the way west he took sick and died at Fort Laramie, Wyoming, when about sixty years of age. His children were John Sloane, Mary, Philemon, Henry and Truman A.

Mr. Beecher's maternal grandfather, John Sloane, was a distinguished figure in Ohio and national history. He was born in Pennsylvania in 1779 and at an early date moved to Ohio. During the War of 1812 he was a colonel of militia. He was a member of the Legislature in 1804-06, serving two years as speaker. He was United States receiver of public monies at Canton from 1808 to 1816, and at Wooster from 1816 to 1819. He represented his district in Congress from 1819 until 1829. He was a warm friend and admirer of Henry Clay, and at a time when the presidential election was decided by the House of Representatives in the contest between Adams, Clay and Crawford, he refused a high presidential appointment offered as a reward for his voting for Adams, and remained true to Clay. A warm friendship existed between him and the great Kentucky whig statesman. John Sloane was also clerk of the Court of Common Pleas seven years, secretary of the State of Ohio three years and was appointed United States treasurer and served from November, 1850, to April, 1853. He died at Wooster, Ohio, in May, 1856.

Truman A. Beecher was eight years old when his parents came to DeKalb County, Indiana. He attended public schools and after the death of his father and mother he returned to Wooster, Ohio, and lived with his distinguished grandfather, John Sloane. As a youth he learned the trade of tinner, and in 1858, on coming to Steuben County and locating at Hamilton, he opened a tinner's shop. He was in business steadily for over fifty years, until he retired in 1915. Mr. Beecher owns a good home in Hamilton. He has been a steadfast republican, his father having been an old-line whig. In religious views he is liberal. On May 4, 1862, he married Miss Statira Brown. She was born in Erie County, Ohio, in 1840, and died in 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Beecher had ten children, including several pairs of twins: Minnie; Anna, wife of Maurice Lemmon; Harriet Stowe; Nettie and an infant sister; William, whose twin died in infancy; Frank C. and Fannie C., twins; and James Garfield, who was born the day Garfield was elected president.

JOHN M. MOORE is one of the widely known citizens of Noble County, spent many years of his life as a practical farmer, but for the last twenty years has been in the sawmill and lumber business at Cromwell, and is now head of the M. Moore & Company, dealers in lumber and building material and coal.

Mr. Moore was born three miles southwest of Cromwell in Sparta Township, November 25, 1856, son of Joseph and Mary (Airgood) Moore. His father, a native of New Jersey, came West to Noble County, Indiana, at the age of sixteen, grew up and



married here, and then settled in section 19 of Sparta Township. Later he acquired a farm of 162 acres in Turkey Creek Township of Kosciusko County, and lived there until the death of his wife. He afterward married a second time, and spent his last years at Cromwell. By his first wife he was the father of nine children, two of whom died young. Those still living include: Emeline, widow of John S. Shock; Maria, wife of Allen Wright, of Syracuse, Indiana; Almina, wife of Charles Lowner, of Syracuse; Etta, wife of Rev. N. J. Myer, of Denver, Colorado; and Minnie, wife of William Grider, of Sparta Township.

John M. Moore attended the schools near his father's home and had the usual training and experience of an Indiana farm boy. He sought no particular interest or enterprise outside of farming until 1898, when he left the country and moved to Cromwell. Here he established and conducted a lumber yard and sawmill, and continued it as an individual business under his own name until January, 1914, when he associated his son-in-law with him. They carry a large stock and have taken pains to be in a position to supply every demand for building material and similar commodities required by their community.

Mr. Moore married Nettie Snyder. He had the misfortune to lose his wife in August, 1914. She was the mother of five children: Elvin C., a business man of Hartford City, Indiana; Ethel, wife of Calvin Seymour; Freeman C., who lives on the old farm; Hazel and Mabel, twins, the former the wife of Roy Eaton, and the latter the wife of Forest Heney, of Avilla, Indiana. On January 30, 1919, Mr. Moore married Minnie Bentz, of Turkey Creek Township, Kosciusko County. He is affiliated with the Masonic fraternity, the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a past grand and past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias. Politically he is a republican. Besides his chief business Mr. Moore is a stockholder in the Sparta State Bank.

**ARTHUR L. PEACHEY.** While Mr. Peachey's enterprise has been directed over a good farm in Fremont Township for a number of years, the original seat of the family in Steuben County was Otsego Township, where he was born and where his parents settled at a time not far removed from the earliest occupation.

Mr. Peachey was born October 19, 1861, a son of James and Sarah (Brown) Peachey. His parents were both natives of Cambridgeshire, England. Sarah Brown was a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Brown) Brown. Joseph Brown, accompanied by his family, including Mr. and Mrs. James Peachey, came from England to America in 1851. He located in Medina County, Ohio, and from there to 1857 moved to Otsego Township of Steuben County, where he spent the rest of his life. He had two daughters, named Rebecca and Sarah. James Peachey also located in Otsego Township in 1857, and was one of the capable farmers of that locality until his death on January 23, 1890. His widow survived him until March, 1910. They have four children, named Walter, Mary, Margaret and Arthur L.

Arthur L. Peachey acquired his early education in the district schools, attended the high school at Angola, and for nearly thirty years has found his efforts directed pleasantly and profitably along lines of agriculture. In the spring of 1892 he moved from Otsego to Scott Township, farmed there ten years, in 1902 returned to Otsego and in 1910 bought his present place in section 34 of Fremont Township.

Mr. Peachey is owner of 167 acres, well improved, two of the buildings having been erected under its present ownership, and all devoted to general farming and stock raising. Mr. Peachey is a breeder of blooded Shorthorn cattle. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Fremont.

In 1887 he married Inez McCurdy, daughter of Robert and Celinda (Mumma) McCurdy. They have two children, J. Carl and Achsa. Carl, who runs the home farm with his father, married Lena Stroh. Achsa is the wife of K. B. Mann.

**J. FRANK STANLEY** is a native of Green Township, Noble County, and during his long career there has concerned himself not only with the successful prosecution of his private business and affairs but also with many community enterprises. He is a former trustee of the township, and has always been active in politics. Mr. Stanley's home farm is the northwest quarter of the northeast quarter of section 21.

He was born in the same township April 7, 1849, and the Stanleys are one of the oldest families of that locality. His parents were H. C. and Sophronia (Beeson) Stanley. His father was born in Preble County, Ohio, January 24, 1818. His mother was born in Wayne County, Indiana, December 22, 1824. When H. C. Stanley was three years old his parents moved to Union County, Indiana, where he grew up. He and his wife were married in Wayne County, Indiana. The Beeson family came from North Carolina. H. C. Stanley after his marriage moved into the wilderness of Green Township, Noble County, establishing a farm in the northern part of the township. He lived there the rest of his life and was one of the really big men in the community. His material affairs prospered, including the ownership of 400 acres of good farm lands. He also served as county commissioner and three times represented his county in the Legislature. During the Civil war he lent all his influence and resources to the successful prosecution of the war against the rebellion. H. C. Stanley and wife had seven children to reach maturity and six are still living: J. Frank; May H., wife of Oro Barnum; M. D. Stanley, of Avilla; Alice, widow of Marshall Bonham; C. H. Stanley, of Albion; and Charles H., a farmer in Noble County.

J. Frank Stanley grew up on the home farm in the northern part of Green Township, and was well educated in the common schools and the schools of Albion. For several years he taught in his native county in addition to farming. He made his home with his parents until he was past the age of thirty.

In 1882 he established a home of his own by his marriage to Alma Prouty. She was born in Jefferson Township of Noble County and was educated in the common schools. She also taught. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stanley located on their present farm, known as the Fountain Farm, comprising 200 well cultivated acres. Here Mrs. Stanley died in 1886. None of her children are now living. In 1896 Mr. Stanley married Miss Clara Applegate. She was born in Noble County. They have two living children: Aubrey, a graduate of high school and now in Purdue University, joined the students aviation corps at Purdue. Hazel is a high school student. The family are members of the United Brethren Church at Green Center. Mr. Stanley is a staunch democrat. He served three times by election and twice by appointment as trustee of Green Township. He is a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank at Albion.

**MERLE C. NISONGER.** One of the younger men of the agricultural community of Scott Township,

Steuben County, Merle C. Nisonger has the progressive spirit of youth and has identified himself with the best interests of the community and with those organizations which represent the modern uplift in country life and agricultural enterprise.

He was born on the old Nisonger homestead in Scott Township June 7, 1885, a son of Jackson and Sarah Jane (Dygett) Nisonger. Jackson Nisonger was a native of Kosciusko County, Indiana, and his parents settled in early days in Scott Township, trading their Kosciusko County lands for 107 acres in Steuben County. Jackson Nisonger grew up on the farm, spent his life as an agriculturalist, and since his death his widow has become the wife of James E. Gifford, mentioned on other pages of this publication.

Merle C. Nisonger grew up on his father's farm, attended the district schools, and for two years was a student in the Angola High School. After leaving school he spent a year and a half traveling in Colorado, Oregon and California and other points in the West. With a new outlook and knowledge he returned to Steuben County and has since been busily engaged in farming. He bought eighty acres of the Cyrus Cole estate as the principal part of his farm, and has since added another twenty acres, giving him 100 acres for cultivation and management. He keeps a number of grade Holstein cattle and follows modern feeding methods, employing a silo, his silo being 10x40 feet. Since January 1, 1918, Mr. Nisonger has been secretary of the Angola Cooperative Shippers Association. He is a democrat, is affiliated with Angola Lodge No. 236, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and also the Odd Fellows Lodge at Angola.

February 16, 1910, he married Miss Dessa Morrison, of Angola, daughter of Irvin and Myrtle Morrison. To their marriage were born three children: Jackson M., Lyle T. and Lorin M.

ABRAM H. WEMPLE is one of the oldest and best known citizens of Noble County, and continuously for over half a century has lived on and worked out his prosperity on one farm. This farm home, which has so many associations for him and his family, is located in section 23 of Perry Township, a half mile north and three-quarters of a mile east of Ligonier.

He was born in Schenectady County, New York, October 8, 1841, son of John A. and Elizabeth (Strang) Wemple, both natives of New York State. His mother was born in New York City. After their marriage they came to Indiana in 1855, locating in Clear Spring Township of LaGrange County. They were farmers in that community, and were active members of the Reformed Church, of which John A. Wemple was a deacon and otherwise active. He was a democrat in political affiliations. Of ten children five are living: Abram H.; Angelica, widow of Bartlet Smith; James V., a farmer in Michigan; Elias C., who lives on a farm at Valentine in LaGrange County; and Elijah P., of Topeka, Indiana.

Abram H. Wemple was fourteen years old when his parents first came to LaGrange County. The following year his father returned to New York State, and it was not until the fall of 1859 that the family settled permanently in LaGrange County. Abraham therefore acquired his education partly in the public schools in LaGrange County. He lived at home until the age of twenty-four.

On December 28, 1865, he married Lavina Nelson. She was born in New York State, October 13, 1845, and was brought to Indiana at the age of two years,

her people being neighbors to the Wemples in LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Wemple lived for one year with her parents, but in 1867 came to the farm where they have had their home for over half a century. Mr. Wemple has not only kept up his own land and improvements but has witnessed a remarkable transformation in many ways that enhance the value and attractiveness of country life. He has a good farm of 120 acres, is a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company and the Co-operative Elevator in Ligonier, and is still managing his various business interests.

Mr. and Mrs. Wemple had four children: Charles N., who was educated in the common and high schools, is married and lives in Perry Township; Clarence E. finished his education in high school and lives in Ligonier; Cora L. was a student in the Ligonier High School and is the wife of Delano Oliver and has one daughter, Mildred, who is a graduate of high school; and Arvilla, who finished her education in the Ligonier High School and is the wife of Charles Straub, of Goshen. Mr. Wemple has three grandchildren. He and his family are members of the United Brethren Church at Ligonier, and he is one of its trustees. In politics he is a democrat.

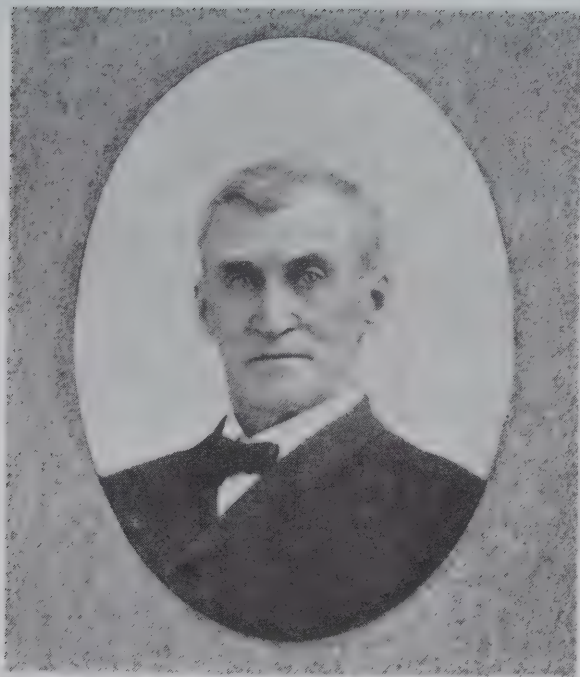
WILLIAM F. KRUEGER. A family that has for many years enjoyed the respect and esteem of a large community in Northeastern Indiana is that represented by William F. Krueger, who is one of the leading farmers in Salem Township of Steuben County, and is a son of the late Charles Henry Krueger.

Charles Henry Krueger was born in Germany April 5, 1835, and married there in 1859 Sophia Miller. She was born July 21, 1843. Immediately after their marriage they started for America, and after landing came west to Kendallville, Indiana. Charles H. Krueger had been coachman for a wealthy family in Germany, but after coming to America clerked in a drug store and later in a grocery store, and also operated a dray. He was always very fond of horses. In 1878 he moved to Steuben County and bought eighty acres of land, and by his industry cleared most of it and erected very substantial buildings, including a barn 66 by 30 feet. He lived there until his death on January 7, 1906. His widow is still living at the old homestead with her son William. Charles H. Krueger was a democrat in politics and a member of the Lutheran Church. He and his wife had the following children: Minnie, wife of Alfred Fisher; Henry, who died when twenty-one years old; Georgina, who is the wife of John Ahrens and has three children, named Iona, Milton and Jessie; William; Gusta, wife of Theodore Richards, and they have one child, Theodore. Mrs. Charles Krueger also has an adopted daughter, Augusta, a grandchild, daughter of her son Harmon. Harmon Krueger first married Pauline Keibel and Augusta is the only child of their union. For his second wife he married Bertha Fogus, and has two children, George and Helen.

William F. Krueger was born at Kendallville July 26, 1872, and since early childhood has lived on the home farm. He received his education in the public schools and is a high class farmer, one who takes pride in keeping improvements up to date. He is a raiser of Poland China and Berkshire hogs and Shropshire sheep. He built both the house and the barn and has made many other improvements. When the family came to this farm there was only a log house and a log barn, and much interesting transformation has gone on since Mr. Krueger







Amos Bowsher



Clara Bowsher

moved here. Mr. William F. Krueger is unmarried and makes his home with his mother. He is a democrat in politics and a member of the Lutheran Church.

AMOS BOWSHER, an honored veteran of the Civil war, whose two sons have done patriotic service for their country in the recent World war, is a native of Northeast Indiana, and for half a century has been actively identified with the Topeka community in LaGrange County. He was born in Perry Township of Noble County September 9, 1842, son of Boston and Sophia (Kuntz) Bowsher. His father was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, and his mother in Virginia. The Bowsher and Kuntz families were among the earliest settlers of Northern Indiana, the Bowshers locating near Ligonier in Noble County while the Kuntzes established their early home in Elkhart County. Boston Bowsher and wife after their marriage settled in Perry Township of Noble County, and spent the rest of their days on the farm. He was a democrat in politics. They were the parents of fourteen children, four of whom are still living: Amos; Cephas, a resident of Colorado; Mary, wife of Samuel Glant, of Topeka, Indiana; and Catherine, wife of Christ Slabaugh, of Perry Township, Noble County.

Amos Bowsher grew up on his father's farm in Noble County and had such advantages as were offered by the district schools of that day. He was about nineteen when the Civil war broke out, and on January 8, 1862, he enlisted in Company I of the Forty-eighth Indiana Infantry. He was in service over three years, and received a slight wound during the Vicksburg campaign. He held the rank of sergeant. After returning home he rented his father's farm for a time, and on February 18, 1867, married Miss Clara Poyser. She was born in Eden Township of LaGrange County August 11, 1850. Mrs. Bowsher owns in Eden Township 420 acres, the farm where she was born, also the home of her father and maternal grandfather, Senator John Thompson.

Mr. Bowsher still owns 120 acres of good farm land, but is practically retired from managing it. He owns local real estate in Topeka. He is a republican in politics and is past grand of Topeka Lodge No. 760, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also a member of the Masonic Order.

His two sons are William H. and Harley M. William H. graduated from the State Normal at Terre Haute. He is a mechanical engineer by profession, and during the World war was in the Engineers Corps with the rank of first lieutenant. He served in France six months and was wounded in action three times and gassed. He was at the Argonne Forest battle and in other engagements. He makes his home at Topeka. The other son is a graduate of high school, and is a jeweler by trade. During his army service he was assigned to duties with the Eleventh Cavalry Band at Washington, District of Columbia.

ISAAC SUTTON, a former sheriff of LaGrange County, is known all over Indiana as a horse man. On his farm and in his stables he has raised and trained some of the best road horses in the country and is an expert in every detail of staple management.

Mr. Sutton was born in Eden Township February 28, 1853, a son of David and Julia (Miller) Sutton, the former a native of Indiana and the latter of Ohio. His grandfather James Sutton was a native of England and came to the United States with six brothers, several of whom subsequently located in Indiana. David Sutton grew up in Allen County,

and after his marriage settled in Eden Township, where death overtook him in his labors at the age of thirty-nine. He and his wife had eight children, one of whom died in infancy, and the three still living are Marion, Isaac and David, all living near Topeka.

Isaac Sutton grew up on a farm which his grandmother Catherine Miller had entered from the government. He attended the common schools and spent one year in Valparaiso University. As a boy on his father's farm he took special interest in handling the horses, and he is still in the business of breeding and training road horses. He formerly owned "Jack Dillard," with a record of 2:11 $\frac{1}{4}$ ; Among his horses were "Barney M. Hart," with a record of 2:17 $\frac{3}{4}$ , "Bonnie B.," a dam of "Jack Dillard" and "Barney M." made a mark of 2:16 $\frac{1}{4}$ , and "Ed. H. Hart" 2:10 $\frac{1}{4}$ , son of "Barney M. Hart."

Mr. Sutton served as sheriff of LaGrange County from December 3, 1900, to January 1, 1905. He lived in the county seat during his term of office, but since then has been on his farm of 170 acres.

In September, 1879, he married Julia Roderick, a native of Eden Township, and they grew up together as children. Mr. and Mrs. Sutton have two children; Minnie, who attended high school and is the wife of Karl Ulmer of North Manchester, Indiana; and Guy, who married Beulah Barnes and lives in Topeka.

Mr. Sutton is a Past Grand of Haw Patch Lodge No. 760 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has been a member of the Grand Lodge, and he and his wife were formerly members of the Rebekahs. Politically he is a republican and was elected on that ticket to the office of sheriff.

RAY D. HOSACK is well known to the business community of Angola, where he is the leading musical instrument merchant. He has had a long and active experience in this line of business, and the family tastes largely run along the line of music.

He was born in Defiance County, Ohio, November 12, 1892. His grandfather was a native of New York State and when quite young moved to Ohio, owning a farm there, and was also a partner in the Matchlin Machine Works. He died in Ohio. Ray Hosack's father is a native Ohioan, was reared and educated there, studying music, and nearly all his active life has been a teacher of music. He travels much in quartet work, has done much singing to aid evangelists, and is now proprietor of a musical instrument store at Edgerton, Ohio. He also has a 100-acre farm near that town. He is a republican and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Ray D. Hosack secured his education in the grammar and high schools of Ohio, had a normal training, and for one year attended Dana's Musical Institute. He was for several years employed as salesman of musical instruments and for one year worked in a piano factory in New York City. Mr. Hosack came to Angola in 1916 and engaged in the music business, and the following year bought the Conklin Music Store, which is one of the chief centers for the trade in musical instrument supplies in Steuben County.

April 20, 1918, Mr. Hosack married Miss Blanche Baker, a daughter of Frank W. Baker, a prominent farmer and member of an old family of Steuben County. Mrs. Hosack was born in 1895.

ANDERSON GALLOWAY, a retired farmer living at Cromwell, has had a long and notable experience during his lifetime of nearly eighty years. He is



one of the oldest native sons of Noble County, having been born in Washington Township, March 14, 1840.

His parents were Joseph and Frances (Town) Galloway, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Vermont. This was his father's second marriage. His father first married in Ohio, and coming to Indiana located on Rolling Prairie and entered Noble County as a pioneer in 1837, settling in Washington Township, where he spent the rest of his life. He was always prominent in politics, first as a whig and later as a republican. He and his wife Frances had seven children, five of whom are still living: Anderson; Catherine, widow of James Reed; Martha, widow of Abraham Hines; Scott, of Wolf Lake; and Frances, widow of Frank Eaton.

Anderson Galloway spent his boyhood days in the pioneer environment of Washington Township, and had opportunities to attend school only during the winter sessions. At the age of eighteen he started out to make his own way in the world. For a time he lived in Illinois, working at wages of \$11 a month, then went to Missouri and got an advance of wages to \$15 a month, and for one summer was employed on a Mississippi River steamboat. He adventured further West to the gold mines of Denver, and remained in those diggings for a year and a half, and was more fortunate than most prospectors, since he returned with more than he took with him.

Returning to Noble County in 1861, Mr. Galloway, after the death of his father in 1863, enlisted in Company C of the Thirtieth Indiana Infantry. He saw much of the hard fighting of the war during the time he was in the army. He participated in the Atlanta campaign under Sherman, and after the fall of that Confederate stronghold he went back to Tennessee under General Thomas in pursuit of General Hood to Nashville. He received his final discharge in Texas.

After his return home on February 8, 1866, he married Harriet Miller. She was born in Sparta Township of Noble County and has lived in that locality all her life. After their marriage they moved to a farm in the southern part of the township and lived there until 1901, when they retired to Cromwell. Mr. Galloway still owns 274 acres of land in Noble County. He became affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Ligonier in 1863, and upon the organization of Cromwell Lodge No. 705, became a charter member. He has always been active as a republican, and he was one of the Township Advisory Board for Sparta from the time the law was passed establishing that board for sixteen consecutive years. Mrs. Galloway is a member of the Lutheran Church.

They have six living children: Gross, a farmer in Sparta Township; Clara, wife of Theodore Wright, of Sparta; Etta, wife of William R. Wright, of Cromwell; Orda, a dentist at Angola; Ora, wife of William Hinman, of Cromwell; and Oakley, of Detroit.

EUGENE F. WEICHT has accumulated a great deal of experience since boyhood, and largely dependent upon his own resources and abilities has achieved a prosperity as a farmer which classes him with the very first and best of that profession in Salem Township of Steuben County.

He was born in that township April 15, 1857, a son of Fred and Susan (McEntarfer) Weicht. His father was born in Germany in 1818 and his mother in Pennsylvania in 1839. Fred Weicht came to America with his parents at the age of twelve years. They were a pioneer family in Salem Township of Steuben County. Fred was the oldest of seven chil-

dren, the others being William, Leopold, Charles, Ernest (who died in infancy), Christiana and Louisa. Grandfather Weicht acquired 120 acres of government land in Steuben county, and the same tract, greatly improved, was afterward owned by Fred Weicht. Fred Weicht died in 1865, and his widow survived him until 1910. Fred Weicht was a physician by profession and gave much of his time to practice in the early days. He and his wife had five children: Julius, Elizabeth, Adaline, Eugene and Ida.

As a boy on the home farm in Salem Township Eugene F. Weicht acquired his education in the public schools and also attended the Angola High School. He was only eight years old when his father died, and as there was no one to help him particularly he early learned to help himself. For about two years he followed the trade of carpenter. As a farmer he rented land, and later bought forty acres where he still lives. Subsequently he added seventy-nine acres and afterward ninety acres, and is now owner of a fine body of land comprising 209 acres. He uses this for raising the staple crops of the vicinity and also keeps a herd of pure bred Poland China hogs. He is an extensive cattle feeder.

Mr. Weicht is a democrat in politics. In 1886 he married Miss Effie Silvey, daughter of Benjamin and Magdalena (Sutterlin) Silvey. Her parents were among the early settlers of Salem Township and her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Weicht have two children. Vern, born October 30, 1889, was educated in the district schools and the Angola High School, also attended Tri-State Normal College, and on November 26, 1915, married Miss Mildred Leas, a daughter of Marvin Leas of Salem Township. They have a daughter, June Catherine. Carmah, the second child of Mr. and Mrs. Weicht, was born January 9, 1891, is a graduate of the Pleasant Lake High School and the wife of Asa Glago. Mr. and Mrs. Glago have two children, Madalena and Carroll.

JOHN HEADLEY. From the years of early manhood until his death in 1914. John Headley was a citizen of York Township in Steuben County upon whom his neighbors could depend, when the community needed the support of all its public spirited citizens. He lived a long life, was prospered in his material affairs, and left a name untarnished to his descendants.

He was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, September 9, 1828, a son of Reuben and Louisa Headley, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Virginia. The family came to Steuben County in 1849, settling in section 16 of York Township, where Reuben Headley died in 1860, at the age of sixty-six. His widow survived and passed away February 12, 1892. Their children to reach mature years were John, Hannah, Nancy, Mary, Wheeling, Joseph, Reuben, Sarah Jane, Emma, Louisa and Charles.

John Headley was just about twenty-one years old when he came to Steuben County. In the same year he bought thirty-six acres of land in section 16 and deeded it to his mother. In 1851 he bought forty acres for himself in the same section, and there started to clear the land and make a home, and in the later years of his life he had the satisfaction of seeing his efforts rewarded in a farm that was a conspicuously attractive part of the landscape. He at one time owned 280 acres in his home farm, and at the time of his death had 200 acres. He was very successful in handling stock and usually kept his farm supplied with some of the best cattle and horses in the county. He was a loyal republican in



politics, and for twenty-one years was road supervisor.

November 9, 1853, he married Susan Hubbell. She was born in New York State July 13, 1833, and died April 11, 1882. She was the mother of five children: Edwin E., Edgar, Minard, Cary, who died at the age of six years, and Mordant, who died in infancy.

June 24, 1883, Mr. Headley married Harriett Hood. She was born in DeKalb County March 23, 1860. She is still living on the home farm in York Township. She was the mother of four children: Alma, born April 20, 1886, and died September 15, 1886; Harmon, born March 6, 1892, had a public school education and is a farmer living at home with his mother; Nora B., born August 2, 1894, now the wife of Lawrence Dick, of York Township, and she has two children, named Winona and Alene; and John, born July 9, 1900, finished the common schools and lives on the home farm.

EVERINGTON F. BEERS. A farm widely known as one of the notable old homesteads of Steuben County is the Walnut Dale Farm in Jackson Township, the present proprietors of which are Mr. and Mrs. Everington F. Beers. They and their families have been factors in the early settlement and the later development of Steuben County for three quarters of a century.

Mr. Beers was born in Jamestown Township August 30, 1847, son of Bradford and Amanda (Bement) Beers, both natives of New York. His parents were married in that state and came to Steuben County in 1845. His father bought eighty acres in Jamestown Township, and on selling that acquired forty acres in Jackson Township. The last fifteen years of his life he lived with his son Everington and died in 1893, at the age of seventy-three. The mother of Mr. Beers died in 1857, aged thirty-one. Bradford Beers was a democrat, and as a pioneer lived in a log house when he first came to Steuben County. He and his wife had five children: Eleanor; Harriet, deceased; Everington F.; Imogene, deceased; and Mortimer. The father married for his second wife Burnett Whaley, and their three children were Ida, George and Nora, both daughters now deceased.

Everington F. Beers grew up on his father's farm and had a public school education. Until he retired he was an active farmer for nearly fifty years, and the first place he owned was eighty acres on Jackson Prairie in the Township of that name. He lived there seventeen years and in 1904 moved to his present home, the old Darius Sams place, formerly owned by Mrs. Beers' father. He lived there as a renter for twelve years before he bought. Mr. and Mrs. Beers have 126 acres in their home place and have added many improvements to it during their ownership. Mr. Beers now rents his farm and is practically retired.

He is one of the men who has lived to see early hopes realized in the success of the prohibition cause. When he cast his first vote on the prohibition ticket in Jackson Township he was the only man to support that ticket and he gave his modest advocacy to the cause alone in that locality for several years. He is a member of the Methodist Church.

February 25, 1874, Mr. Beers married Miss Effie Sams. She was born on the place where she now lives February 25, 1854, a daughter of Darius and Phoebe (Lounsbury) Sams. Her father was born in Ohio in 1829 and her mother in New York State in 1831. Darius Sams was a son of David and Elizabeth (Baker) Sams and they were among the earliest settlers of Steuben County, coming in 1835

and locating on a farm south of the Jackson Prairie cemetery. At that time David Sams acquired forty acres and afterward by entry and purchase became one of the extensive land owners in the county. He died on the old homestead in April, 1874, at the age of seventy-three, while his wife passed away in 1888, aged eighty-eight. They had the following children: Mary Jane, Peter, Daniel, Darius, Sarah Ann, Abdilla, Amasa and Henry, the only one now living being Henry.

Darius Sams, father of Mrs. Beers, had a good education, attending the Academy at Ontario and the Methodist College at Fort Wayne. After school days he spent his active career as a farmer and bought the 126 acres where Mr. and Mrs. Beers now live, and that was his home for fifty-three years. He also owned a place of 120 acres a mile and a half south and later bought forty acres of his father's old home. Darius Sams died in 1915, at the age of eighty-six, having spent practically eighty years in Steuben County. His wife died April 21, 1907, aged seventy-eight.

Mrs. Beers was the only child of her parents, though her mother by a previous marriage, to Daniel Sams, brother of her second husband, had a son, Daniel. Mrs. Beers was educated in the public schools, the Orland Academy and the Angola High School. Mr. and Mrs. Beers have two sons. Hugh, born April 8, 1880, was educated in the Orland High School and as a farmer rents his father's place on Jackson Prairie, comprising 120 acres, including forty acres where the grandparents of Mrs. Beers began keeping house in the pioneer times. Hugh Beers married Anna Nichols, and their three sons are Bruce, Henry and Homer. Mrs. Hugh Beers died in January, 1917, and he married for his second wife Flora White. Harry Beers, the second son, was born January 29, 1888. He also completed a high school course at Orland, and is owner of 120 acres of the old John Parker farm. He married Versa Watters, and has one daughter, Helen.

JAMES M. FURNISH. One of the farms in Jackson Township of DeKalb County longest in the possession of one family is that owned by James M. Furnish on the county line between Allen and DeKalb counties. Mr. Furnish himself has gathered crops from that land for over forty years, and his father before him developed and farmed it.

James M. Furnish was born in Ashland County, Ohio, January 26, 1849, a son of David and Mary C. (Davis) Furnish. His father was born in Suffolk, England, in 1805, and came to the United States when about twenty-eight or thirty years of age. He lived in Boston for several years, married in that city, and then moved to Ashland County, Ohio. His home was in Ashland County for seventeen years. He supported his family by common labor and also by farming. After selling his twenty-five acres of land in Ashland County he moved to DeKalb County and bought eighty acres where his son James now lives. He remained there the rest of his life and owing to an injury spent several years almost helpless. James M. Furnish carefully looked after his parents in their declining years and was their mainstay and support during their last years. Both were active in the Lutheran Church and his father was a republican. Of their family of eleven children only four are now living: Abraham, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Margaret J., wife of David Hollabaugh; James M.; and Martha.

James M. Furnish grew up on the home farm and was educated in the common schools. He worked for his father and took charge of the farm for a number of years and after his father's death he bought the old homestead. He does general farm-

ing. Mr. Furnish is a republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran Church.

May 13, 1880, he married Ida Steward. She was a native of DeKalb County and was educated in the common schools. They have three children: Ralph, a farmer living with his father; Sudia, wife of Melvin Howey of DeKalb County; David, who is married and lives at Detroit, Michigan, where he is working with the Ford Automobile Works.

JOHN A. BARNES. Steuben County received its first permanent settlers during the decade of the '30s, and it is rather unusual to find a family established here through four generations and with such an honorable record as farmers, good citizens and vigilant members of the community as that belonging to the Barnes connection. One of the representatives in the fourth generation is John A. Barnes, a young and progressive farmer of York Township.

The first of the family in this county was his great-grandfather, Cowee Barnes, who was born June 21, 1788. September 5, 1809, he married Bridget Howard, who was born May 10, 1791. Cowee Barnes came to Steuben County in 1836. He was one of the settlers of that year in York Township. The first recorded settlers in the township arrived in 1836. Cowee Barnes entered 120 acres of wild land from the government, and before his death, which occurred in 1855, had cleared up most of it and put it into cultivation and improved with good buildings. The wife of Cowee Barnes died August 31, 1856. They had a family of ten children, a brief record of whom is as follows: George, born August 10, 1810; Betsie, born July 6, 1812; Hannah, born July 6, 1814; Edward, born April 8, 1817; Ira, born June 28, 1819; Cyrus, born April 11, 1822; Abigail, born March 28, 1825; Abel M., born February 15, 1827; John, born June 23, 1829; and Cecilia, born July 31, 1832.

Of this family the next to the youngest, John Barnes, who as noted was born in 1829, was born in Delaware County, New York, and was seven years old when his parents came to Steuben County. He grew up in York Township and lived practically all his life on one farm, where his death occurred June 20, 1914. He married September 27, 1855, Julia Handley, who was born in Crawford County, Ohio, in 1838, and died February 6, 1906. They were the parents of three children: Alverda Lucinda, born June 11, 1859, and died August 20, 1861; Albert E., born July 11, 1862, and died June 13, 1917; and Howard, born January 2, 1870.

Albert E. Barnes acquired his early education in the district schools of York Township, and had a varied career as a farmer, beginning in York Township, living on rented farms in Fremont and Clear Lake townships, and finally retiring to the old homestead in sections 12 and 13 of York Township, where he spent the rest of his life. Success attended his efforts and he owned 180 acres and most of the buildings still found on the farm were placed there under his direction. He married October 15, 1885, Cora E. Hemry, born April 1, 1867, a daughter of John Hemry, and of their two children the older, Vena, died February 20, 1888, at the age of eleven months.

John A. Barnes was born while his parents were living in Fremont Township, May 5, 1890. He acquired his education in York Township, took a business course in the Tri-State Normal at Angola, and succeeded his father in the ownership and responsibility of the large farm of 180 acres in sections 12 and 13. He does general farming and is

a breeder of Duroc hogs. Mr. Barnes is affiliated with Steuben Lodge No. 231 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

December 21, 1912, he married Miss Dorothy Worthington, born March 24, 1894, daughter of William and Nettie Blanche Worthington, of Argus. They have two daughters, Cora Lucile, born December 21, 1914, and Maxine, born April 25, 1919.

WILLIAM R. WRIGHT, a member of a well-known family in Noble County, grew up and spent his boyhood on a farm, but for many years has been identified with commercial pursuits at Cromwell, where he is now the leading hardware merchant.

He was born in Sparta Township, December 21, 1869, son of Alexander and Margaret (Hull) Wright, and was the second oldest in their family. His parents were both natives of Ohio. William R. Wright, after getting his education, left home to make his own way in the world and for several years did farm work. He laid the foundation of his business career at Cromwell as clerk in a general store. He was employed by others for thirteen years, but since February 1, 1909, has been proprietor of the hardware store and is one of the most successful merchants in that section of Noble County.

Mr. Wright married Etta Galloway, a daughter of Anderson Galloway, a well-known Noble County citizen, elsewhere referred to in this publication. Mr. and Mrs. Wright have two children. Stanley A., born March 20, 1895, is a graduate of the Cromwell High School and is married. On June 1, 1918, he enlisted in the navy and after a period of training at the Great Lakes was put on active duty, and during a portion of the war was stationed at Queens-town, Ireland. The daughter, Velma, is a graduate of the Cromwell High School, and is a proficient young business woman, being bookkeeper in the Sparta State Bank.

Mr. Wright has served for the past eight years as town treasurer of Cromwell. He is a republican, is past chancellor of Cromwell Lodge No. 408, Knights of Pythias, is past noble grand of his Lodge of Odd Fellows, and is also active in Masonry, being affiliated with Fort Wayne Consistory of the Scottish Rite.

ABIJAH D. EMERSON, who recently left his farm in Salem Township to enter into a meat market business at Kendallville, has spent his life in Steuben County and is member of an old and historic family. On other pages of this publication is traced the interesting story of his grandfather, Avery Emerson, and other members of the family.

Abijah D. Emerson was born on the old homestead in Salem Township November 6, 1873, a son of Avery and Elizabeth (Parsell) Emerson. He acquired his education in the public schools, finishing the eighth grade, and since school days has been identified with farming. He now owns 127.84 acres of the old homestead, and has his land devoted to general farming and stock raising. He has made a specialty for some years of breeding road horses. He left the farm in the fall of 1918 and moved to Kendallville. He has a great many friends and is regarded as a man of ability in whatever line he undertakes.

In politics he is independent and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America, while he and his wife are active in the Presbyterian Church.

In 1895 he married Miss Clara Spears, a daughter of John and Emily A. (Helmer) Spears of Steuben







*R. L. Wade, M.D.*

County. Mrs. Emerson died May 5, 1912, the mother of six children: Mabel, wife of Samuel Greeno, who occupies the Emerson home farm; Ned, who married Valta Garver and has a son, Lee; Emily, wife of Wayne Sherrick and the mother of one son, Ned; Gladys, Anna and Abijah D., Jr., all members of the home circle. On September 7, 1918, Mr. Emerson married Miss Zola Hamlin, a daughter of Albert and Clara Hamlin of Wolcottville.

GEORGE M. EMERSON, a son of Avery Emerson and a brother of A. D. Emerson of Kendallville, was born on the old Emerson homestead in Salem Township of Steuben County July 17, 1868.

He grew up there, acquiring his education in the local district schools, and for thirty years has followed farming and stock raising as his business. He owns a farm of sixty-four acres, originally a part of the old Emerson homestead. Mr. Emerson is a democrat, but has aspired to no political office. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has been an active member of the lodge for twenty-five years and also belongs to the Encampment and to the Gleaners. Mrs. Emerson is a member of the United Presbyterian Church.

April 30, 1896, he married Miss Ona Cleveland. She was born at Flint in Jackson Township October 19, 1871, a daughter of George and Nancy Cleveland. Her father died in June, 1909, at the age of sixty-seven, and her mother is still living aged seventy-four. Mr. and Mrs. Emerson have three children: George Cary, born January 1, 1901, graduated from the Salem Center High School in 1918, and Elizabeth Nancy, born February 7, 1907, and Mildred Arvilla, born in August, 1908, both of whom are still diligently pursuing their studies in the common schools.

CHARLES C. WEINGART has been a factor in the business and civic life of Noble County for a long period of years. He was for two terms postmaster of Kendallville, and since leaving that office has been a successful merchant. He gained his first business experience as clerk in the store of John Deibele. He worked for that one man twenty years and three months, and for the last ten years was manager of the hardware and general contracting department. In 1906 Mr. Weingart was elected a councilman at large and carefully looked after the interests of the city during his term. On August 22, 1907, he was appointed postmaster by President Roosevelt and reappointed by President Taft December 30, 1911, serving altogether eight years and eleven months.

In February, 1916, Mr. Weingart entered a partnership with Carl F. Mabus under the name of Weingart & Mabus, dealing in men's furnishing goods. They established their store near the Noble County Bank and in 1917 bought the Toggery store. Mr. Weingart now gives his personal attention to this business.

Fraternally he is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge No. 276, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Mr. Weingart is a member and trustee of the Christian Church, and in politics is a republican.

ROBERT L. WADE, M. D. Numbered among the successful physicians of Steuben County, Doctor Wade has been in practice at Fremont since 1907, and has given that community not only the benefit of his individual services but has extended the range of his work by founding at Fremont a private hospital.

Doctor Wade is a self-made man and earned most of the money which took him through medical school. He was born in Springfield Township of LaGrange County, Indiana, March 18, 1877, a son of Henry M.

and Christiana (Lupton) Wade. He spent his boyhood days on his father's farm in Springfield Township and attended the district schools there. Later he finished the teacher's course in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, and it was his work as a teacher, carried on for six years in his native township in LaGrange County, that enabled him to enter and complete his work in the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago. He graduated in 1907, and in the same year located at Fremont, where he has had a very successful practice. In 1914 he built a modern brick hospital at the corner of Toledo and Pleasant streets, in which his office is located. He also owns a comfortable residence on East Toledo Street. He is a member of the County, State and American Medical associations. Doctor Wade has prospered and has acquired considerable property, and was one of the organizers of the First State Bank, which bought the Bank of Fremont. He has been on the Board of Directors since the organization.

Doctor Wade is a republican, has served as a member of the City Council, School Board and the Advisory Township Board, and is affiliated with North-east Lodge No. 210, Free and Accepted Masons, Fremont Chapter No. 68, Royal Arch Masons, and Fremont Lodge, Knights of Pythias. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.

In 1898 he married Miss Lura Talmage, only child of Charles E. and Emma (Joyce) Talmage, of Springfield Township, LaGrange County. Doctor and Mrs. Wade have three daughters: Mildred Joyce, born in December, 1898, is a graduate of the Fremont High School with the class of 1917 and now assists her father in his office; Wilma, born in 1901 is a senior in the Fremont High School; and Bessie, born in 1902, is a junior in the high school.

JOHN JAMES OBERLIN, who for many years was a business man at Hamilton and is still living in a comfortable home in that village, while looking after his property interests, is a member of a family of early settlers in DeKalb County, where the name is represented by several distinct branches.

John James Oberlin was born in Franklin Township of that county June 4, 1860, a son of Frederick D. and Sarah (Dirrim) Oberlin, and a grandson of the pioneer John Oberlin, who in 1845 came to DeKalb County and settled on the northwest quarter of section 28 in Franklin Township. He conducted a tannery in that locality for a number of years.

Frederick D. Oberlin was born in Stark County, Ohio, February 5, 1830, and was fifteen years old when his father came to DeKalb County. He had many pioneer experiences and from an early age chose to be dependent largely upon his own efforts for self-support. In 1850 he bought forty acres of land for the sum of \$300, and at the same time began work at the carpenter's trade, his employer paying him \$10 a month for five years. In the course of time he had a large and well-appointed farm of 160 acres, and improved it with good house and buildings. He also lived in the Village of Hamilton for some years, and died there in 1912, at the age of eighty-two years, six months and sixteen days. In politics he was a republican, and he served as township trustee two years and three years as county commissioner. During the Civil war he was a member of Company G of the Fifty-Third Indiana Infantry, and participated in the battle of Kinston, North Carolina. He was affiliated with the Christian Church. February 12, He and his wife were Methodists and later became



affiliated with the Chrisitan Church. February 12, 1854, Frederick D. Oberlin married Sarah Dirrim, daughter of James Dirrim, another prominent early family in Northeastern Indiana. She was born in Carroll County, Ohio, January 25, 1836, and died at the home of her son John James, November 11, 1915, aged seventy-nine years, nine months and sixteen days. They were the parents of six children, and three are still living: Cyrus C., John James and Isaac Charles.

John James Oberlin grew up on the homestead farm, had the benefit of the common schools, and through his industry as a farmer acquired a place of eighty acres in Franklin Township a half mile south of the Village of Hamilton. In 1892 he moved into Hamilton and for twenty years was in the livery business. Since then he has been looking after his farm and other interests, and enjoys the comforts of one of the best homes in Hamilton. Mr. Oberlin is a republican in politics and his family attend the Christian Church. In 1885 he married Miss Lenora Margaret Fifer. She was born in Steuben County in 1867, a daughter of Lewis and Martha (Harpham) Fifer, early settlers of Steuben County. Mr. and Mrs. Oberlin have three children. Lula, who is the wife of Glen Gnagy, of the well-known Gnagy family of Steuben County. Glen Gnagy was in the war, serving at the Great Lakes Naval Training Station. Roscoe Conkling Oberlin, the second child, lives at Hamilton and married Pearl Cecil Gear. Basil Jesse, the youngest, is managing his father's farm. He married Mertie Lemon, of Steuben County.

JOHN REIDENBACH has been a resident of Noble County, Indiana, over sixty years, since birth, has been identified with farming in Elkhart Township forty years, and in material affairs as well as in good citizenship has well earned the place of prosperity and esteem he enjoys. Mr. Reidenbach and family reside in section 34 of Elkhart Township.

He was born in the same township, June 3, 1857, son of Philip and Catherine (Comin) Reidenbach. His father, who was born in Germany in 1820, came to America in 1840 and lived for several years in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. He married there Catherine Comin, who is also a native of Germany and had come to the United States at the age of twenty and settled in Tuscarawas County. In 1844 Philip Reidenbach moved to Indiana, settling in the woods of Elkhart Township of Noble County. He and his wife spent the rest of their days there, and were long known as people of solid industry and true worth. They were members of the German Methodist Church and the father was a democrat. In their family were nine children, and the following are still living: Christine, widow of William Miller; Malinda, wife of John Koch; Mrs. Elizabeth Koch; John; Philip, a farmer in Elkhart Township; and Mary, widow of Charles Ramer.

John Reidenbach grew up on the old farm, and the first school he attended was kept in a log school-house. Later he was a student in the frame school-house, and he made the best possible use of his opportunities to acquire an education. At the age of twenty-one he married Emma Monk, who died with her only child. He married for his present wife Louise Schmidt, of Wayne County, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Reidenbach have the following children: George, a graduate of the common schools, married Helen Kirkpatrick; Ella, who completed a high school course, is the wife of Rudy Gill; Cora, who also had a high school education, is the wife of Oscar Yoder; Brady, a high school graduate, mar-

ried Marie Stiffner; Roy, a high school graduate, served as a first sergeant with the American Expeditionary Forces in France; and Florence, who is a graduate of high school and is still at home.

Mr. Reidenbach for many years has given his labors to the business of farming and stock raising on his place of 142 acres. He is also one of the directors of the Farmers State Bank of Wawaka. In politics he is a democrat, has served as supervisor of his township, and is a past chancellor and past member of the Grand Lodge of Wawaka Lodge No. 432, Knights of Pythias. He and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he is a trustee and steward.

SILAS C. COOK is owner of one of the farms that have a history in Noble County. Most of it was acquired in a condition of absolute rawness fully sixty years ago by his father. In buildings, general improvements and productivity the Norwood Farm, as it is known, is recognized far and near as one of the best farm estates in the county. It comprises 220 acres, and lies in the southwest quarter of section 19, the northeast quarter of the northwest quarter of section 30, and twenty acres in Noble Township.

It was on this farm that Silas C. Cook, its present proprietor, was born December 26, 1867. He is a son of Jonas and Elizabeth (Zigler) Cook. Jonas Cook was born in Carroll County, Maryland, December 10, 1827, son of Baltzer and Elizabeth (Faulkner) Cook, both of German ancestry. Baltzer Cook and wife were also born in Maryland. He was a farmer by occupation. In 1830 he moved to Montgomery County, Ohio, and he and his wife spent the rest of their days there. Jonas Cook was only three years old when taken to Ohio. As a boy he lived on the farm and attended country schools. At the age of nineteen he began an apprenticeship at the carpenter's trade, and followed that as a business with marked success for fifteen years. It was with his savings and modest capital derived from his mechanical skill that he came to Noble County in 1859 and bought 120 acres now included in the Norwood Farm. It was a big task he set himself to make a farm out of a portion of the primeval wilderness. But he steadily persevered and saw all his affairs prosper and increase. He bought other land until he owned 220 acres. On that farm he died in honored old age in February, 1907, and his wife passed away June 4, 1905. He and Elizabeth Zigler were married in 1849. Silas C. Cook is the only one living of their three children. The daughter, Letitia, was married to E. C. Oldwine, and the son Granville married Alta Smith.

Jonas Cook in the fall of 1864 enlisted in Company C of the Thirteenth Indiana Infantry, and was in the Union army about a year, receiving his honorable discharge and returning home in the fall of 1865. He saw some active service during the siege of Richmond, was also at Fort Fisher and at Bentonville, where the last important battle of the war occurred. He was a loyal republican in politics and one of the leading members of the Dunkard Church in his community.

Silas C. Cook grew up on the old farm in Green Township, and besides the advantages of the common schools attended Normal School at Albion and Valparaiso. Besides helping his father on the farm he taught school and was engaged in that profession altogether for about fifteen years.

In 1891 Mr. Cook married Miss Emma Garber, who was born near Webster Lake in Indiana. After their marriage they located on the home farm, and have lived there continuously except for two and a half years in North Webster.



Mr. and Mrs. Cook are the parents of three talented daughters: Elsie, a high school graduate and a former teacher, is now in the adjutant general's office at Washington, D. C. Mildred, also a graduate of high school and a former teacher, is now connected with the Gospel Trumpet Company at Anderson, Indiana. The youngest daughter, Elizabeth, is still a student in high school. Mr. Cook is an active republican and has served as committeeman of Green Township.

GEORGE PERRY is one of the most interesting citizens and personalities in Noble County, particularly in the community of Swan Township where he has spent all his life, a period of four-score years. The Perrys are one of the oldest and most respected families of Noble County.

The farm he now owns and occupies was the birthplace of George Perry. He was born there March 21, 1839. When he first looked out upon the world with conscious eyes he saw practically the same scenes and environment which the earliest pioneers had encountered. He has witnessed every change and process in the making of Northeast Indiana what it is today. In that progress and development his own part has not been without honor and importance.

His parents were Oliver L. and Mary (Francis) Perry, the former a native of New York State and the latter of Connecticut. After they married they bought forty acres of land in New York State. A brief residence upon it convinced him that it was practically worthless, and he soon disposed of it for much less than he paid and invested the remaining capital in four yoke of oxen and two wagons. In this manner he started westward. He journeyed through Canada, on to Michigan, and purposed to locate at Coldwater in the southern part of the state. All the good land had been taken up in and around Coldwater. News came to him of the construction of the canal from Fort Wayne connecting the waters of the Wabash Valley. He set out for this locality, which he deemed a region of new opportunity. On the way he crossed section 36 of Swan Township in Noble County. At that point his wife broke down with discouragement and weariness and persuaded him to stop. He therefore entered 320 acres in section 36 and in that way was established the Perry family in Noble County, where they have been located for over eight years. Oliver Perry and wife spent the rest of their days on the old homestead and during his lifetime fully 200 acres of it was cleared up and made useful for agriculture. He was a man of splendid integrity, a fine type of pioneer, and died at the age of fifty-six. He was a democrat in politics. His widow survived him some years. Of eight children only three are now living: George; Irene, wife of David Fair of Hometown; and J. Frederick, whose home is in Allen County, Indiana.

George Perry had no really good schools to attend as a boy and part of his education was acquired in the old-fashioned subscription schools. As soon as his strength permitted he worked with his father in clearing up the land, and at the age of twenty-one hired out to his father by the month. Later he remained with his mother on the farm and eventually succeeded to the ownership of most of it. On May, 1869, almost fifty years ago, Mr. Perry married Miss Rose Mickey. She was born in Ross County, Ohio, October 20, 1836, and was brought to Indiana by her parents in 1839. The Mickey family located in Whitley County near Churubusco, and in that locality Mrs. Perry grew to womanhood, familiar with many of the same

pioneer scenes as her husband. Mrs. Perry taught school five years, though her teaching was spread over a period of about twelve years. She was an excellent teacher and is still kindly remembered by many of her old pupils. Mr. and Mrs. Perry began housekeeping in May, 1869, and they have lived on that one farm steadily now for fifty years and will soon celebrate their golden wedding anniversary. No children have come into their home. Both are faithful members of the United Brethren Church and Mr. Perry is a democrat in politics. He was once nominated for representative from Noble County. He is now practically retired from active responsibilities of farming, but owns 160 acres in the old homestead and at one time had 240 acres.

ADAM OREWILER is one of the representatives of the prominent family of that name identified with Steuben County since pioneer days, and like most of the name his work and chosen vocation has been farming.

Mr. Orewiler was born on the Orewiler homestead just across the road from where he now lives in Scott Township, February 25, 1859, and is a son of David and Lucy Orewiler. Other reference to the family is made in other pages of this publication. Adam Orewiler grew up on the home farm, had a public school education, and has steadily devoted himself to agriculture for forty years. He still retains and manages a good farm of eighty acres and has given forty acres to his son. Mr. Orewiler is a republican without official aspirations and is a member of the Christian Church.

In 1884 he married Miss Hattie Tarr, a daughter of John and Sophia Tarr of Angola. Her mother is still living.

The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Orewiler is Roy, born in 1885. He supplemented his public school education with a course in the Tri-State Normal College, and is making a good record as one of the younger farmers of Scott Township. He married Miss Mellie Maxton, of Steuben County, and they have two sons, Russell Dale and Keith Raymond.

JOSEPH C. KIMMELL. During the past quarter of a century no citizen has been more active in public and business affairs in Sparta Township than Joseph C. Kimmell. Mr. Kimmell is a former member of the State Legislature, also a former county auditor of Noble County, for years has done a large business as a farmer, and is now giving his time to his duties as cashier of the Sparta State Bank at Cromwell.

He was born in Orange Township of Noble County, April 28, 1872, a son of Cyrus and Ellen (Lane) Kimmell, the former a native of Canton, Ohio, and the latter of Pickaway County in the same state. Their respective families came to Indiana in early days, locating in Noble County, where Cyrus and Ellen were married. They first lived on a farm in York Township and then moved to Orange Township, where he owned a fine farm of eighty acres. Cyrus Kimmell and family moved to Sparta Township in 1873, and purchased a farm of 160 acres. He was an active member of the Church of God and in politics was a republican, serving at one time as assessor of York Township. Joseph C. Kimmell was the only child of his parents, and grew up in a good home, early had farming experience, and at the same time acquired a liberal education, partly in the common schools and afterward completed a business course in the Tri-State Normal at Angola. On May 18, 1893, he established a home of his own by his marriage to Lena A. Keehn, who was born in Perry Township of Noble County. After

their marriage they settled on the old home farm, and that is still their home, where they enjoy the peace and contentment of rural life and the prosperity which their broad and well tilled acres afford.

Mr. and Mrs. Kimmel have five living children: Verlie, a graduate of the common schools, now a practical farmer; Joseph K., a high school graduate; Harriet, a junior in high school; Chester, who is also attending high school; and Mildred, in the first year of high school. The eldest daughter, Lera Eva, died April 20, 1910, aged sixteen years.

The family are members of the Christian Church at Ligonier, Mr. Kimmell being one of the elders. He is affiliated with Excelsior Lodge No. 267 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and with the Masonic Order of Cromwell, and politically is a democrat. He was elected on that ticket to represent Noble County in the Legislature in 1907, and gave a good account of himself to his constituents. He was elected and served as auditor of the county from 1911 to 1914. The Sparta State Bank was organized in 1917 with the same officers as at present, namely: Fred N. Hunt, president; George S. Bouse, vice president; and J. C. Kimmell, cashier. The other directors are J. E. Hilter, J. E. Knapp, A. M. Snyder, N. S. Stump, Martin L. Hussey and Lee Lung.

WILLARD SLABAUGH is a veteran of the Spanish-American war, and since the close of his service has been one of the successful farmers and stock raisers in Perry Township of Noble County. His home is in section 9, three and a half miles northwest of Ligonier.

He was born in the same township December 8, 1876, son of Christian and Catherine (Bowser) Slabaugh. They were the parents of four children: Sidney, a farmer in Perry Township; Willard; Ollie, wife of John Larimer of Montana; and Ray, a farmer in Perry Township.

Willard Slabaugh grew up on the home farm, attended the district schools, and was about twenty-one years of age when, soon after the outbreak of the Spanish-American war, he enlisted in Company L of the One Hundred and Fifty-Seventh Indiana Volunteers, under Colonel Studebaker. He was in the service for six months.

Mr. Slabaugh married Miss Zinla Latta, who was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, a daughter of James T. and Abigail (Simpson) Latta. After their marriage they located on a farm in Perry Township, and through a period of twenty years have been steadily prospering until they now have a farm of 161 acres in sections 9 and 16. Mr. Slabaugh is making a success of handling the pure bred Short-horn cattle and Duroc hogs. He is a stockholder in the Citizens Bank at Ligonier and is a democrat in politics.

He and his wife have four children: Keith, who attended high school for a year and a half is now with his father on the farm; Dorothy, in the third year of high school; and Everett and Forrest.

WILLIS BEIGH. More than sixty years have passed since the Beigh family became established in Steuben County. Some of the family history is recorded on other pages, and at this point special mention is made of Willis Beigh, one of the prominent residents and farmers of Salem Township.

He was born in Jackson Township of the same county August 30, 1859, a son of John and Mary (Gooding) Beigh. He grew up on his father's farm and lived there until he was twenty-seven years of age, acquiring a good education in the public schools. For thirty-two years he has owned a half

interest in 109½ acres in Salem Township, and later he bought 12½ acres more. This farm is one of the good ones in Salem Township, is improved with good buildings, and is the basis of a very satisfactory business. Mr. Beigh is a republican, is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Salem Center, and with his wife is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

November 18, 1886, he married Miss Sarah Bell Cary. She was born in Fairfield Township of DeKalb County, Indiana, May 7, 1868. She was well educated, attending the Angola High School and Tri-State College, and for several years before her marriage was a teacher. Mrs. Beigh is a daughter of John and Christina (Helwig) Cary. Her father was born in the State of New York December 2, 1841, and her mother in Troy Township of DeKalb County, July 29, 1842. Her grandparents were John W. and Martha (Casper) Cary, early settlers of DeKalb County, and they lived on a farm east of Helmer for many years, and while living here the sons enlisted in the Civil war. John W. Cary died in May, 1880, and his wife in 1885, in York Township, Stevens County, Indiana. They were the parents of the following children: David, who was a Union soldier and died near Helmer; Phineas, who was also in the Civil war and died at Henderson, Kentucky; John Wallace; Henry, a Civil war soldier who was buried at Nashville, Tennessee; George W.; Cassie, who died in childhood; and Alice.

Mrs. Beigh's maternal grandparents were Jacob and Sarah (Gorsuch) Helwig, who were among the first settlers of DeKalb County. Jacob Helwig was a farmer, living first in Troy and later in Fairfield townships, and died in the latter locality in 1870. He was prominent in democratic politics, serving in the Legislature in early days. His wife died in 1885, at the age of seventy-six. Jacob Helwig and wife had the following children: Barbara Ann, Kesiah, Mary, Rebecca and Christina. By a former marriage to Miss Jennings, Jacob Helwig had five children, George, Elizabeth, Peter, Isaac and John. John Helwig was a graduate of Wittenberg College at Springfield, Ohio, was a minister of the Lutheran Church, and later for some years was president of Wittenberg College.

Mrs. Beigh's father after his marriage moved east of Salem Center, in Salem Township. In March, 1887, he moved to the farm now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Beigh. John Cary died March 17, 1910, and his wife on December 26, 1888. Mrs. Beigh was their only child. Her paternal grandfather was a prominent Methodist and a local preacher in the early days. Her maternal grandfather was equally prominent in the Lutheran Church as a layman and minister.

WILLIAM L. BRAUN is one of the older business men of Angola and for thirty-five years has been retailing meats to an appreciative public in that city. For nearly thirty years of this time he has been in business for himself. He has been successful, has prospered through his own abilities and industry, and is a man of high standing in the community.

He was born at Fort Wayne, Indiana, September 26, 1857, a son of Henry Edward and Margaret (Heldt) Braun. His mother at the age of one year came from Alsace-Lorraine with her parents to Fort Wayne, Indiana, where John and Barbara Heldt spent their last years. Henry E. Braun was born in Saxony, Germany, February 28, 1831, learned the meat cutter's trade in the old country, and on coming to America worked at his trade in Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he met and married his wife.



Later he moved to Waterloo, Indiana, and engaged in the meat business, and lived there until his death in 1911, at the age of seventy-nine. He was a prohibitionist in politics and a member of the Methodist Church. His widow died at the venerable age of eighty-two years. Their three children, all living, are Katie, William L. and George A., the latter of Auburn, Indiana.

William L. Braun was but a child when his parents removed to Waterloo, and besides the instruction he received from the public schools there he learned the trade of meat cutter under his father. In 1884 he came to Angola, and after seven years of working for others he engaged in business for himself in 1891, and has always had the reputation of conducting one of the best markets and supplying the highest class of provisions. In politics he is a democrat, is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1879 Mr. Braun married Miss Delia J. Stroh, who was born and reared in DeKalb County, and her people lived on a farm southeast of Waterloo. Mr. and Mrs. Braun have one daughter, Maud, now the wife of Mack Fisher. The three children of Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are Malba Pauline, Ned Braun and Martha Jeanette.

**GEORGE D. GABY.** The first frame house built in Orange Township of Noble County was erected by the late Timothy Gaby, father of Ligonier's popular postmaster and prominent democratic leader in Noble County. The Gaby family in many ways have been prominent in this part of Northeast Indiana since early times.

Credit is given to George D. Gaby for the achievement of making, at least temporarily, a democratic county out of the normal republican complexion of Noble County. That was while he was chairman of the Democratic County Committee. Mr. Gaby does not give all his time to politics. He is a thorough business man, and for years has been a successful farmer. He owns a good farm in Orange Township, and was born on the old Gaby homestead there July 4, 1853. His father, Timothy Gaby, was born in Genesee County, New York, in 1820, and went from that state to Ohio. There he married Amy A. Edmonds, a native of Lorain County, Ohio. From Ohio they moved to Orange Township in Noble County, and Timothy bought or traded for land, and spent many busy years in cleaning it up and producing crops there. He died on the old farm in 1912, at the age of ninety-two, one of the most highly respected citizens of that locality. His wife died about 1900. Of the family of seven children only two are now living, George D. and Charles E., the latter also a farmer in Orange Township.

George D. Gaby grew up in his native township and acquired a common school education. At the age of twenty-four he entered the merchandise business at Brimfield and sold goods in that locality for eight years. After disposing of his store he returned to the old farm and bought out the other heirs and interests. He has a finely improved place of 190 acres, and he continued to make it his home and the scene of most of his business activities until he removed to Ligonier in 1913.

Mr. Gaby served three terms as county chairman of the democratic party in Noble County. Some years ago he was nominated for the office of county auditor. Governor Marshall appointed him one of the trustees of the school for the feeble minded at Fort Wayne, and he served three years, resigning to accept the appointment by President Wilson as post-

master of Ligonier. He is now in his second term of that office, his present term expiring in 1922. Mr. Gaby is a stockholder in the Albion National Bank. He is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Ligonier. May 13, 1880, he married Geneva V. Pancake, who was born in Elkhart Township of Noble County in 1855, a daughter of Isaac Pancake. She was reared on a farm, received a good education in the district schools and in the schools of Ligonier, and is an active member of the Lutheran Church. Mr. and Mrs. Gaby have two sons, both of whom have finished high school and are practical farmers in Orange Township. Timothy E., the older, married Zelma Smith, of Jefferson Township, and they have an adopted daughter, Georgia V. Rolland Roy, the second son, married Ruth Pancake, of Convoys, Ohio, and they have two children, Helen and Norman.

**JASPER N. OTT,** who died June 24, 1919, gave many hard working years to the business of farming in Green Township of Noble County. All the prosperity he enjoyed and which he has so liberally dispensed to his family was the result of his own efforts and enterprise. He was an honored resident of that locality for forty years. His home was in the south half of the southeast quarter of section 19, Green Township.

Mr. Ott was born in Benton Township of Elkhart County, Indiana, February 16, 1850, son of Jacob and Margaret (Gordy) Ott, the former a native of Preble County, Ohio, and the latter of Indiana. Jacob Ott came to Indiana at the age of twenty-two, located in Elkhart County, and two years later married and settled on a farm there. On leaving the farm he retired to Syracuse in Kosciusko County and lived there until his death. He and his wife were members of the Evangelical Church and in politics he was a very active republican. There were nine children in the family, seven of whom reached maturity, and the three living today are: John W., of Syracuse; Julia A., unmarried and living at Syracuse; and Elmer, also of Syracuse.

Jasper N. Ott while a boy on the home farm in Elkhart County attended the local schools, and lived in that county until he was about twenty-six years of age. October 28, 1875, Mr. Ott married Sarah Ott, a native of Noble County, Indiana. In 1876 they moved to Noble County and located on eighty acres of brush grown and wet land. Mr. Ott undertook the tremendous task of making a farm with unlimited courage and energy, and for many years the soil has been drained and available for cultivation, and he has given his farm all its improvements of value. He raised good grades of livestock.

Mr. and Mrs. Ott became the parents of three daughters. Mary is the wife of William Hart. Laura married Eugene Rance and lives near Ripley, Indiana. The daughter Effie is the wife of Willard More and is now deceased. Mr. Ott was an active member of the Durham Christian Chapel, as is also Mrs. Ott, and he was one of the trustees of the church and did much toward financing it. In politics he was a republican.

**CHESTER E. MARSH,** whose life for the most part has been spent in Steuben County, was born in Branch County, Michigan, June 3, 1853. He was only a small child when his parents, Ebenezer and Minerva (Gleason) Marsh, died, and after their death he was indebted to his aunt, Sally Marsh Lyon, for a home and his early training.

Mr. Marsh was educated in the North Eastern Academy at Orland and later the Angola High School, and taught school for several years before



he took up farming. To farming he gave his undivided attention and with increasing success until he retired, and is now enjoying a comfortable home at Orland. He is a member of the Methodist Church.

April 11, 1880, Mr. Marsh married Miss Eva C. Webb. She was born in Steuben County July 5, 1858, a daughter of Arthur and Amelia (Heath) Webb. Her father was a native of England and her mother of New York State, and both families were early settlers in Steuben County. Mr. and Mrs. Marsh have two children: Lizzie M., wife of Clyde Spangle of Jackson Township, Steuben County; and Elzie A., who was married to B. Franklin Collins.

CLYDE SPANGLE is owner of two handsome and productive farms in Northeast Indiana, and in every sense of the term is a progressive, up-to-date farmer and a citizen whose name is spoken with respect wherever known.

His home farm in Jackson Township of Steuben County was the place of his birth. He first saw the light of day January 3, 1877, and is a son of Henry and Sarah (Metzger) Spangle. His father was born in Steuben County, New York, in 1821, a son of Henry and Mary Spangle. He grew up in Seneca County and at the age of twenty-three came to Indiana, purchasing 160 acres in Jackson Township. Only six acres had been cleared, and eventually he brought under cultivation 120 acres and placed upon it some exceptional improvements. He died August 16, 1907, and his wife May 29, 1912. His wife was a daughter of Adam and Mary Metzger, who settled in Jackson Township of Steuben County. Henry Spangle and wife had two children, Carrie and Clyde. Carrie, who died in June, 1906, was the wife of Jacob Hellinger and she left three children, named Charles, Lucile and Basil.

Clyde Spangle attended the district schools in Jackson Township, also at Orland, and since he was eighteen years of age has been farming the homestead for himself. He is owner of 212¼ acres in section 6 of Jackson Township, and also has 240 acres in Springfield Township of LaGrange County. Both farms are improved with splendid buildings and for years these farms have been notable for the production of good live stock.

December 30, 1903, Mr. Spangle married Lizzie M. Marsh, daughter of Chester and Eva (Webb) Marsh. Her mother was born in Jackson Township in 1859, a daughter of Arthur and Amelia Webb. Chester Marsh was born in Branch County, Michigan, a son of Ebenezer and Minerva (Gleason) Marsh, and was two years old when his father died and four when his mother passed away. Soon afterward he was brought to Millgrove Township of Steuben County and with the exception of three years in Michigan has been a resident of Steuben County ever since. His present home is at Orland. Mr. Marsh had two children, Lizzie M. and Elzie, the latter the wife of Frank Collins.

Mr. and Mrs. Spangle have two children: Henry, born January 15, 1914; and Evelyn, born March 23, 1909.

GEORGE FRANKLIN HARDING, a successful hardware merchant at Fremont, Indiana, has also been a farmer, and much of the interest of his career centers in the fact that he owns a tract of land that was taken up by his grandfather more than eighty years ago and constitutes one of the oldest farms in Jamestown Township of Steuben County.

His paternal grandparents were George and Sophronia Harding. George Harding is credited

with having made the third land entry in Jamestown Township, on June 27, 1835. Both tracts of land which he acquired are located on Hoab Lake. He became a permanent settler on this land in 1836. He was a native of England, had lived for several years in Detroit, and was connected with the original survey of the railroad between Elkhart and Toledo, and also did some work on the railroad between Detroit and Ypsilanti, Michigan. He died in 1892, at the venerable age of eighty-two, having spent his later years at Orland. He was three times married, and his second wife was the grandmother of George Franklin Harding.

George W. Harding, father of George Franklin, was born in Jamestown Township, on the old homestead, March 4, 1845. He grew up in that locality, attended public schools there, and married Florence Flint. She was born at Kinderhook in Michigan in 1840. George W. Harding since 1886 has been a resident of Coldwater, Michigan, where he is associated with his son Ross W. in the implement business under the name Harding & Son. For many years he was a farmer in Jamestown Township and still owns a fine place of 200 acres there. Both he and his father were at one time extensively engaged in the breeding of pure bred Shorthorn cattle, and frequently exhibited this stock in fairs at Coldwater and Angola. George W. Harding is a republican, and was made a Mason at Fremont, Indiana, being affiliated with Northeastern Lodge No. 210, Free and Accepted Masons, with Fremont Chapter No. 5, Royal Arch Masons, Kendallville Commandery of the Knights Templar, and with the Knights of the Maccabees. His wife is a member of the Baptist Church, which the family attend. George W. Harding and wife had four sons: George F., Lewis K., Amos F. and Ross W. Amos died in 1905.

George Franklin Harding, who was born on the old farm in Jamestown Township December 3, 1868, grew up there, attending the district schools; and later was a student in the Tri-State College at Angola, and from the age of seventeen made his home with his parents in Coldwater, Michigan. On January 12, 1893, he married Miss Fannie D. Pease, of Rolling Prairie, Indiana. Before her marriage she was an instructor in a business college at LaPorte, Indiana. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harding returned to the old Harding homestead once owned by his grandfather and lived there until 1914. He still owns his homestead of 195 acres, and rents the land. As a farmer cattle feeding was his chief and most profitable business. After moving to Fremont in 1914 Mr. Harding engaged in the hardware business with J. W. McClue, but after two years bought out his partner.

He is a republican and served one term on the County Council. He is affiliated with Northeastern Lodge No. 210, Free and Accepted Masons, Fremont Chapter No. 48, Royal Arch Masons, Angola Council No. 27, Royal and Select Masons, and is a member of Coldwater Lodge No. 1023 of the Elks. He attends the Methodist Church, of which his wife is a member.

Mr. and Mrs. Harding had six children: Bessie and Bernice, twins, the former dying at birth and the latter at one year of age; George F., Jr., Floyd R., Florence L. and Ralph L. Two sons of Mr. and Mrs. Harding were in the war. George F., Jr., enlisted at Indianapolis in July, 1917, became first sergeant of Company B of the One Hundred and Thirty-Ninth Machine Gun Battalion, and is now at Camp Hancock, Georgia. He is a member of Northeastern Lodge No. 210, Free and Accepted





*Joseph E. Knapp*



Masons, and also of Khairum Lodge of Perfection No. 2 of the Scottish Rite. The son Floyd R. enlisted at Fremont in September, 1918, was sent to a school of instruction at Valparaiso, later to the Carnegie Institute of Technology at Pittsburgh, was located for a time at Fort Howard at Baltimore, then transferred to the Clerical School at Fortress Monroe, Virginia, and finally to Camp Sherman in Ohio, where he received his honorable discharge in January, 1919.

CHARLES L. SCHLABACH has been a merchant practically all his active career at Cromwell, and for more than a quarter of a century has been one of the stanch citizens and upbuilders of that thriving little village of Noble County.

His birth occurred on a farm four miles east of Cromwell in Sparta Township, June 10, 1869. His parents were William and Sarah (Braucher) Schlabach, his father born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1835, and his mother in Stark County, Ohio. They were married in Ohio and on coming to Indiana located in Noble County. William Schlabach though beginning life poor and gaining prosperity by his unaided efforts achieved prominence in this county. He made a farm of over 300 acres, and in many ways expressed his wise benevolence in behalf of those less fortunate than himself. He was an active member of the Sparta Christian Church, was a democrat and served four years as trustee of Sparta Township. He died in 1909, honored and respected all over the county. His wife passed away in 1879. They were the parents of ten children, one of whom died in infancy. All the others are still living: Mrs. Y. Werker, of Cromwell; J. R., of Cromwell; Anna, wife of James T. Iden, of Sparta Township; W. O., of South Bend, Indiana; Ella, wife of James Smith, of Ligonier; M. A., of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Charles L., of Cromwell; Stella, wife of Alvin Moore, of Hartford City, Indiana; and Harry, of Kimmell, Indiana.

Charles L. Schlabach lived on his father's farm to the age of eighteen and in the meantime acquired a good district school education. He then joined his father in a mercantile enterprise and after two years bought the store at Cromwell, and has now been in business there, selling merchandise to a large circle of patrons for fully thirty years. He is also a stockholder in the Cromwell State Bank, is a democrat, like his father, and has filled all the chairs of the local lodges at Cromwell of the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

April 27, 1893, he married Miss Minnie Kauffman. Mrs. Schlabach is a highly educated woman, a graduate of the Ligonier public schools and took the musical course in Purdue University. They have one son, LaMar, born in 1904, and now in the first year of the high school. Mrs. Schlabach is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Schlabach gives liberal support to that church and to all other worthy causes in the community.

JOSEPH E. KNAPP. Though he is vice president of the Wolf Lake State Bank and a director of the Sparta State Bank, Joseph E. Knapp is still living on his farm in Washington Township, a place which he started to clear and make into a farm fully half a century ago. It was his success as a substantial farmer that attracted the attention of his fellow citizens to his qualities and qualifications for public office and other places of trust.

Mr. Knapp, who represents one of the oldest families of Washington Township, was born in Sussex County, New Jersey, August 17, 1840, a son of August and Anna M. (Wetzel) Knapp. His father was born in Prussian Poland and his mother in Baden, Germany. They reached New York City about 1830 and were married there, and August lived in that vicinity about five years working at his trade as a cabinet maker. He then lived several years in Pennsylvania, and from there located in Sussex County, New Jersey. In the spring of 1850 he brought his family to Noble County, Indiana, and acquired eighty acres in the woods of Washington Township. He cleared his land, and ever afterward was a substantial factor in that community until his death. He was active in the Christian Church, and as a republican was affiliated first with the whig and later with the republican party. He and his wife had ten children, and the five now living are: Ferdinand; Joseph E.; Amelia, wife of Aaron King; Cecelia, her twin sister, wife of Joseph Gerken; and William B., a farmer in Washington Township.

Joseph E. Knapp was ten years old when brought to Noble County, and the education he had begun in the East was continued in one of the familiar log schoolhouses of that time. He made good use of his educational opportunities, such as they were, and many men and women now grown to mature years gratefully recall his services as a teacher. Altogether he taught for thirteen terms.

Mr. Knapp is also one of the honored veterans of the Civil war still living in Noble County. He enlisted February 12, 1862, and was a fighting soldier in the army of the Cumberland under General Thomas. He saw more than three years of service and was not mustered out until in December, 1865, while in Texas. For many years he has been a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. Not long after his return from the army, on February 24, 1867, he married Delilah Breninger. She was born in Ohio and was brought to Noble County when a girl. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Knapp started farming in Washington Township, and they came to their present locality in 1867, and the house in which Mr. Knapp still lives was built in that year. At that time it was completely surrounded by heavy woods, and his own labors cleared away the timber and gradually increased the area of cultivation. He had a very limited capital saved from his wages as a soldier, and this was used to start him after his marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Knapp had six children, two of whom died in infancy. Three are still living: Edward E., a farmer in Washington Township; Ella, wife of John W. Adair, of Noble Township; and Charles M., who is a graduate of the Wolf Lake High School and married Grace Metz. Mr. Knapp is also proud of his eleven grandchildren. Mrs. Knapp died August 17, 1912, after they had been married forty-five years.

Mr. Knapp is one of the extensive farmers of Noble County, owning three hundred and seventy acres of land. He owns stock in the Farmers Bank at Albion in addition to his interests as a stockholder and executive official of the Wolf Lake State Bank and the Sparta State Bank. He has been quite active in republican politics, serving two years as county chairman of the Central Committee, and for six years was a member of the Board of County Commissioners. He has been active and liberal in support and work with the Christian Church and its Sunday school, and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Wolf Lake.

CHARLES HOLSINGER's home is one of the best improved farms in Allen Township of Noble County. It is a mile and a half southwest of Kendallville, and is the old Holsinger homestead, where the people of this name have lived since early times.

Mr. Holsinger was born in Orange Township, near Rome City, December 8, 1869, son of William and Lucinda (Dyer) Holsinger. His father was a native of Stark County, Ohio, and his mother of Noble County, Indiana. William Holsinger came to Noble County, Indiana, locating in Orange Township, where he married, and lived on a farm in that locality until he traded for the old homestead, but in 1903 sold out and moved to Kendallville, where he died. Both parents were active church members, and he was affiliated with the Masons and Knights of Pythias. There are only two living children, William and Charles, the former a resident of Chicago.

Charles Holsinger grew up in Noble County, attended the common schools and the high school, and since early manhood has industriously pursued the business of farming. Besides the operation of the old homestead he also does a rather extensive business buying stock cattle, feeding and fattening them, and selling them through the different markets.

January 30, 1893, he married Miss May Knight. She was born at Leo, Indiana, and was educated in public and high schools. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Holsinger lived one year in Kendallville, then moved to their home farm, spent three years in Saranac County, Michigan, and sold their property in that county at an advantage and returned to Noble County and bought the Holsinger homestead in Allen Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Holsinger have one son and three daughters: Walter, born in 1898, was educated in the grammar and high schools and is still at home; Bessie, a graduate of the high school at Columbus, Ohio; Helen, educated in the local public and high schools; and Lois, who is still in school. Mr. Holsinger is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge No. 109, Knights of Pythias, and is a republican.

JOHN E. BORNTREGER. The Borntrager family is one of the large and important ones in LaGrange County, and its representatives stand for good government, upright manhood and desirable and loyal citizenship. One of those bearing this honored name is John E. Borntrager of Newbury Township, a man widely and favorably known. He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, October 9, 1837, a son of Joseph and Barbara (Yoder) Borntrager, who made the trip overland from the Keystone State to Indiana during the year 1841, in wagons, and bought land in Clinton Township, Elkhart County, on which they lived for twelve years, moving then to Newbury Township, LaGrange County, and here purchasing 160 acres, to which they later added eighty acres. This continued the family home until the death of the father, April 5, 1908, when he was ninety-six years eight months and one day of age, the mother having passed away October 2, 1888, aged seventy-seven years. Their children were as follows: Elizabeth, Christina, Barbara, John and David, all of whom were born in Pennsylvania; and Eli, who was the first Amish Mennonite child born in Indiana who lived; Susanah, Rosa, Daniel, Rebecca, and Martha, all of whom were of Indiana birth.

John Borntrager was brought up on his father's farm, learning how to operate it, and he also attended the public and private schools of his neighborhood. When he began farming for himself he settled on his present property, which he cleared, and he erected his present house, which replaced the little frame cabin in the woods he built with his

own hands. At one time he owned 190 acres, but has sold some of it, so that he now has but 116 acres, all of which is finely cultivated and improved.

In 1864 Mr. Borntrager was married to Barbara Mishler, a daughter of Christian Mishler, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Borntrager became the parents of the following children: Catherine; Samuel, who is deceased; Eli; Polly; Joseph; Lydia, who died at the age of four years; Anna; Menno; John; Barbara, who is deceased; Levi; and David. The first Mrs. Borntrager died May 16, 1900. On June 27, 1907, Mr. Borntrager was married to Mrs. Fannie Miller, widow of Levi L. Miller. Of the above children, Eli, who owns a portion of the old homestead, married Mattie Miller, and has five children. John, who is a farmer, responded to the call of his country during the World war and served in the National army for about a year, reaching France, having enlisted August 21, 1917, as a motor mechanic and was assigned to the Thirtieth Aero Squadron. He received his honorable discharge April 15, 1919.

Mr. and Mrs. John E. Borntrager belong to the old Amish Mennonite Church. When a young man Mr. Borntrager taught three terms in the district schools and three terms also in private school on the farm.

DANIEL A. DOUGLASS, a former county auditor of Steuben County, has had a long and active career, and is prominent and well known both in that county and in Branch County, Michigan. He was at one time a county official of Michigan County.

He was born in Livingston County, New York, November 12, 1843, a son of Alexander and Christie (McCall) Douglass. His father was born in Scotland in 1809 and his mother in Livingston County, New York, in 1818. In February, 1863, the parents moved to Branch County, Michigan, locating on a farm four miles north of Fremont, Indiana. Alexander Douglass died in Steuben County in 1879 and his wife at the home of her son Daniel in 1901. Their children were Catherine, Jennie, Daniel A., Alexander, John, Mary and Lillie. Alexander Douglass was a republican, and he and his wife were devout Presbyterians.

Daniel Douglass acquired his education in Livingston County, New York, attended an academy in Wyoming County, that state, and was a young man when he accompanied his parents to Michigan. In September, 1864, he enlisted in Company G of the First Michigan Light Artillery, and was with that organization during the last year of hostilities. After that he returned to Branch County and took an active part in its business and civic affairs. In 1879 he moved to Steuben County, locating in the village of Fremont, where he had his home until 1900. In that year he moved to Angola to take up his duties as county auditor, to which he had been elected. He held that office nearly five years, one full term and ten months of over term. Mr. Douglass after selling his farm of 160 acres in Branch County bought a place of fifty acres in Fremont Township, later sold that, and now owns a place of 120 acres two miles east of Pleasant Lake in Steuben Township. He has always affiliated with the republican party. While living in Branch County he served as supervisor of California Township and was elected register of deeds, beginning his official term January 1, 1870. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Coldwater. During his residence at Fremont in addition to farming he was a traveling salesman for over twenty years. He is also a member of the Grand Army Post.

Daniel Douglass married in 1870 Miss Ellen



Averill, of Ontario, LaGrange County, daughter of James Averill. She died in 1893, the mother of two children: Claude Douglass, of Angola, and Agnes, who was married to William Stevens and has two sons, named William and Donald. The Stevens family live at Coldwater, Michigan. Daniel Douglass married for his second wife in 1907 Alta Wood, of Angola.

CLAUDE H. DOUGLASS, secretary of the Angola Bank Trust Company, has been one of the responsible men in commercial affairs in Angola for a quarter of a century, and his entire record justifies the confidence and esteem in which he is held.

Mr. Douglass was born at Coldwater, Michigan, October 11, 1874, son of Daniel and Ellen (Averill) Douglass. When he was four years old his parents moved to Fremont, Steuben County, Indiana, and in that locality his boyhood was spent. He attended the local schools, also the high school, and he gained his first business experience as a clerk at Fremont. He also worked on a farm. On coming to Angola in 1894 Mr. Douglass was clerk in a local drygoods store for about three years, and then was associated in that line of business with W. C. Patterson. For five years he served as deputy county auditor, and then became interested in a private bank with G. R. Wickwire. In 1906 Mr. Douglass helped organize the Angola Bank Trust Company, and became its assistant secretary. Since 1916 he has been secretary of that solid financial institution.

He is a republican in politics and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Improved Order of Red Men. He married in June, 1897, Miss Nora J. Hirst, of Angola, daughter of Joseph Hirst, now retired. To their marriage was born two sons, Robert H., born in 1899, at Fremont, and Joseph M., born in 1908. The son Robert is now a student of engineering in the Tri-State College.

HON. JOHN H. HOFFMAN. During the greater part of his active career covering more than half a century, John H. Hoffman has been identified with business and other interests connected directly or indirectly with the public welfare. At Ligonier he is known as a merchant, farmer and banker, is also a former postmaster, and represented his county in the Legislature in the sessions of 1917 and 1919.

He was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, November 7, 1845, son of George R. and Sarah (Cramer) Hoffman. His parents were both born in Pennsylvania, his father in 1808. After their marriage they lived for several years at Gettysburg, but in 1842 came to Indiana and located in DeKalb County. George R. Hoffman spent his active life as a farmer, and was also prominent in politics, serving as county recorder and in other county offices. He was a member of the Lutheran Church. In a family of six children John H. and his brother George H. are the only living survivors. His brother has long been prominent in South Dakota, where he still resides, and had the distinction of being the first lieutenant governor of that state.

John H. Hoffman grew up on his father's farm in DeKalb County and had a common school education. At the age of sixteen he left home and school to enlist in the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry. He was in the army nearly a year. He was wounded at the battle of Shiloh in 1862, and that closed his actual service. Toward the close of the war he re-enlisted, but was never called to the front. After the war Mr. Hoffman attended school and for several years was a teacher. He removed to Ligonier in 1868 and from 1869 to 1873 was a teacher in

local schools. Since 1872 Mr. Hoffman has been perhaps chiefly known as a factor in mercantile affairs at Ligonier through the book, stationery and office supply business. He became sole proprietor of his store in 1873, and two generations of patrons have bought their books and stationery from him.

He is also one of the directors of the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company of Ligonier and is vice president and director of the Ligonier Refrigerator factory. He owns a farm and gives much of his time to its management.

Mr. Hoffman married Miss Mary C. Eldred. She was born in Stark County, Ohio, and when a girl came to Huntington County, Indiana, and in 1865 to Ligonier. Mr. and Mrs. Hoffman have no children. Mrs. Hoffman is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has long been affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic, with Post No. 125. He is a past grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and has sat in the Grand Lodges of both orders. Mr. Hoffman gave eight years to the management of the Ligonier postoffice, serving under Harrison and McKinley. He has also served as town clerk and treasurer of Ligonier. He was elected a member of the Legislature in 1916 and re-elected in 1918. This is the only case in Noble County in which a representative to the Legislature has been elected for two successive terms.

L. WALLACE WIBLE is a prosperous farmer of Noble County, his place being two miles south and three quarters of a mile west of Kendallville in Allen Township.

In this township he was born December 7, 1880, a son of C. L. and Verda (Halferty) Wible. The Wibles are an old established family in Noble County. C. L. Wible was born in Allen Township May 26, 1852, son of John and Lucinda (Varner) Wible. John Wible was a Pennsylvanian, came to Indiana after his marriage and located in Allen Township in 1850, living there the rest of his life. C. L. Wible grew up in this township, after his marriage located on a farm, and lived and died there. He and his wife were members of the English Lutheran Church and he was one of the church officials. He was a republican. C. L. Wible and wife left two sons, L. Wallace and Roy E. The latter is a graduate of the common schools and is now living in Colorado, where he is a ranger in the employ of the United States Government. He married Bessie Stout.

L. Wallace Wible grew up on the home farm in Allen Township, attended the district schools, and has steadily pursued the vocation to which he was trained as a boy. A number of years ago he bought the old farm of eighty acres, and devotes it to vegetables and onions, and livestock.

In 1902 he married Miss Minnie Rimmel, daughter of A. J. Rimmel. She was reared in Jefferson Township of Noble County. They have one son, Orville, born April 23, 1904, and now a student in the common schools. Mr. Wible is a republican.

WILLIAM P. GRANNIS, present trustee of Orange Township, Noble County, and a farmer of that locality, has been a resident of Noble County most of his active life and his own career and that of the family are closely identified with many points of interest in the history of Northeast Indiana.

Mr. Grannis' home is 5½ miles northwest of Kendallville and 3½ miles southeast of Wolcottville. On the farm where he now resides he was born May 10, 1854. He is a son of Otis P. and Hannah (Creigh) Grannis. Creigh Lake, four miles north



of Kendallville, on the east side of the old Plant Road, was named for his maternal grandfather, Samuel Creigh, who located on the south side of that body of water in 1844.

The Grannis family is of Scotch ancestry. To go back to the time of its earliest settlement in this country requires a leap over nearly three centuries. In 1644 Edward Grannis came from Scotland and settled at Southaven in Connecticut. Edward Grannis was born in 1630. The second generation was represented by John Grannis, born in 1674, the third by Enos Grannis, born in 1720, the fourth by Enos Grannis, Jr., born in 1754, the fifth by Palmer Grannis, born in 1787; the sixth by Otis P. Grannis, born March 2, 1825; while William P. Grannis is of the seventh generation in America.

Palmer Grannis was born in Connecticut, was married there, took his family to Ohio and in the fall of 1834 moved to LaGrange County, Indiana. As one of the pioneers he entered land a few miles south of Lima, a farm now known as the Hoglund farm, between LaGrange and Howe. At that time the four adjoining counties were still called LaGrange, with Lima as the county seat. In 1836 the family moved to the Lima Mills, one mile west of Lima, where Palmer Grannis built a mill and operated it until his death. He was the father of the following children: Orin M., Isaac P., Otis P., John W., Margaret, and Eliza.

Otis P. Grannis was born in Portage County, Ohio, March 2, 1825, and in 1831 moved with his parents to Geauga County in that state and was nine years of age when he came with them to LaGrange County. At the old Lima Mills he learned the miller's trade and followed it for nearly twenty-five years, working at Mongo, then called Union Mills, Fawn River, Michigan, Jamestown, Rome City, the Minot Mill, Kendallville and the Tamarack. For ten years Indians were his associates, and he became fluent in their language, and was presented with a bow and some arrows by one of the chiefs of the Pottawatomies. In 1846 he went to Connecticut and lived with his uncle, Alva Merriman, at New Milford, for about a year. On returning to Indiana in 1847 he bought the land where his son William P. now lives. At Sturgis, Michigan, September 27, 1849, he married Hannah Creigh, and they began housekeeping at Jamestown in Steuben County, but in the spring of 1850 returned to his farm in Orange Township of Noble County. The next fall they went back to Jamestown and in the spring of 1852 went to Rome City, where Otis P. Grannis fitted up the burrs for the flouring mill and ground the first grain in the Rome City Mills, conducting it for eighteen months, until he returned to the farm. In 1856 he bought a farm, sawmill and flouring mill just across the county line in LaGrange County, at the Tamarack. It was there that William Grannis learned the miller's trade, and he did the grinding for a number of years. The day following Buchanan's election in 1856 Otis P. Grannis moved there and was business manager of the two mills for twenty-four years. In the fall of 1880 he sold out the mill, the pond was drained, and thus ended one of the landmarks in that part of the country. In 1895 he moved to Wolcottville, where his wife died in 1899, and he continued to live there until September, 1902. His last days were spent at the home of his son, William P., on the old farm in Orange Township, where he died May 12, 1903. He and his wife had three children: William P., Charles O., of Wolcottville, and Frank C., of Howard City, Michigan.

While he played a very important part as a miller Otis P. Grannis should be remembered for his effective and sterling citizenship. He gave efficient

aid to the movement which vigorously suppressed the organized desperadoes who by their thieving and murdering terrified the early settlers. He was secretary of the first organized regulators at the Tamarack and helped make some of the important arrests. Among the outlaws whom he helped to bring to justice were Malcolm Burnam, Miles C. Payne and Gregory McDougal. He was present at the hanging of McDougal at Diamond Lake in Noble County, January 26, 1858. He was Payne's guard at Ligonier and persuaded him to make a full confession, which practically put an end to the activities of "black legs."

He was also an active stock dealer for twenty-five years and for many years shipped more stock than any other dealer on the Lake Shore Railroad between Chicago and Buffalo.

William P. Grannis, the son of this honored pioneer, has been a resident of Noble County continuously since 1884. On December 6, 1887, he married Miss Ella Wert. She was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, in July, 1859. They have one daughter, Vera L., born February 27, 1900, now attending the Rome City High School.

Mr. Grannis is a republican, has served as president of the advisory board, and on April 1, 1918, was appointed trustee of Orange Township. In that township he owns and cultivates a fine farm of eighty acres.

DEWITT CLINTON SALISBURY for many years has been one of the chief factors in promoting business affairs at Orland. He is president of the bank and head of the Creamery Company, and is still interested in farming, a vocation he followed for many years.

Mr. Salisbury, who was born March 15, 1857, represents two of the very old and prominent families of Steuben County. His father, Chester D. Salisbury, who came to Steuben County in 1836, was born in Jefferson County, New York, in 1817, a son of Edgar and Susanna (Gore) Salisbury, natives of Vermont. Hezekiah, father of Edgar, was at one time owner of the land on which is situated the City of Brattleboro, Vermont. Edgar Salisbury was a soldier in the War of 1812. Chester D. Salisbury was only eight years old when his father died. That put the widowed mother and the young children largely on their own responsibilities. At the age of eleven Chester went into cedar swamps to assist in making rails. He had no opportunity to attend school until after he reached manhood. He learned the trade of tanner, but in 1836 left his master and came to Indiana. He reached this state with only half a shilling or twelve and a half cents. His first location was in Jamestown Township, where he burned lime two years. He then opened up and improved the farm in the locality known as Nevada, but after four years moved to Millgrove Township, and settled on land that he gradually improved until he had over 200 acres, said to constitute at one time one of the best farms in the county. He married in 1838 Julia Collins, daughter of Barton and Anna Collins. Her parents were the first settlers in Jamestown Township.

Dewitt Clinton Salisbury was one of a family of six children, and he grew up on his father's homestead in Millgrove Township. He attended the district schools, also the Orland Academy, and during his mature career he acquired 117 acres of the old homestead of 180 acres, and was prosperously engaged in farming there until he sold his place several years ago. Mr. Salisbury has been a resident of Orland since 1910. He is one of the directors of the Citizens State Bank and has been its president

for about seven years. He is secretary of the Millgrove Creamery Company and owns a forty-acre farm a half mile south of Orland.

He is active in republican politics, and for the past four years served as trustee of Millgrove Township. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Orland and of the Congregational Church. August 8, 1878, he married Ella Reed, daughter of William Reed, of LaGrange County.

J. L. HENRY has long sustained a reputation as one of the energetic and substantial business men of Northeastern Indiana, was for many years a merchant at Ayilla, and is known in every community of Noble County by the service he rendered as county auditor. He is now secretary and treasurer of the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company of Ligonier.

He was born in Wood County, West Virginia, July 27, 1861. His father, Gabriel S. Henry, was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, November 5, 1831, and married Sophia McKenzie, who was born in the same state August 4, 1831. In November, 1865, he and his family came to Noble County, Indiana, and settled in Allen Township. They lived there until 1892. Both Gabriel Henry and his wife are now deceased. Their children were: Martha J., wife of Henry Gettle; Margaret C., who died March 14, 1900; Elizabeth, wife of A. C. Shambaugh; John L., of Ligonier; Robert A., of Kendallville, Indiana; Ida B., wife of H. L. Ashew, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; and William F., now deceased.

John L. Henry was about four years old when his parents came to Noble County, and he grew up in Allen Township, acquiring a good education in the public schools. He graduated from the schools of Kendallville, and in 1880 became associated with his father in the furniture business at Ayilla. While there he was appointed and served as postmaster and since early manhood has been one of the influential members of the republican party in Noble County. He was elected on that ticket as county auditor, and showed that he was deserving of the honor by the marked success of his administration in the office during four years. Upon the organization of the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company of Ligonier Mr. Henry was elected secretary. On January 12, 1909, he was also elected treasurer to fill a vacancy caused by the death of Mr. Weir, since which time he has filled the position of secretary-treasurer of the Trust Company and is one of the efficient members of that corporation.

December 24, 1882, he married Emma G. Haines, a daughter of Robert S. and Permelia (Baum) Haines. Mrs. Henry was born August 31, 1863, in Ayilla. To their marriage were born two children, Perma, who died at the age of four and a half years, and Marjorie A. Mr. Henry is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

CHARLES N. CLINE was educated for the medical profession, but has found himself in a more congenial sphere as a business man. He is member of the firm Cline Brothers, lumber merchants at Kendallville.

Mr. Cline was born at Hartford City, Indiana, January 29, 1875, son of William W. Cline, who was born in Blackford County, Indiana, in October, 1837, and a grandson of Michael Cline. William W. Cline grew up in Hartford City, learned a trade and followed it until about 1872. In that year he opened a factory for the manufacture of drain tile, and

was the first man in his section of Indiana to introduce the clay drain tile. He finally gave up manufacturing and went on a farm, and is still living on his farm near Hartford City, though retired from its responsibilities. His wife, who died in 1889, was Harriet A. Chaffee. They had eight children, two of whom died in infancy. Orlo L., a graduate of De Pauw University, is a successful attorney at Marion, Indiana; Lora is the wife of Finley Geiger, and she lives on the old homestead with her father; Albert B. is a resident of Bluffton, Indiana; Lillie, a graduate of De Pauw University, is the wife of John E. Higdon, a graduate from the same school and now an actuary in an insurance department in Chicago; Charles N.; and Edith, a graduate of De Pauw University, is the wife of Harlan H. York, professor of biology in Brown University at Providence, Rhode Island.

Charles N. Cline grew up on his father's farm. He is a graduate of the Hartford City High School, and took his medical degree from Indiana Medical College at Indianapolis. He was also a student at Purdue University two years. Instead of practicing medicine he removed to Bluffton in 1892 and became associated with his brother, A. B. Cline, in the lumber business. In February, 1904, he came to Kendallville, and has since been manager and proprietor of the plant of Cline Brothers in this city.

Mr. Cline married Miss Edna Hutchinson. She is a graduate of the Hartford City High School and was a teacher before her marriage. They have two daughters: Gertrude and Lucile, both attending the public schools at Kendallville. Mr. and Mrs. Cline are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a trustee and on the Official Board. He is an Odd Fellow, a republican voter, and is a stockholder in the Noble Truck Corporation.

JOHN A. BONTRAGER. One of the distinctive features of LaGrange County is that a number of its most substantial and successful farmers are native sons of this region, who have given to it a lifetime of effort, and are rewarded by a gratifying prosperity which is well merited, because it has come through hard work and careful saving. The Bontrager family is a large one in this county, and many of its members, born and bred within the confines of LaGrange, have found congenial employment on their fertile farms in the several townships. One of them is John A. Bontrager of Newbury Township. He was born in this same township October 5, 1856, a son of Amos Bontrager, a sketch of whom will be found elsewhere in this work.

Growing up on his father's homestead, John Bontrager was early taught to make himself useful, as well as the fundamentals of a common school education, and as his attention was thus directed to farming it is not remarkable that he chose it for his life work. In 1879 he bought eighty acres of land covered with timber, to which he has added until he owns 100 acres of land, all of which is under cultivation, and here he carries on general farming and stockraising, specializing in pure bred Hereford cattle. His comfortable residence and large barns are built with lumber cut from the farm. In religious views Mr. Bontrager is an Amish Mennonite.

In 1880 John Bontrager was married to Sarah Harshbarger, a daughter of Abram Harshbarger, who now resides in Missouri. Mr. and Mrs. Bontrager have had the following children born to them: Holly J., who lives at Shippshewana, Indiana; Todd, who lives at LaGrange, married Kate Hostetter, and has no children; Sadie, who died at the age of four months. All of the work of



clearing off the farm devolved upon Mr. Bontrager, but he managed to do it, and also to engage in the additional task of putting in his crops as he made ready the land. No one who has not done this kind of work has any idea of how hard it is, nor how discouraging, but there does come a time when things begin to count, and from then on the way is clear. No matter, however, how hard Mr. Bontrager might have worked had he not have been willing to save and known how to invest his money so as to make it work for him he would not be today as well-to-do as he is. It takes brains as well as hard work to gather together any of this world's goods, as Mr. Bontrager and a number of other LaGrange County men have proven. The young people growing up about them will do well to follow their example, and not only live within their means but out of every dollar earned put by a little for investment so that when old age comes they will have something to show for their life work.

FREDERICK A. EMERSON, representing one of the oldest families of Steuben County, is essentially a business man, and had a wide and varied experience in business affairs for many years. He is now serving his second term as postmaster of Angola.

His grandfather, Avery Emerson, Sr., who was born in New Hampshire, September 22, 1788, removed in early manhood to Auburn, New York, where he married Sophronia Allen, who was born in Massachusetts in February, 1799. The Emerson family moved to Richland County, Ohio, in 1820, and in June, 1836, again became pioneers, when they located in Steuben County, Indiana. Avery Emerson's place of settlement was in section 22 of Salem Township, on what was known as the "Indian fields." Remains of Indian corn cultivation could still be seen. They were among the three or four families who first located in that township, and Avery Emerson served as the first justice of the peace, and in that capacity officiated at the first wedding in the township. From 1841 to 1849 he held the office of probate judge. He sold his farm in 1867 and moved to Angola, and later went to Kendallville, where he died the following October. His wife passed away March 17, 1877. In many other ways Avery Emerson, Sr., was one of the men who made early history in Steuben County. He was a whig and later a republican. He and his wife had ten children.

Avery Emerson, Jr., father of Frederick A., was born in Richland County, Ohio, in 1827, and was nine years old when brought to Steuben County, where he spent practically all his life. He married Elizabeth S. Parsell, daughter of Moses S. Parsell, who arrived in Steuben County in 1838. Avery Emerson and wife had nine children, seven sons and two daughters. He owned a large farm in Salem Township, and to that gave the best years of his active manhood.

Frederick A. Emerson was born on the old homestead in Salem Township, December 20, 1865. While growing up there he attended the district schools, later took a business course in the Tri-State Normal, and had his first business experience as a merchant at Kendallville. In 1893 he returned to Angola, and clerked for Summerlot and Smith, grocers, for four years was with John W. Snyder, in the hardware business, and continued one year in the same store for Charles A. Bachelor. For two years he was a member of the Angola Granite Company, the firm being Emerson, Kinney & Slade. Selling his interests there he traveled two years as a salesman for E. Bement Sons, of Lansing, Michigan, dealers

in stoves and implements. He was then with the Germer Stove Company, and represented that firm eleven years.

Mr. Emerson was first appointed postmaster at Angola by President Wilson, February 11, 1914, and was reappointed September 6, 1918. Politically he is a good democrat and fraternally is affiliated with the Masonic Order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Angola, and with the Elks Lodge at Ligonier. He and his family attend worship in the Congregational Church.

May 9, 1893, Mr. Emerson married Miss Ina L. Craig, of Angola, daughter of Andrew and Mary Craig. Her widowed mother is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Emerson. The latter have good reason to be proud of their three young sons, two of whom were soldiers in the great war. The youngest, Lawrence Douglas, born December 11, 1905, is now in the Angola High School. The oldest is Kenton Craig, born December 4, 1895. He is a graduate of the Angola High School, the Tri-State Normal College and took the engineering course there. He enlisted and was mustered into the army service September 4, 1917, at Fort Crook, Nebraska, as a member of Motor Truck Company No. 315. He was transferred to Fort Benjamin Harrison in November, 1917, and left for overseas duty December 31, 1917. During practically all the war, beginning early in 1918, he was in active duty in France as a traffic engineer, and was still in the service in August, 1919. The second son, John Thomas, born September 11, 1897, also graduated from the high school and the Tri-State Normal College, and first went into the army in the Hospital Corps of the National Guard. He was on the Mexican border during part of the year 1917, having been mustered in in January of that year. He was called back into active service August 4, 1917, was first located at South Bend and later at Fort Benjamin Harrison, and from there transferred to Hattiesburg, Mississippi. He was in the officers training school at Camp Taylor, Kentucky, and was graduated and commissioned second lieutenant October 29, 1918. He was then sent to Camp Jackson, South Carolina, where he remained until after the signing of the armistice and his muster out.

MELVIN L. WERKER, one of the leading business men of Kimmell, has had experience both as a practical farmer and as a merchant, and is one of the busy young men of his community whose services are most frequently sought in any community enterprise.

He was born in Sparta Township of Noble County, August 23, 1878, a son of Y. and Clara (Schlabach) Werker. His father was born in Germany, July 4, 1847, and his mother in Ohio, November 6, 1856. The father came to America with his parents at the age of four years, the family first locating in Ohio, and later both the Werkers and Schlabachs moved to Noble County, Indiana, where the parents married. They located on a farm in Sparta Township, but the father is now living retired in Cromwell. He is a democrat in politics. Melvin L. Werker is one of a family of seven sons: Charles, a farmer in Sparta Township; William, a farmer in Iowa; Melvin L.; Wallace, a farmer in Sparta Township; John, who has farming interests in Montana; Orlo, a Sparta Township farmer; and Harvey.

Melvin L. Werker grew up on the home place in Sparta Township, was educated in the local schools, and lived at home with his father to the age of twenty-one.

February 11, 1903, he married Lena R. Deardorf,







*Robert Metz*

who was born in Noble County and was educated in the common schools. After his marriage Mr. Werker settled on a farm in York Township, later spent a year as a farmer in Sparta Township, and moving from there to Cromwell gained a thorough knowledge of merchandising as clerk in a general store. He spent nine years in that business, and then returned to a farm in Sparta Township and resumed agriculture for four years. In 1916 he bought his present store and stock of goods in Kimmell, and is now head of a very prosperous and thriving business. He is also a stockholder in the State Bank of Kimmell.

Mr. Werker and family are members of the Sparta Christian Church. He is a democrat, and is affiliated with Cromwell Lodge, Knights of Pythias. He and his wife have two children, both attending school, Merritt being thirteen and Esther eleven years old.

THOMAS KELHAM is the present trustee of Allen Township, Noble County. His public position is in many respects a reflection of the very able manner in which he has prosecuted his private affairs for many years. Mr. Kelham has been a resident of Noble County since early manhood, is a very successful farmer and land owner, and is a man who began life with very modest capital and has succeeded beyond his sanguine expectations.

He was born in Richland County, Ohio, in 1853, son of Edward and Sarah (Fownend) Kelham. His father was born in England October 13, 1812, and came to the United States at the age of twenty-two. His first home was near Sandusky, Ohio, where for a time he was employed with the construction forces of what is now the Baltimore & Ohio Railway. He married at Shelby, Ohio, and for a time lived on a farm, but in 1858 came to Indiana and located in DeKalb County, near Avilla. He was a farmer there the rest of his life. He served as a county commissioner, was a democrat, and a man highly esteemed all over DeKalb County. Of nine children six are still living: Thomas; Edward, of DeKalb County; Joseph, of Noble County; George, whose home is in Swan Township of Noble County; Charles, a resident of Idaho; and Mary, widow of David Turner, of Garrett, Indiana.

Thomas Kelham grew up on his father's farm in DeKalb County, attended the district schools, and lived at home until twenty-one. The next three years he worked out at common wages and relied upon his own energies to get his start in life. Mr. Kelham married Miss Emma L. Lobdell. She was born and reared in Noble County.

After their marriage they rented a farm and they made their first purchase of land when they bought forty acres. Mr. Kelham now owns what amounts to a large estate. It was acquired by a gradual process, buying as opportunity and means justified, until his present farm near Avilla comprises 300 acres, and he also owns a large ranch of 1200 acres in Montana.

Mr. Kelham was actively identified with the management of his farm and lived in the country until 1912, when he moved to Avilla, from which point he looks after a varied line of business undertakings. He was one of the organizers of the Avilla Telephone Company, its first president and is still president of the company. He is one of the leading democrats of the county, and he served a regularly elected term as trustee of Allen Township from 1904 to 1908. He is the present trustee by virtue of appointment to that office in 1916. Fraternally he is a past master of Avilla Lodge No. 460, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Mr. and Mrs. Kelham

are active members of the Evangelical Church, and he is one of its trustees.

He and his wife had six children: Annetta, deceased wife of Samuel Scheurich; Alda Z., wife of Leroy Zellars; Frank E., a farmer near Avilla; James W., who lives on the old home farm near Avilla; Fred, who died at the age of twenty-two; and John C., who died December 6, 1918, aged twenty-four years. All of these children are graduates of high school and John completed the course of the Michigan Agricultural College.

HENRY J. HERRICK, whose long and active career as a farmer, lawyer and banker has made him widely and favorably known in Northeast Indiana and in other states, came to DeKalb County when an infant more than eighty years ago, and his father at one time was one of the largest land owners in that county.

Mr. Herrick, whose present home is on his farm of 118 acres in Concord Township, a mile south of Newville, was born at Norwalk, Ohio, August 9, 1835, a son of Lot and Lola (Sutliff) Herrick. His father was born in Herkimer County, New York, and his mother in Connecticut. The parents were married in Ohio. Lola Sutliff was an Ohio teacher, and under her supervision Lot Herrick learned to read and write. In 1836 the Herrick family came to Indiana and settled on the banks of the St. Joseph River, about twenty-six miles northeast of Fort Wayne. Lot Herrick acquired extensive tracts of land in and around that locality and he and his wife spent the rest of their days as farmers. They were members of the Presbyterian Church and he entered politics as a whig voter but subsequently was a democrat. He was elected probate judge of DeKalb County in early days. There were eight children in the Lot Herrick family, Henry J. being the only one now living.

Mr. Herrick was a year old when his parents came to DeKalb County. He secured his early training in a log school house, but made good use of his opportunities and for about eight years was a successful teacher. He entered the law department of the University of Michigan and was a member of the first graduating class in 1862, when he received the LL. B. degree. For one year he practiced in DeKalb County and in 1863, during Civil war times, he moved to Northwestern Missouri, practiced at Princeton until he went into the Union army and served as assistant adjutant general under General Pratt. He was in the army until June 15, 1866. After that Mr. Herrick practiced at Trenton, Missouri, and finally moved to the southern part of that state. He was a Missouri lawyer for thirty years, and while living at Trenton held the office of prosecuting attorney for several years.

Mr. Herrick married Sarah Fusselman, a native of DeKalb County. She died while they were residents of Missouri, and her only child died at the age of nine years.

Mr. Herrick was active in the banking business for about seven years. After the death of his wife he came to DeKalb County and lived with his sister Electa, who has long since passed away. For many years he was a deacon of the Christian Church and in politics a republican.

CALVERT METZ. Some of the best farms in Noble County are in Washington Township. One of them is the place of Calvert Metz in section 15. Mr. Metz has the reputation not only of owning a good farm but of being a good farmer, and a man of most substantial character in the citizenship of his locality. He has acquired his present comfortable circum-



stances as a result of self denying labors in youth and for a number of years after he attained manhood he remained at home and helped lift the burden of debt from the old homestead.

He was born in the same section of Washington Township where he is now living on July 12, 1867, a son of Aaron and Mary (Prickett) Metz. His father was a native of Ohio. His mother was distinguished as the first white child born in Washington Township of Noble County. Her birth occurred in 1839, and the Pricketts were one of the first families to locate in the woods of that section. Aaron Metz went with his parents to Whitley County, Indiana, grew up there, and learned the trade of saddler. He had a shop at South Whitley for several years, later one in Columbia City, and finally moved to a farm in Washington Township, but left the farm to conduct a saddlery and harness shop in Ligonier for seven years. He then returned to his farm, and two years later died. His widow survived him for a number of years and died on the old homestead in Washington Township. Both were active members of the Dunkard Church and Aaron Metz was a republican. Of their six children three are still living: William F. Metz, of Albion; Calvert; and Norvel E., a farmer in Washington Township.

Calvert Metz grew up on the home farm, and after his father's death he and his brothers were in partnership in managing the land and helped pay off the obligations resting upon the homestead. He received his education in the common schools. After leaving the home farm he came to his present place, which comprises two hundred and twenty acres, and is one of the high class farms of the township. Mr. Metz is also a stockholder in the Sparta State Bank at Cromwell. He is a republican and is affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Eagles at Ligonier.

April 20, 1889, he married Amelia Gilbert. She was born in Washington Township, July 18, 1867, daughter of John and Margaret (Egner) Gilbert. She has spent practically all her life in Washington Township. Mr. and Mrs. Metz have two daughters, both married, and four granddaughters. Grace is the wife of Melvin Knapp and Velma is the wife of Claude Hardsock.

GRANVILLE L. MCCLUE represents some of the early settlers of Steuben County, has himself spent his life within the limits of that county, and has long been a successful farmer and stockraiser, though he now has a home in Angola where he spends the winter months.

Mr. McClue was born in Steuben County January 13, 1859, son of Thomas and Henrietta (Kemp) McClue, the former a native of New York and the latter of England. Henrietta Kemp when a girl came with her parents to the United States, and after some years of residence in New York the family came to Steuben County and settled in Millgrove Township, where her parents spent the rest of their lives. Mr. McClue's paternal grandparents were John and Maria (Smith) McClue, pioneer settlers of Steuben County. They lived at the village of Fremont. John McClue died in Pleasant Township. Thomas McClue was a farmer by occupation and died August 13, 1906, at the age of seventy-two. He was a republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife died August 29, 1869, the mother of two sons, Granville L. and John Willis.

Granville L. McClue grew up on a farm in Jamestown Township, had a public school education, also attending high school at Fremont and Angola, and when he was twenty-two years old he bought his first farm in Jamestown Township. Later he traded

for another farm, and at the present writing is owner of two complete and well arranged farms, aggregating 320 acres and constituting a competence. Mr. McClue for many years was a successful breeder of Shorthorn cattle. In the spring of 1915 he moved to Angola, where he owns a nice home on North Wayne Street.

Politically Mr. McClue has been affiliated with the republican party and served as a member of the advisory board of his township, also as a member of the county council. He was formerly president of the Bank of Fremont, which later became the First State Bank of Fremont. Recently he sold his stock in that institution. Mr. McClue married Flora E. Mallory, of Steuben County. She died July 16, 1912, mother of three sons, Carl C., Howard L. and Emmet G. Emmet graduated from the Angola High School in 1919, at the age of seventeen. The son Carl married Miss Mary Rakestraw and has a son, Wayne Russell. Howard L. married Ethel Clark. On July 16, 1914, Mr. McClue married Mrs. Edith (Munger) Craig, widow of Fred Craig. She has a daughter, Florence E. Craig, now the wife of Dr. Clyde R. Clark of Goshen, Indiana, and is the mother of one child, Vincent. Mrs. McClue, who is a member of the Christian Church, is a daughter of one of the early settlers of Steuben County.

GEORGE W. COLE. The last several years have found George W. Cole busily engaged in the management of one of the valuable farms of Scott Township in Steuben County. A native of that county, he has been familiar since early childhood with all conditions affecting farm life and work, and is one of the practical, progressive men who are doing much to bring Steuben County to the front as an agricultural community.

Mr. Cole, who represents an old family of Northeast Indiana, was born in Scott Township, December 28, 1870, a son of Nelson and Eliza (Phenecie) Cole. His father was born in Portage County, Ohio, May 4, 1838, and his mother in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, January 27, 1843. The paternal grandparents were Jacob V. and Sarah (Geer) Cole, who were early settlers in Steuben County, where they bought a large tract of land in Scott and Pleasant townships and spent the rest of their days in that community. Jacob Cole and wife had fourteen children, and the three still living are: Charles, of Scott Township, Sarah Rathburn and Marcia Eliza.

Nelson Cole and wife were married in Steuben County, February 16, 1860. On August 9, 1862, Nelson Cole and his brother Samuel enlisted as Union soldiers in Company H of the Seventy-fourth Indiana Infantry. Samuel was severely wounded at Jonesboro, Georgia, and died a few weeks afterward. Nelson Cole saw a great deal of severe fighting, participating in the Atlanta campaign and the march to the sea. His cousin, George Geer, was killed in the battle of Chickamauga. After the war he returned to Steuben County and became a farmer and owned a large place of 210 acres in Scott Township. He was later a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and in politics an ardent republican. He died at his home in Scott Township, January 4, 1901. His wife, who died December 29, 1904, came to Steuben County with her parents, George and Mary Ann Phenecie, who also settled in Scott Township. Her father later died in Kansas, and her mother a few years afterward in Steuben County. Nelson Cole and wife had four sons: Samuel, who died in infancy, Sherman, Frank and George.

George W. Cole grew up on the homestead farm, attended local schools for his education, and lived

at home until 1909. He then sold his possessions there and bought the farm he now owns in Scott Township, comprising 122 acres. This, under his management, is devoted to general farming and stock raising. Mr. Cole is a republican in politics and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows Lodge at Angola.

March 1, 1898, he married Miss Jennie Harmon, of Steuben County. She died May 27, 1911, the mother of two sons. Glen, born October 21, 1900, is a student in the Angola High School. Leon, born January 12, 1903, was educated in the district schools and the Angola High School, and died while a high school boy October 20, 1918. Mr. Cole married Lulu Maugherman on December 24, 1915.

GLENN W. KESLER, who represents one of the old and prominent families of Noble County, has made good use of his opportunities and is conducting one of the best appointed dairy farms in the vicinity of Kendallville. His home is in Jefferson Township, west of Kendallville.

Mr. Kesler was born in Orange Township of Noble County, June 4, 1890, son of T. P. and Ella (Smith) Kesler. His father was a native of Cardington, Morrow County, Ohio, while his mother was born in Eaton, Ohio. Both were brought to Noble County while children by their respective parents, and they grew up and married there. They were the parents of four children. Alta, the oldest, graduated from the Eclectic Medical College at Cincinnati and is now the wife of Doctor Boram, and both are in practice at South Bend, Indiana. Theo P. is a farmer at Sheboygan, Wisconsin. Glenn W. is third in age. Ethel is the wife of Ed Belmont and lives at Price, Utah.

Glenn W. Kesler grew up on a farm a mile east of Brimfield, Indiana, and besides the advantages afforded by the schools of that village attended Notre Dame University at South Bend for four years. He is one of the young college men who are making notable strides in agriculture in Indiana today. He has a 600-acre farm, located partly in Jefferson and partly in Orange townships, and his main source of production is dairying.

March 10, 1915, Mr. Kesler married Mrs. Pearl Shanafelt. She was born in Fulton County, Indiana, and was educated in the local schools and in the schools of South Bend. By her first husband she has a son, Elwood Shanafelt. Mr. and Mrs. Kesler have one son, Glenn W., Jr. Mr. Kesler is affiliated with Lodge No. 1194 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

FRANK G. SALISBURY, whose father was one of the settlers of 1836 in Steuben County, is one of the best known citizens, is present county commissioner, former state representative, and while many years of his life were devoted to farming, his chief attention at present is given to the Shady Nook resort at Lake Gage, of which he is proprietor.

Mr. Salisbury was born in Millgrove Township November 28, 1854, a son of Chester D. and Julia (Collins) Salisbury. His great-grandfather, Hezekiah Salisbury, at one time owned land included in the present site of the city of Brattleboro, Vermont. His grandfather, Edgar Salisbury, was in the War of 1812. Chester D. Salisbury was born in Jefferson County, New York, in 1817, and owing to the death of his father when he was eight years of age had to become a working member of the household and saw much hardship and few educational or other advantages except such as he could gain for himself. He served an apprenticeship at the tanner's trade, but left that employment in 1836 to come to

Indiana. On arriving in Steuben County he burned lime for two years in Jamestown Township, then opened up and improved a farm, and after four years moved to another place in Millgrove Township. He reached Steuben County almost penniless and fifty years later was enjoying the income and comforts of one of the model farms of the county. He married in 1838 Julia Collins, a daughter of Barton Collins, distinguished as the first permanent settler in Jamestown Township.

Frank G. Salisbury grew up on his father's farm, attended district schools, high school at Orland and the high school at Angola. He worked on the home place until he was twenty-three, and in August, 1878, he went to the Nebraska frontier. He was in Nebraska until December, 1884. Being a man of good education he employed some of his earlier years in teaching school. He was thus employed for four years in Steuben County, two years in Branch County, Michigan, and while in Nebraska he taught for two years in Fillmore County. On returning to Indiana in December, 1884, Mr. Salisbury bought a farm in Millgrove Township, joining the place where he was born. He lived there and gained most of his competence for twenty-eight years. On leaving the farm he moved to Orland, and in 1913 he moved to his present home in Shady Nook on Lake Gage in Millgrove Township. As owner of the Shady Nook resort he has a valuable property consisting of a hotel and seven cottages, and it is one of the most attractive and best patronized resorts in Steuben County.

February 26, 1879, Mr. Salisbury married Barbara E. Pocock, daughter of Levi and Barbara (Yanney) Pocock. Levi Pocock, who was born in 1817, in Maryland, grew up in Ohio, and in 1866 moved to LaGrange County, Indiana, and two years later to Steuben County, where he became a farmer in Millgrove Township. Mr. and Mrs. Salisbury had four children: Earl married Jeanette Van Fossen, and their family consists of Esther, Martha, Wendell and Arthur. Geneva is the wife of Harry Fashbough and has three children, Barbara, Shirley and Keith. Irene is the wife of Carl Cary and has a son, Gordon. Winifred is now employed in the adjutant general's office at Washington, D. C.

Mr. Salisbury for many years has been a prominent figure in the public life of his home township and county. He served as trustee of Millgrove Township from 1895 to 1900, from 1903 to 1905 represented Steuben and LaGrange counties in the State Legislature, and in 1914 was elected county commissioner, taking office in January, 1916. He is a member of the Lodge and Chapter of Masons at Orland and the Knight Templar Commandery at Angola.

ALLEN J. GREENE was for thirty years one of the leading stock buyers of Steuben County, living at Orland, and was also a Union soldier during the Civil war.

He was born in Ohio in 1847 and died at Orland November 17, 1900. His parents, Francis and Alceta (Mason) Greene, came to Steuben County about 1856, settling in Fremont Township, where they lived on a farm the rest of their lives. The mother died June 27, 1895. Francis Greene was also a minister of the Baptist Church.

Allen J. Greene grew up in that county, had a public school education, and in 1863, at the age of sixteen, enlisted in the 12th Indiana Cavalry and served until the close of the war as a Union soldier. After the war for thirty years he was engaged in the live stock business. He was a republican and finally became a democrat. He was affiliated with the Masons and Odd Fellows at Orland.



In 1870 he married Miss Mary Brown, a native of LaGrange County, and daughter of Frederick and Olive (Gambia) Brown, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of New York. Her father came to LaGrange County when a young man, and was married at Hamilton in Steuben County, his wife being a daughter of Joseph and Rachel (Smart) Gambia, who settled in Steuben County as early as 1843. Mrs. Greene's parents spent many years on a farm in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County, where, beginning with eighty acres, they gradually acquired 230 acres. Mrs. Greene now owns part of that old homestead. The father of Mrs. Greene died in 1886 and her mother in 1893. Besides Mrs. Greene, the oldest of their children, there were Florence, Frederick, who died at the age of nine months, and Charles.

**FLEMING NEWELL WILSON.** Of the old citizenship of Steuben County, no name for almost seventy years has carried with it, generation after generation, more genuine respect and esteem than that of Wilson. While it has not been an unusually prolific family, it has been sturdy, independent and useful, and not without heroic qualities, for it has not been lacking in military sacrifices. A worthy representative of this fine old family is found in Fleming Newell Wilson, and his large estate of 235 acres, lying in Jackson Township, includes ninety acres of the old original Wilson homestead secured in 1850.

Fleming Newell Wilson was born in a log cabin then the family home, standing on land he now owns, in Jackson Township, Steuben County, Indiana, February 20, 1864. His parents were Newell A. and Mary (Klink) Wilson, the former of whom was born near Plymouth, Ohio, and was a son of Fleming and Susannah Wilson, and the latter, also born in Ohio, was a daughter of Christian and Mary Klink. In 1850 Fleming Wilson and his family came from Ohio to Steuben County and secured 160 acres of land in Jackson Township. They were quiet, frugal, industrious pioneers, and after the building of the log house Mr. Wilson cleared his land and gradually improved it, and here both he and wife died. Of their seven children but three reached maturity, namely: Newell A., Levi and John.

Newell A. Wilson was thirteen years old when the family came to Indiana, and he completed his schooling in Steuben County, after which he taught school. In the course of time ninety acres of the home place became his property, and he took pride in its possession and never parted with it. His span of life was not extended into old age, for he was a martyr to his loyalty to country. He enlisted for service in the Civil war, was taken sick and came home on a furlough, but failed to recover, dying August 22, 1864. In 1873 his widow married George King, who died in 1905, leaving no children. To her first marriage two children were born: Frances R. and Fleming Newell.

Frances R. Wilson was born in June, 1862, secured a good education and taught school for some years prior to her marriage to Guy Bodley, a son of Levi N. and Mary Jane Bodley, of Salem Township. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Bodley, namely: Ethel and Glenn. Ethel married Clarence Houts, and they have three children: Lois, Lawrence and Mary. Glenn Bodley married Bonnie Avery, and they have two children: Harold and John. Guy Bodley and his wife live at Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Fleming Newell Wilson was reared on the home farm and first attended the country schools and

later the high school at Angola, which was in 1883. He has devoted himself to agricultural pursuits and is considered one of the most up-to-date and successful farmers and stockraisers of Steuben County. For some years he was an extensive grower of sheep. Mr. Wilson has carried on his operations carefully and systematically, keeping well informed through the Grange and by other means, and has built up fortune as well as reputation.

Mr. Wilson was married December 24, 1887, to Miss Myrtie L. Barr, who was born in Jackson Township, Steuben County, July 28, 1869, and is a daughter of Luke and Mary (Williams) Barr. Her paternal grandfather, Jared Barr, was born in Massachusetts in 1784, and married Lucretia Hazen, a native of Connecticut, a cousin of the father of General Hazen. They lived in Dover and Elyria, Ohio, until 1845, when they moved to Steuben County, Indiana, and bought eighty acres of Lyman Clark in Jackson Township, and both died there. Jared Barr served in the War of 1812, and was captain of a company. He and wife belonged to the Disciples Church, in which he was a minister.

Luke Barr, father of Mrs. Wilson, was born at Elyria, Ohio, September 22, 1830. He was an enterprising citizen and well-to-do farmer, and for many years was widely known as a competent teacher of vocal music. In 1864 Mr. Barr married Mary Williams, who was born at Manlius, New York, May 15, 1840, and died at Reid City, Michigan, June 3, 1902. When eighteen years old she was graduated from Phipps Female Seminary, Albion, New York, and afterward taught school for twenty-five terms, for a while being principal of a school at Newville, Ohio. To Luke and Mary Barr the following children were born: Lena, Myrtie, Lillie, Charles and Guy. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have had children as follows: Erma, Alma B., Newell H., Lloyd, Loyal B. and Carroll. The eldest, Erma Wilson, was born April 1, 1889, attended the public schools and completed the high school course, subsequently pursuing the study of music in the Chicago Conservatory of Music, since when she has been teaching her art. Alma B. Wilson was born May 18, 1890, was graduated from the Flint High School, after which she studied dramatic art, expression and music with noted instructors in Chicago. Newell H. Wilson was born February 2, 1892, and died in March, 1898. Lloyd Wilson, who was born July 18, 1894, was graduated from the Angola High School, after which he spent several years at Purdue University. He is a successful breeder of Hereford cattle. He was subject to draft during the great war, was called May 21, 1918, was transferred from Columbus, Ohio, to Fort Snelling, Minnesota, then to Camp Taylor, Kentucky, and was taking officer's training when the armistice with Germany was signed, and he was discharged December 1, 1918, when he returned home and resumed the pursuits of civil life. Loyal B. Wilson was born March 8, 1900, and was graduated from the Jefferson High School, Lafayette, Indiana, in 1919. Carroll Wilson, who was born July 15, 1902, at present is a student in the Jefferson High School of Lafayette. Mr. Wilson is one of Steuben County's representative men.

**CHARLES A. GATWOOD** is one of the pleasant spoken citizens of Albion, a man of long experience in mercantile affairs, and is honored as the present trustee of Albion Township.

He was born in that township of Noble County, December 9, 1873, son of Joseph and Mary (Rinehart) Gatwood. His father was a native of Ohio and his mother of Pennsylvania. Both the Rinehart and Gatwood families came to Indiana in early



days, the Rineharts settling near Ossian and the Gatwoods in Wells County, near Zanesville. After Joseph Gatwood was married he moved to LaGrange County, near Howe, worked at his trade as a carpenter there, and on moving to Albion continued business as a contractor and builder and was also in the bakery and grocery business for a time. Then for twenty-three years he was foreman of a gang of railway bridge carpenters. He and his wife are still living at Albion. For a brief time he was a soldier in the Civil war and is a member of the Grand Army Post. He is active in the United Brethren Church. There were eight children: Sarah, wife of J. N. Busz; John F., of Albion; Emma R., wife of A. B. Pinchon; Charles A.; George W., of Arcola, Indiana; Clyde D., deceased; Ted L., of Albion; and Donald M., of Albion.

Charles A. Gatwood grew up in Albion Township and attended the public schools of the village. After leaving school he worked as a clerk for ten years, then followed the barber trade in Mishawaka, Indiana, four years, and in the same city was employed as a rubber boot maker four years. On returning to Albion he engaged in the grocery business with J. N. Busz, and after about four years bought out his partner and has been sole proprietor of one of the leading establishments of its kind in Noble County for the past eight or nine years.

Mr. Gatwood married for his first wife Elizabeth Meiser, of Auburn, Indiana. She died of smallpox, leaving one son, Joseph L., who is now a student in high school. Mr. Gatwood married for his present wife Nettie M. Stewart, of Avilla. They have two daughters: Hilda Mae, born in 1906, and Lora L., born in 1910, now students in the public schools. Mr. Gatwood and family are members of the United Brethren Church. He is affiliated with Albion Lodge No. 223, Knights of Pythias, of which he is a past chancellor, and is also a member of the Maccabees and the Brotherhood of American Yeomen. In politics he has been quite active as a republican, and his fellow citizens have been proud of the record he has made as trustee of the township.

CARY M. SNOWBERGER, representative of an old and well known family name in Steuben County, adopted as his profession dental surgery, and has made a conspicuous success of its practice at Hudson.

Doctor Snowberger was born in Steuben County, May 15, 1875, a son of Robert and Marie (Lacey) Snowberger. The family history will be found on other pages. He acquired his early education in the district schools, spent a year and a half in the Angola Tri-State College, and in October, 1897, entered the Ohio College of Dental Surgery, where he was graduated in May, 1900. He at once located at Hudson and has been the leading dentist of that village for nearly twenty years and a man of unusually fine qualifications professionally and as a citizen.

While in college Doctor Snowberger became a charter member of Rho Chapter of the Psi Omega dental fraternity. He is a member in good standing of the DeKalb County, Northern Indiana, Fort Wayne District, Indiana State and American Dental associations and the Isaac Knapp Dental Coterie. In Masonry he is affiliated with the Lodge at Hudson, the Chapter at Ashley and the Council at Angola. Doctor Snowberger married Reba B. Brown, a daughter of Jacob Brown, on March 27, 1901.

SOLOMON SEXAUER is widely known as the cattle king of Northern Indiana, and while now practically retired his operations as a farmer, land owner and

stockman have covered a wide field in addition to the home farm where he has lived for more than half a century and which was developed from the stumps by the labors of himself and his father.

Mr. Sexauer was born in Erie County, Pennsylvania, May 28, 1842, a son of Andrew and Mary (Frey) Sexauer, both natives of Germany. His father was born in Baden, Germany, December 15, 1804, and came to America in 1823. For a time he worked for a governor of New York State at Albany, and married while there. He then moved to Erie County, Pennsylvania, and in 1862 came to LaGrange County and settled on the farm where his son Solomon now resides. He owned 250 acres and spent his last days with his son Tobias in Lima Township, where he died March 19, 1891. His wife had passed away July 27, 1890. They had a family of seven children, Solomon being the youngest.

Solomon Sexauer on coming to LaGrange County at once set to work to clear up the forest on his father's land, and has lived in that locality ever since. To the old homestead he added until at present he owns more than 1,200 acres of land, all joining. His home farm is improved with splendid buildings, and here and elsewhere he has carried on extensive operations in feeding and raising cattle, also feeding sheep. He is a republican in politics.

On January 2, 1882, Mr. Sexauer married Miss Christina Kielkopf, who was born in Sturgis, Michigan, December 13, 1864, a daughter of Frederick and Christina Kielkopf, who came from Germany and lived in New York and Sturgis, Michigan, and later settled on a farm in Lima Township of LaGrange County, where her father died in 1909. Her mother is now living in Howe. To Mr. and Mrs. Sexauer were born four children: An infant daughter that died soon after birth; Edward, who married and has a daughter, Margaret; Carrie and Albert, both at home with their parents.

WILLIAM T. BOWLES, a resident of Angola, has had an active career as a farmer, contractor, lumber and coal merchant and in various official capacities in Steuben County.

He was born at Mishawaka, Indiana, March 25, 1864. His father, William Bowles, was twelve years old when he came with his father from England to New York, and soon afterward the family came West to Indiana. William Bowles after settling in Steuben County owned a small tract of land near Metz, where he lived until his death on March 8, 1913. He served several years as road supervisor. He was member of the United Brethren Church. His wife, Elnora Reed, was born in 1847 and died February 2, 1915. They had a family of seven children, Charles, Mary, William T., Archie, Calvin, Gracie and George. The son Archie died in infancy.

William T. Bowles acquired his education in the common schools of Steuben County, attended the Tri-State Normal College, and at the age of twenty-two began his practical career as a farmer. He farmed four years and then for six years did contracting work at Ashley. Going back on the farm, he later bought eighty acres of land and was busily engaged in producing crops and livestock until 1912. In that year he sold out and engaged in the lumber and coal business at Berlin. He continued his business career there until the Valley Line was discontinued. He supervised the construction of all the buildings at Berlin. After leaving that community he moved to Angola, where he resides today. Mr. Bowles has served for years on the Advisory Board and in politics is a republican.

March 25, 1886, he married Eveline Wisner,

daughter of Stephen and Martha Wisner. She was born in Steuben County, June 6, 1866. They have a family of six children, named: Essie, wife of Dr. J. N. Blackman; Ford, who died at the age of thirteen; Ralph, who married Hazel Tuttle; Ethel, wife of Curtis Steller; Ruth, wife of Paul Willoby; and Clark, a schoolboy fifteen years old.

EDWARD C. MOORE is a well-known agriculturist in Orange Township of Noble County, and after a considerable diversity of experience has settled down to farming the place where his mother was born and where he also first saw the light of day. This farm, comprising a valuable tract of land and well cultivated, is a mile and a quarter west of Rome City.

Mr. Moore was born July 13, 1876, son of William H. and Ursula J. (Hitchcock) Moore. His father was born in Elkhart Township of Noble County and his mother, as above stated, on the farm where Edward C. Moore now lives. The father is deceased and the mother is living in Rome City. Of their five children one died at the age of five years and the four still living are: Fred, a graduate of the Rome City High School, who served as county surveyor of Noble County fourteen years and is now well known in the abstract business; D. W. Moore, connected with the great Atkins Saw Manufacturing Company at Indianapolis; Frank H., a farmer in Orange Township; and Edward C.

Edward C. Moore grew up on the home farm and lived at home to the age of seventeen. He is a graduate of the Rome City grade schools. On leaving school he went to Indianapolis and spent several years in that city, following different lines of employment. At the age of twenty he returned home, and on October 20, 1897, married Miss Nora M. Miller. Mrs. Moore was born at Turkey Creek in Steuben County, Indiana, and was educated in the district and high schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Moore lived a year at Wolcottville, and then moved to the old farm. Six children were born to their marriage, five still living. Harold is a graduate of the Rome City High School. Gertrude is also a graduate of high school. Karl and Louise are both in the first year of the high school, and Mildred, the youngest, is in the fourth grade of the public schools. Mrs. Moore and the four oldest children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Moore is quite active in fraternal affairs and is present master of Rome City Lodge No. 451, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is also worthy patron of the Eastern Star Chapter. In politics he is a republican.

ORA W. FOSTER, whose people came to Steuben County about 1855, has made his efforts count to the building up of a good farm and a commendable degree of prosperity as a farmer in York Township, where he was born and where he has spent most of his life.

Mr. Foster was born November 9, 1863, a son of James and Margaret A. (Hemry) Foster and a grandson of William Foster. William Foster was born in Ireland, June 10, 1811, and was a boy when he came to the United States. August 24, 1836, while living in Richland County, Ohio, he married Margaret J. Bell, who was born in New York State, June 25, 1818. About 1855 they came from Ohio and settled in York Township, locating on a farm. About 1865 William Foster returned to Edgerton, Ohio, remained there about eight years and then came to York Township again and lived until his death on February 11, 1890. His death was the result of an accident. He found it convenient to

cross a railroad trestle. He knew that the fast train was due but was informed that it had passed, and he started across and was overtaken and killed. His wife had died April 18, 1889. Their children were: Emily Ann, born September 19, 1838; James, born May 10, 1841; Elizabeth, born March 14, 1844; William, born June 17, 1847; Mary H., born November 22, 1849; Margaret, born May 26, 1852; Frank, born April 22, 1855; and Olive May, born August 16, 1860.

James Foster, who was born at West Unity, Ohio, May 10, 1841, was about fourteen years old when his parents moved from Ohio to York Township. When a young man he was poisoned by sumac, and the infection resulted in a permanent injury to his right leg, so that he has lived physically handicapped. He and his wife still live in York Township. His wife, Maragret A. Hemry, was a daughter of Abraham Hemry. They had six children: Ora W., George W., Eva M., wife of Frank Brooks, Ida M., wife of Fred Covell, Emily A., wife of Herman Trowbridge, and Lilly B., wife of George Court.

Ora W. Foster acquired his early education in the district schools of York Township and early took up the responsibilities of life and became self supporting. He worked as a farm hand for about fifteen years. On November 10, 1893, he married Zoe J. Smith, daughter of Joseph and Rebecca (Troxell) Smith. The spring after his marriage Mr. Foster began farming for himself on a rented place in York Township. Slowly his experience and industry brought him the necessary capital with which to buy land of his own. He made the purchase of his present farm in 1902. His first purchase was seventy-nine and a half acres, and since then he has bought twenty acres more. He has added to the buildings and has done more than make a good living out of his land. Mr. Foster is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Fremont, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

His first wife died December 2, 1915, the mother of two children: Teresa D., wife of Witz Mason, and Thetis M., wife of Hershel J. Reichardt. November 30, 1918, Mr. Foster married Mrs. Ida B. Barnes, widow of Albert Barnes.

WILLIAM E. MURRAY. Though a native of Elkhart County, William E. Murray has spent most of his life in LaGrange County, in his earlier years worked at the carpenter's trade, and gradually acquired and improved a fine farm, which he still owns and occupies in Van Buren Township.

Mr. Murray was born in Elkhart County July 25, 1861, a son of James C. and Mary Ann (Smith) Murray. His parents came to Indiana from Sandusky, Ohio, settled in Elkhart County, and two weeks after the birth of their son William moved to Newbury Township of LaGrange County. They lived on the farm now occupied by their son Frank and owned 130 acres. The father died there December 4, 1892, at the age of seventy-seven, while the mother passed away in 1889, at the age of sixty-seven. James Murray was a democrat in politics and his wife was affiliated with the Methodist Church. They had eleven children, three of whom died young, the others being named Jane, Amanda, Silas, Martha, David, Frank, William E. and Emma.

William E. Murray grew up in Newbury Township, was educated in the common schools and at the age of twenty-three began working at the carpenter's trade and for two years rented a house from Moses Miller. He made his living as a carpenter for eight years. He then bought twenty acres in the woods, where he now lives, put up some



good buildings, and after clearing the land has gone steadily ahead as a farmer and today owns a good property of eighty acres. He is a democrat but has never aspired to public office. He and his wife are Methodists.

December 24, 1884, Mr. Murray married Miss Lydia Neff. She was born in Newbury Township August 18, 1864, a daughter of Abram and Fannie (Plank) Neff. Her parents came to LaGrange County from Holmes County, Ohio, also lived for several years in Elkhart County, but in 1866 moved to Van Buren Township, where they spent the rest of their years. Mrs. Murray's father died in 1909, at the age of eighty, and her mother in 1904, aged seventy-two. In the Neff family were nine children, named John, Peter, Joseph, Barbara, Amos (deceased), Lydia, Emma, Mary and Amanda (deceased).

Mr. and Mrs. Murray had five children. Carrie E. is the wife of Clifford Sixbux; Edward married Blanche Hayes and has a son, Raymond; Willard married Ocie Davis, a daughter of Eugene Davis, of LaGrange County, and their family consists of Vera, Roscoe and Rachel. The two younger children, both at home, are Harold E. and Hulda E., twins.

**CHARLES L. CRANDALL.** One of the families earliest to settle in Steuben County and carry on the work of development on Jackson Prairie was that of Crandall. Charles L. Crandall was an infant when his parents located there, and he has spent over seventy years in this county. He went from here to join the Union army as a boy soldier in the Civil war. Since then for half a century he has given his time and attention to farming, and is now living practically retired and in comfort.

Mr. Crandall was born in Seneca County, New York, November 2, 1845, a son of Albert and Sarah (Beebe) Crandall, both natives of New York State, where they grew up and married. They came to Steuben County in 1846 and acquired forty acres of government land on Jackson Prairie. They lived there until after the war, when they sold and bought the eighty acres now owned by their son Charles in Pleasant Township. Albert Crandall died on this homestead in 1876, at the age of sixty-one. He was a republican and a Mason, and with his wife was active in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He had the following children: Charles L., Lamott, Loren, Randolph, Lavitis and Adella, the last four now deceased.

Charles L. Crandall was educated in the Jackson Township schools, and lived at home on the farm until he was about eighteen years of age. On January 1, 1864, he enlisted in Company E of the One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry. He saw some of the very hard fighting in the center of the Confederacy during the last year and a half of the war, was in the Atlanta campaign, the battle of Wise's Forks and the great struggle at Franklin and Nashville. He was mustered out at Charlotte, North Carolina, August 29, 1865. After the war he returned home and following his father's death, bought the old homestead and has lived there ever since. He has made modern improvements, has raised great numbers of livestock, and a feature of his livestock business and general farming is a silo. Mr. Crandall is a republican, a member of the Masonic Order and the Grand Army of the Republic.

February 6, 1870, he married Miss Mary Stroh. She was born at Bucyrus, Ohio, and came to Steuben County with her parents, Hugh and Catharine (Fike) Stroh. Her father was a Dunkard

preacher and spent his last years at Quincy, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Crandall had one son, Roscoe H. He was born June 20, 1876, was educated in the district schools and the Angola High School, taught two terms and was a farmer until his death. He married Maud N. Holder on April 6, 1899, and she became the mother of three children: R. Clair, born March 30, 1900, who was educated in the public schools; H. Wayne, born February 9, 1902, a student in the Angola High School; and Richard Dale, born April 20, 1906, who died in infancy. Mrs. Roscoe Crandall was married September 10, 1918, to Benjamin S. Farris, who is a mechanical engineer now in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Mr. Crandall and his daughter-in-law are members of the Latter Day Saints Church, while Mrs. Crandall is affiliated with the Christian denomination.

**JOHN J. FORKER.** There is no better known citizen of Noble County than John J. Forker. He has lived a long life of three score years and ten, and from youth to the present time he has been active in varied affairs, is a man of diverse interests, and the diligent and successful prosecution of his own business has been accompanied by a worthy public spirit and participation in many affairs that affect the entire neighborhood. Mr. Forker has a large and prosperously conducted farm in Orange Township, in section 36.

He is one of the oldest living native citizens of Noble County, having been born in Wayne Township, a half mile east of where he now lives, April 30, 1848. His parents were Oliver and Elizabeth (Dingman) Forker. His father was born in New York State, June 24, 1825, son of John A. and Sybil (Bruer) Forker. From New York State the family moved to Ohio and later to Noble County, Indiana. The Forkers arrived in Noble County as early as 1834 and the Dingmans in 1833. Oliver Forker and wife were married in Noble County and then located on a farm in Wayne Township, where they lived until his death in 1880. The mother passed away in 1893. Oliver Forker was an active member of the Free Will Baptist Church and a democrat in politics. There were ten children in the family, two of whom died young, and five are still living. The oldest is John J. Edmund lives at Redford, Michigan. Ellen is the wife of Curtis M. Evans, of Lincoln, Nebraska. George O. was a farmer in Steuben County and is now deceased. Perry is a farmer in Wayne Township. James is fireman at the Waterworks plant in Kendallville.

John J. Forker grew up on the home farm and attended the district schools. On August 18, 1878, he married Miss Emma Strater, who was born in Orange Township, member of one of the old and well known families of Noble County. After his marriage Mr. Forker lived on his father's farm until 1883, and then bought eighty acres included in his present farm. He had to earn his own modest capital and has made his way by dependence upon his own energies and good judgment. He is now owner of a fine farm of 280 acres, and for many years has been one of the breeders of high grade livestock of all kinds. Mr. Forker was for twenty-five years well known among the farmers of Noble County as proprietor of a threshing outfit, and is one of the veterans in that industry. He is a director in the Lisbon Canning Factory at Lisbon, Indiana, and is adjuster for the Farmers Mutual Fire Insurance Company in Wayne, Orange, York, Elkhart and Perry townships.

In politics Mr. Forker is a democrat. When he was chosen treasurer of Noble County in November, 1906, it was by a majority of 100, and that was a



high testimony to his efficiency and popularity since the county was normally republican by at least 400. He entered upon the duties of his office January 1, 1908, and served four full years. In 1883 Mr. Forker was one of the organizers of the Eastern Indiana Fair Association, and he has long been one of its directors and is superintendent of its horse department. Mr. Forker is an authority on many matters of local history. For many years he has kept a diary, and besides noting his own private affairs he has kept various other interests, including the daily temperature, and that is one of the few records of the kind to be found outside the regular Government weather stations.

Mr. and Mrs. Forker have four children: John, a farmer in Jefferson Township, who married Edith Glosser; Laloh, a graduate of the common schools and wife of Ernest Layman, of Allen Township; Merle, who runs the home farm and married Rosa Pankop; and Fred, who is a farmer in Jefferson Township and married Mary Butler.

C. A. HICKMAN, proprietor of the Locust Stock Farm near Wilmot in Washington Township of Noble County, has achieved success and a reputation as a farmer and breeder of horses and cattle after a youth and early manhood of comparative struggle and hard work. He obtained his start by working for others at the usually accepted wages of the time, and has gone steadily ahead year after year, solving the problems as they came up, and letting every experience count to his good in the long run.

Mr. Hickman was born in Thorn Creek Township of Whitley County, Indiana, August 7, 1858, son of Lewis J. and Martha (Jones) Hickman. His father was born in Hawkins County, Tennessee, and his mother in Shelby County, Ohio. They met and married in Whitley County, Indiana, and then settled on a farm in Thorn Creek Township, and from there moved to Greene Township of Noble County, Indiana, locating near Charter Oak Church, where they spent the rest of their days. They were very devout members and worshippers in the United Brethren Church. The father was a democrat. Of their nine children five are still living: C. A.; Ann, wife of John Garland; Ellen, wife of Arthur Rose; Almira, wife of Donald Grabill; and Sarena, wife of John Benhamer.

C. A. Hickman's boyhood recollections are chiefly centered around the old farm in Greene Township. He attended district school there, and at the age of nineteen left home to make his own way in the world. For several years he worked at monthly wages, and by the time he was ready to marry and settle he had saved \$350. That was the capital that provided for his first adventure in home making.

February 11, 1886, he married Eva Tulley, who was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1867. For several years Mr. and Mrs. Hickman rented land in Noble and Elkhart counties, and finally they bought their present farm in Washington Township. The Locust Stock Farm comprises 140 acres, and has a more than local reputation on account of its fine Belgian horses and Shorthorn cattle. His stock of these strains are in great demand by buyers both in the locality and from a distance.

Mr. Hickman is a democrat. He and his wife have three children: Sadie, a graduate of the common schools; Clarence, who is married and lives on a farm near his father; and Guy, a graduate of the common schools and still at home.

JAMES W. PORTER is one of the widely known citizens of Richland Township in Steuben County,

and is a son of a hard working and zealous pioneer minister in this section of Northeast Indiana.

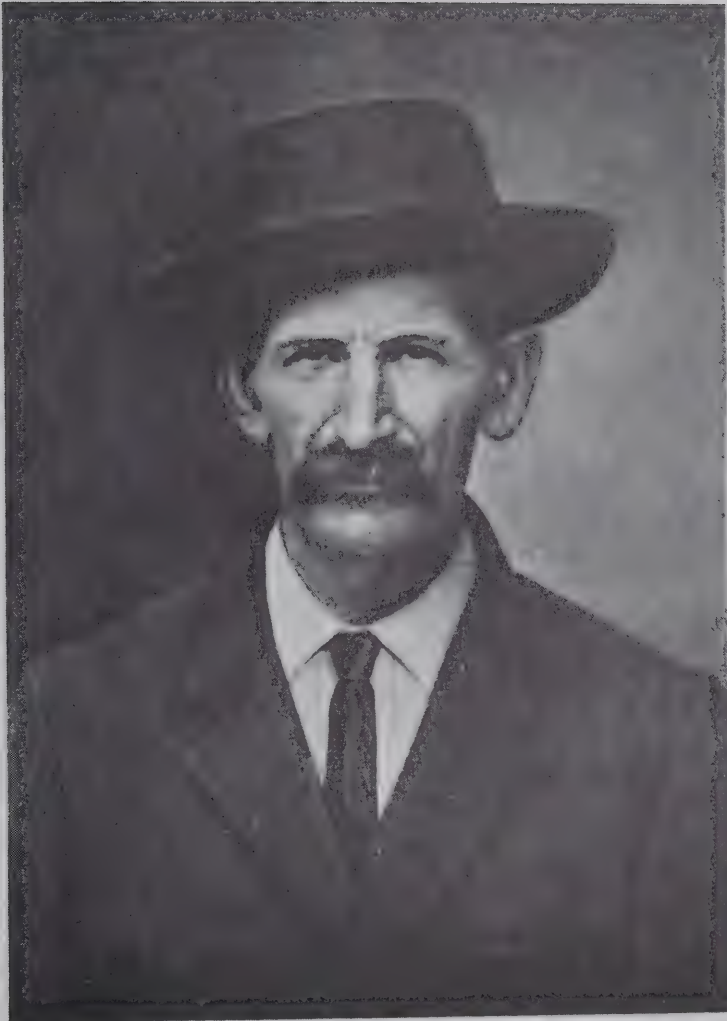
His father, Rev. Joseph Porter, was born in Medina County, Ohio, in 1820, and in 1867 married Huldah Buck, also a native of Medina County. Soon afterward they came to Steuben County, Indiana, locating in Richland Township, where Rev. Joseph Porter did much to build up the interests in the United Brethren Church. He preached in a number of places and continued in ministerial work for many years. After about two years he moved to the vicinity of Nevada Mills in Steuben County and lived there until after the death of his wife. He was three times married. His nine children were: William, two that died in infancy, Samuel D., Edmond R., Henry, John, Gurden and James W.

James W. Porter was born in Wood County, Ohio, April 30, 1858, received his education in Steuben County, and learned the tinner's trade. He later took up farming, was a renter for several years in York Township, and in 1897 bought the farm he now owns adjoining the village of Metz and containing 108 acres. He is one of the prosperous citizens in that locality and has frequently been honored with stations of trust. He served as trustee of Richland Township six years and as assessor four years. He is a republican and he and his wife have been active in the United Brethren Church for over forty years.

In 1878 Mr. Porter married Miss Sarah M. Snider, who was born in Defiance County, Ohio, November 1, 1857, a son of Solomon and Delilah Snider. Her parents came to Richland Township of Steuben County about 1882, and her father died here in 1889 and her mother in 1906. Mr. and Mrs. Porter had five children: Minnie, wife of Lester Lechleid and the mother of two children, named Frances and Willis; Myrtle, who is married and has four children, named Helen, Wilma, Roscoe and Leota; Jennie, who died at the age of twenty-six; Roscoe, who died at the age of eight years; and Estelle, who died at the age of six.

JOHN JACOB YUNKER is making a specialty of Jersey cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs on one of the good farms of Lima Township, LaGrange County. He is a man of good education, with the advantage of youth, enthusiasm and unlimited energy, and is regarded as one of the most progressive men in his locality.

Mr. Yunker is an American in everything except birth and earliest infancy. He was born in Berne, Switzerland, December 23, 1882, and a few weeks later was brought by his parents, Rudolf and Rosetta (Lew) Yunker to this country. His parents were both Swiss, and Mr. Rudolf Yunker was educated in the common schools there and each year for twelve years took military training and drill. He was a stone mason by trade, and after his father's death he made his industry the chief support of his widowed mother. In 1883 he brought his family to America, arriving in New York City October 15th and coming directly to Howe, Indiana. Rudolf Yunker found work at his trade and always followed that occupation, though owning farms and living on them, allowing his sons to till the fields. He first bought twenty acres in Clay Township and cleared away enough of the timber to make a space on which to erect his log house. In course of time he had most of this tract under cultivation, and he and his family lived there until 1900, and after that spent three years in another part of Clay Township, and in 1903 moved to the farm now occupied by John Jacob Yunker in Lima Township. Rudolf Yunker acquired eighty acres there and had the



*C. W. Hickman*





farm improved with good buildings before he moved his family. The farm remained his home until 1913, when he moved to Howe and was living retired when he died June 19, 1919. His wife died on the farm May 15, 1910. Rudolf Yunker and wife had eight children: Rudolf, Jr., Rosetta, John J., Ameil, Mary, Fred, Mabel, who died in April, 1918, and Howard.

John Jacob Yunker is a graduate of the Howe High School and spent one summer in the University of Indiana and another summer in the Normal School at Ypsilanti, Michigan. He gave three years of his early manhood to teaching, spending one year in the schools of Ontario and two years at Howe. Then for two years he was employed in the cold storage plant of Bollman Brothers, at Sturgis, Michigan, and since then has been farming either in Greenfield Township or over the line in Michigan. He has been directing head of the old Yunker farm since 1913. He is a member of the Methodist Church.

Mr. Yunker married Miss Mabel Kelly June 5, 1907. She was born in LaGrange County, a daughter of Daniel M. Kelly. Mr. and Mrs. Yunker have an interesting family of five children: Gwendolyn E., Helen R., Marjorie E., Robert John and Jean H.

Daniel M. Kelly, father of Mrs. Yunker, was born in St. Joseph County, Michigan, August 27, 1861, son of John M. and Asenath M. (Parham) Kelly, the former a native of Trumbull County, Ohio, and the latter of Greenfield Township, LaGrange County. John M. Kelly was a son of William and Rebecca (Tiley) Kelly, who in 1854 moved from Ohio to St. Joseph County, Michigan, and later came to LaGrange County. William Kelly spent his life as a farmer and lived on one side or the other of the Michigan-Indiana state line until his death. John M. Kelly had a common school education, and taught school in LaGrange County and in Michigan. Most of his active life was spent as a farmer in Greenfield Township. His wife died in 1909 on the old farm where she was born. Her parents were Thomas and Susan (Kenyon) Parham, the former a native of England, who came to America when a young man. The Parhams were early settlers of LaGrange County. John M. Kelly after the death of his wife retired to Sturgis, Michigan, where he died. He owned 620 acres in Michigan and Indiana, and at one time was township trustee in Greenfield. His family of six children are all living, named Daniel M., E. Morton, Susan R., Fidelia J., Mary E. and Albert M.

Daniel M. Kelly was one year old when his parents moved to Greenfield Township, and he has spent his life there prosperously and effectively, devoted to farming and stock feeding. He owns 360 acres in LaGrange County and twenty acres across the Michigan line. He served on the township advisory board fourteen years. In 1884 Mr. Kelly married Miss Eliza M. Milliman, who was born in Branch County, Michigan, a daughter of Jerome B. Milliman. They have five children: Mabel A., Eva I., Edith L., Robert J. and Ralph.

SHIRLEY D. FEE, a grandson of the first settler in Otsego Township of Steuben County, has been a diligent and public-spirited factor in that community for many years, was formerly a farmer and is now proprietor of the Fee mills at Metz.

His grandfather, John Fee, was born in Southern Ohio, October 13, 1810, a son of William Fee, who about 1830 moved to Williams County, Ohio. John Fee in 1833 married Mary A. B. Houlton, who was born in Highland County, Ohio, in 1811, daughter of Samuel Houlton, one of the first settlers of Chilli-

cothe. The Houlton family were conspicuous for their pioneer activities in DeKalb County, Indiana. In 1835 John Fee came to Otsego Township, and his was the first white family to make its home there. He acquired 120 acres in section 32, and was well fitted for his pioneer environment, being a man of great energy and industry. In time he became one of the largest land owners in the county, owning about 1,500 acres. His lands also extended into DeKalb County, and comprised several farms. John Fee died April 2, 1873. He was the father of nine children.

Of these Frank Fee was born in Otsego Township in 1844, attended the pioneer schools of Steuben County, and had much of the enterprise and ability of his father. At the time of his death he owned 413 acres of land. He was a republican in politics. He married in Steuben County, Setta Gilbert, a native of that county. They were the parents of twelve children, nine of whom reached mature years: Myrtle, Shirley, Flora, John, Asa (who is now deceased), Clarence, Earl, Lloyd and Aldah.

Shirley D. Fee was born in Otsego Township in August, 1879. He grew up on his father's farm and had a public school education. Becoming familiar with farming as a boy, he followed it as a regular occupation for many years, and in 1907 bought a place of sixty-four acres in Otsego Township. On January 1, 1919, he left the farm to take the active management of the Metz Mills, a property which he owns and which does a large business under his management. Mr. Fee is a republican and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge.

In 1901 he married Miss Alma Irene Gurtner, daughter of Henry Gurtner of Hamilton and member of a well-known family of Steuben County. They have one son, Walter Ray, born October 28, 1902, now a junior in the Metz High School.

JAMES W. HUNT, a farmer and livestock breeder in Washington Township of Noble County, is one of the interesting men of Northeastern Indiana, is widely traveled and variously experienced, and has seen a great deal of the world since his boyhood days in Indiana.

He was born in Etna Township of Whitley County, September 3, 1867, son of Franklin and Martha J. (Long) Hunt. His grandfather, Smith Hunt, was a prominent resident of Wayne County, Indiana, and in the early days acquired vast tracts of Government land in Whitley, Noble and Kosciusko counties. He never lived on this land, but kept his residence at Richmond, where he died. Franklin Hunt was born in Wayne County, February 22, 1828, and as a young man just turned of age in 1849 he left home and on horseback made the overland trip to California. He was in the Golden West for two years, and on returning to Indiana settled in Whitley County, where he spent the rest of his days as a successful farmer. His wife, Martha J. Long, was born in Chillicothe, Ohio, July 10, 1834, and is still living at the venerable age of eighty-four. Her father, Thomas Long, came to Indiana in 1847, locating in Whitley County.

James W. Hunt contented himself with the environment of the homestead farm in Etna Township until after he had attained the age of twenty-one. He then started out in the world, and in the course of his travels reached the far Orient in Korea, where he was connected with a gold mining company for a period of twelve years. Then after other travels and experiences he returned to Indiana and for a number of years has been giving all his time and energies to his farm of 160 acres in Wash-

ington Township of Noble County. Mr. Hunt has never married. He is affiliated with Cromwell Lodge No. 705, Free and Accepted Masons, is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, and is affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks at Ligonier and in politics is a republican.

**FRANK GETTINGS.** The Gettings family has played a part of unusual industry and enterprise in several localities of Northeast Indiana. Frank Gettings of this family was born in Noble County, spent part of his life in LaGrange County, and is now a prominent resident of Hamilton in Otsego Township of Steuben County.

He was born in Noble County, January 17, 1859, son of Adam and Lovina (Repine) Gettings. His father was an early settler in Noble County, first locating about two miles south of Kendallville and soon afterward buying a farm southwest of that city. He also lived in Kendallville, and was proprietor of the Air Line Hotel and entertained the traveling public for a number of years. He also conducted a livery and sales stable and became widely known as a dealer in horses. Finally selling his Kendallville interests he removed to LaGrange County, buying 160 acres in Milford Township. Later he bought forty acres where his son, James, now lives in that county, and on that place he died in 1888, when about sixty-seven years of age. His widow survived him until January 24, 1917, and was ninety-two years old at the time of her death. The father was a democrat, a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his wife was a Methodist. Their children were Frank, James and Alma, the daughter being now deceased. By a previous marriage Adam Gettings had three children: Thomas, William and Ella. Of these only the daughter survives.

Frank Gettings lived in Kendallville until he was twelve years old and while there attended the village schools. He also attended public school at Milford and for one term was in the college at Angola. His first farm comprised 40 acres in LaGrange County, but he sold that and bought 120 acres and in 1909 moved to Steuben County and bought 160 acres in Otsego Township. This farm is now under the active management of his son, Clair. He also acquired ten acres near the village of Metz, and that is his home and he uses the land and its facilities to conduct a dairy. He has been an extensive cattle feeder and very successful in handling all kinds of livestock.

Mr. Gettings is a democrat in politics. He married Miss Elsie Wright, daughter of Elbridge and Martha Wright, of Steuben County. They have two children: Zoa, at home, and Clair, who is manager of the farm. Clair married Elsie Snyder, and has two children, Esther May and Louise.

**JESSE W. CAMP,** one of the active and pushing men in the community of Smithfield Township, DeKalb County, has spent his active career as a farmer, is prominent in fraternal work, and has been honored by his fellow citizens with the office of trustee of Smithfield Township, of which he is the incumbent today.

He was born on the farm where he now lives near Ashley May 10, 1877, a son of Aaron W. and Amanda E. (Husselman) Camp. His father was born in Stark County, Ohio, May 17, 1847. His mother was born in Fairfield Township of DeKalb County and is still living, an active member of the Methodist Church. Aaron W. Camp was an active member and at one time chancellor of the Knights of Pythias Lodge and was its chancellor when his son took the preliminary work. He was a democrat

and was serving as a member of the county council when he died. He and his wife had five children: Jesse W.; Maude B., wife of Frank Duncan, living near Olivet, Michigan; Eva H., wife of Forest Miller of Ashley; Mabel C., who married H. T. Judson of Auburn, Indiana; and Ethel V., wife of Boyd Kirkland of Kenton, Ohio.

Jesse W. Camp, only son of his parents, grew up on the home farm, and since early manhood has been operating it. He has acquired other business interests and is a stockholder and director of the Commercial Bank of Ashley.

Mr. Camp married for his first wife Edna Hartman. After her death he married Catherine Donovan on September 30, 1917. She was born in Wabash County, Indiana, December 24, 1874, and her first husband was Thomas W. Millard. Mrs. Camp has a son, Warren J., who was born September 17, 1898, and is a graduate of the common schools. During the war he was in the aviation repair department at Dallas, Texas, and at this writing is still a Government employe. Mrs. Camp is an active member of the Church of Christ. Mr. Camp is past chancellor of Ashley Lodge No. 394, Knights of Pythias, and he and his wife are members of the Pythian Sisters. Mrs. Camp is a past worthy matron of the Eastern Star and also a past noble grand of the Rebekahs. Mr. Camp is a democrat in politics and on that ticket was elected to his present office as township trustee.

**JAMES ERIC GIFFORD** has been numbered among the leading farmers of Steuben County for a number of years, is a native of Northeast Indiana, and he took up farming after a number of years spent in mechanical trades.

Mr. Gifford was born in Scott Township, September 20, 1859, a son of Job and Hannah (Trobridge) Gifford. His father was born in Oswego County, New York, and his mother in Vermont. They were early settlers in LaGrange County, Indiana, and from there moved to Scott Township of Steuben County, buying a farm near the Gifford schoolhouse. Job Gifford died here in 1864 and his wife in 1872. Their children were: Lois, wife of Albert Wheaton; Lizzie, wife of Henry Arnold; Ida, who married Ed Hauselman; Freeman and Fremont, twins; Agnes; and James Eric.

James Eric Gifford grew up on his father's farm and attended Gifford schoolhouse. He left the farm in early life to go to work as a machinist, and was employed in machine shops for about fifteen years, and since that time has found both profit and pleasure in farming. He is a republican, and also a Mason and Odd Fellow.

In June, 1879, he married Ella Walgemuth. Their three children, all living, are Carrie, Eva and Grafton. Mr. Gifford married for his second wife Mrs. Sarah Jane (Dygart) Nisonger. She was born in Scott Township, January 6, 1858, a daughter of John and Caroline Dygart, representing an old family of this district. Mrs. Gifford married for her first husband on November 17, 1878, Jackson Nisonger. He was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana, February 3, 1855, son of Christopher and Barbara (Arnold) Nisonger. His parents were early settlers in Steuben County, and located the land that is now included in the fine home of Mr. and Mrs. Gifford. They traded land in Kosciusko County for this place, and developed a farm of 107 acres. Mr. Nisonger died in 1874 and his widow is now living in Colorado at the age of eighty-seven. In the Nisonger family were five children, Jennie, Jackson, Jacob, Dora and Alice. Jackson Nisonger grew up on the home farm in Steuben County, had an education in the public schools, and was a successful agriculturist until his



death. He was a democrat in politics. Mr. and Mrs. Nisonger had two children, Merle and Caroline.

THOMAS A. ANDERSON is one of the oldest residents of Swan Township, Noble County, his home having been in that locality for over sixty years. His life has been spent quietly but profitably as a farmer, and he still gives his active supervision to his farm of seventy acres lying adjacent to the Hopewell Church.

Mr. Anderson was born in Pennsylvania, March 21, 1847, son of Thomas A. and Jane (Cooley) Anderson, both natives of Pennsylvania. In 1854 the Anderson family came to Indiana and located in Swan Township of Noble County, where the parents spent the rest of their lives. The father was an active churchman and served as an elder in the Swan Presbyterian Church. He was a republican. Of eight children three are still living: Mary J., wife of Frank Mills; Sarah, widow of James McCoy; and Thomas A.

Thomas A. Anderson was seven years old when his parents came to Indiana, and he grew up in a rather frontier community, procuring his education in a log school house. For fully half a century he has been identified with the business of farming.

May 21, 1874, he married Miss Mary E. Moore, daughter of Rev. J. P. Moore. To their marriage were born three children, only one of whom is now living, Joseph M. Joseph M. was born August 25, 1882, and married Miss Nora E. Weimer, daughter of Samuel Weimer. Mr. Anderson is an active member of the Presbyterian Church and has served as deacon. He is a republican.

FRANK STROCK. No small part of the business enterprise of Hudson moves to the accompaniment of Frank Strock, who is banker, elevator man, and both a producer and a dealer, well and favorably known in that community.

Mr. Strock was born in Wayne County, Ohio, August 28, 1881. His grandparents were George and Mary (Baumgardiner) Strock. His father, Daniel Strock, who was born in Wayne County in June, 1852, had a farm there but did a large business in the buying and shipping of hay and potatoes, and was owner of the elevator at Hudson, Indiana. He died in November, 1909. He married Addie Troutman, who was born in Wayne County, a daughter of Philip and Pleasant Troutman. She is still living in Wayne County. Her children were six in number: Frank, Jay P., Earl Wayne, Mary, Fannie and Florence.

Frank Strock acquired his early education in the public schools of Wayne County, and when a young man gained much business experience working with his father in the handling of hay and potatoes. He came to Hudson in August, 1903, to take the management of the Hudson elevator, which was then owned by his father. He has been continuously in that business ever since, and since about 1908 has been owner of the establishment. Hudson is an important onion market, and Mr. Strock has had much to do with stimulating that production, growing onions himself and also buying them. He is president of the Farmers State Bank of Hudson and is a director and stockholder of the Auburn Hardware Company at Auburn. Mr. Strock is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Hudson, also the Royal Arch Chapter, the Commandery at Angola and the Scottish Rite Consistory at Fort Wayne and the Mystic Shrine. He is also a member of the Eastern Star.

March 20, 1906, he married Ada Ketchem, a daugh-

ter of Joseph and Frances Ketchem. They have two children, Paul Wayne and Carl A.

CARL J. SWANK, though not yet thirty years of age, is one of the independent business men of Northeast Indiana, and is active head of the firm Swank & Company, proprietors of two first class furniture and undertaking establishments at Hudson and Ashley.

Mr. Swank, who is a graduate embalmer and a man whose ability is greatly appreciated in his profession, was born near Ligonier in Noble County, Indiana, September 12, 1890, a son of Jerome and Almira (Retfrow) Swank. His father was born near Ligonier, and spent his active life on a farm there. He died in 1893. The mother is now living at Hudson, Indiana. They were married in Noble County and both were active members of the Methodist Church. In the family were two sons and one daughter, Grover, a barber at South Milford, Indiana; Carl J.; and Gertrude, wife of William Marshall of Noble County.

Carl J. Swank lived on the home farm until he was sixteen years of age. He attended the Topeka High School, and for four years followed the trade of barber. In 1910 he graduated from the Clark Embalming School at Cincinnati and at once returned to Hudson, where he followed his profession for four years. He then bought out the business of which he is proprietor. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Hudson and also the Knights of Pythias and in politics is a democrat. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He married Esther M. Bidwell, whose former home was near Rome City in Noble County. Their two children are June Adel, born in 1913, and Wendall, born in 1918.

FRANCIS H. RAMSAY has had a long and varied experience in business affairs in several states, is widely known in Steuben County, lives at Angola, and owns and operates a fine dairy farm near that city. He has been a manufacturer, and farmer, and in various lines of business experience.

Mr. Ramsay was born in Ayrshire, Scotland, March 22, 1848. He came to the United States in 1858, at the age of twenty, first locating in New York State, where he remained about nine months, then moved to Canada, and in 1874 to Michigan. He was at Mount Clemens for several years and in 1883 moved to Hillsdale, and in 1889 came to Angola, Indiana. Here he was in the cooperative business, employing as many as eight men, and he continued that industry until 1906. Since then he has been engaged in the dairy business, owning a well equipped farm adjoining the corporation limits of Angola and other property in the city. He has been very successful in his affairs since coming to Steuben County.

Mr. Ramsay is a republican in politics, and is a justice of the peace, an office he has filled capably for thirteen years. For many years he has been a deep student of Masonry, is thoroughly impressed with its doctrines, and is proud of the fact that most of his sons are also members of the same order and some of them have attained the highest degrees. Mr. Ramsay retains his affiliation in Hillsdale Lodge of Masons, Angola Chapter No. 58, Royal Arch Masons, and Angola Commandery No. 45, Knights Templar. He is a member of the Christian Science faith.

In 1867, in Scotland, he married Miss Armanella Hazlett. Mr. Ramsay was divorced from his first wife and in 1903 married Elizabeth Wolfe, of Angola. His first wife died in 1916. The present



Mrs. Ramsay is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Ramsay by his first marriage had eight children. Robert and Sarah Jane were twins and Robert is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and Shriner and a farmer in Steuben County. Francis James, the second son, died in 1896. Andrew John, a farmer in Pleasant Township, is a member of the Masonic Order. Samuel W. is also a Mason and lives in Colorado. Calvin, a well-known attorney at Angola, has attained the thirty-second degree of the Scottish Rite Masonry and is also grand high priest. Lillie lives in Pleasant Township. David V. joined the Engineering Corps of the National army in October, 1917, was sent overseas about Christmas of that year and saw a great deal of active service for nearly seventeen months, participating in some of the chief campaigns, and while in the front lines was gassed and wounded. He returned home on March 10, 1919, and is still suffering from the effects of the gas.

ALBERT D. SAWYER. The Sawyer family have been residents of Noble County more than eighty years. It is appropriate that a representative of this pioneer family should now hold the office of sheriff, Albert D. Sawyer having been elected and re-elected to that important office. Mr. Sawyer has spent most of his life as a practical farmer.

He was born on the old Sawyer homestead in Wayne Township of this county, January 28, 1859, son of Jackson and Margaret (Lavinger) Sawyer. Jackson Sawyer was born in Ohio, son of John and Charlotte (Pearl) Sawyer. Charlotte Pearl Sawyer lived to the advanced age of ninety-two. John Sawyer brought his family to Indiana in 1836 and entered a tract of Government land in Wayne Township, this old homestead being now owned by his grandson Albert. John Sawyer died in the fall of 1837, having had little opportunity to improve his land. His widow proved herself a noble pioneer woman, rearing her family of ten children, and remaining faithful to the memory of her first husband all the rest of her life. All her ten children are now deceased.

The old homestead eventually became the property of Jackson Sawyer, who lived there and prospered as a farmer. He was the father of seven children, four of whom are still living: Mervin D., of Kendallville, Indiana; Agnes, wife of Arthur Scott, of Defiance, Ohio; Harvey, of Wolcottville, Indiana; and Albert D.

Albert D. Sawyer grew up on the old farm, attended the common schools there, and in 1882 married Miss Charlotte Ream. They have a family of four sons and one daughter. Orrie and Ottie are twins, both graduates of the common school. Orrie is now deputy sheriff of the county under his father and is married and has one child. Ottie is a farmer east of Kendallville and has three children. Guy is farming his father's place. Another son, Harold, is now with the United States army. The daughter, Bertha, married Chester Bowser and has one daughter.

Mr. Sawyer is a member of the Loyal Americans. He was elected sheriff the first time by 125 majority, and the second time by 180 votes. He is a democrat in politics. His farm, now operated by his son, comprises 216 acres in Wayne Township, and he still retains an interest in the livestock.

JOHN H. OBERLIN. The Oberlins are a family that have been rather numerous and prominent in DeKalb County for over seventy years. Mr. John H. Oberlin, who was born in DeKalb County, has spent the greater part of his active career in Steuben

County, and beginning life as a renter followed farming successively and aggressively for many years and is now enjoying a well earned retirement at Hamilton.

He was born in Franklin Township of DeKalb County May 1, 1854, son of John and Rachel (Duck) Oberlin. His father settled in DeKalb County in pioneer times, developing a tract of wild land, and later moved to Butler, where he exercised his trade as a tanner by establishing a tannery. He died in 1863. In religion he was a Methodist. He was the father of a large family of children, named William, Fred, Philip, Hiram, Elijah, Benjamin, Joseph, Daniel, Orlando, Mary, Lucinda, Sarah, Hannah and John H.

John H. Oberlin, who was only nine years old when his father died, attended public school in Otsego Township, also a school at Butler, and as he inherited nothing except good character and a tendency to industry, he started out as a young man to make his own way in the world. He worked as a farm hand, and on January 23, 1881, when still possessed of little capital, he married Minerva J. Wilson, daughter of Alexander and Mary J. Wilson. They established their first home on a rented farm in Otsego Township, lived there three years, then in Richland Township four years, and in 1888 Mr. Oberlin took possession of the County Farm and lived there three years. In 1891, having in ten years acquired some capital, he bought eighty acres in Otsego Township and followed an uninterrupted career of industry and productive labor on that farm for twenty-five years. In the spring of 1916 he left the farm and has since lived in Hamilton.

Mr. and Mrs. Oberlin became the parents of four children: Edgar, who married Grace Hunt; Edna May, wife of Benjamin Taylor; Hiram W., who married Hertha Weaver; and Ethel, wife of Fred Haines. The mother of these children died November 20, 1913. In February, 1916, he married Rhoda (Martin) Houlton, daughter of Henry and Catherine (Davis) Martin. Her father was a soldier in the Civil war. Rhoda Martin was first married to Lewis Houlton, of Franklin Township, DeKalb County. The family are conspicuous as being the very first family to settle in DeKalb County, locating there in 1831. A number of references are found to them in the pages of this publication. Mrs. Oberlin has in her possession the first deed given for land in DeKalb County. It was written on parchment and is signed by Andrew Jackson, President of the United States. Mrs. Oberlin by her marriage to Lewis Houlton had three children: Vern, who married Rosa Mills; Firm; and Leland, who married Jessie Hathaway. Mrs. Oberlin is a member of the Christian Church and her husband is a Methodist. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and Knights of Pythias. From 1908 to 1918 he served as assessor of Otsego Township.

HARRY W. SIMMONS is one of the practical and enterprising younger men of the farming community of Perry Township who have gone in for the more progressive phases in agriculture and stock husbandry, including registered horses and cattle, and the results of his enterprise are thoroughly apparent, since he has more than a local reputation not only for his success but for his enviable qualifications of citizenship.

He was born in Perry Township August 28, 1877, a son of Adam and Elizabeth (Klick) Simmons, of a well known family in Noble County. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1829. Harry W. Simmons left school at the age of fourteen, and since then has been practically dependent on his own

efforts to promote him to success in affairs. For several years he worked at wages of eight dollars a month. In fact he labored and gave his abilities to others until he was about thirty-two years of age. In that way he got his start, in the shape of a modest capital, which he used to establish himself on an independent footing.

In 1902 he married Ethel M. Bowser, who was born in York Township, Noble County, a daughter of O. L. and Isabel (Calbeck) Bowser, who are now living in Ligonier. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Simmons moved to a farm in Perry Township, and have lived in that locality ever since. The farm where he now lives comprises 168 acres, and he owns a half interest in all the livestock on the farm. He also owns a half interest in another place of 110 acres in Perry Township, and has recently purchased a tract of 160 acres which joins the farm on which he resides. He is a breeder of Shorthorn cattle, and his herd is headed by one of the best males of the type in Noble County, named "Filigree Lad." He also has four registered cows of the same type. He has several registered Percheron horses and other good graded live stock. Mr. Simmons is a stockholder in the Farmers Co-operative Elevator Company at Ligonier.

He and his wife are the parents of three sons: Harold, a graduate of the common schools; Kermitt, who was born in 1910; and Thad, born in 1917. The family are members of the Christian Church at Ligonier, and Mr. Simmons affiliates with the democratic party.

WILLIAM HENRY KEYES, a resident of Steuben County for over seventy years, has had a career distinguished by many notable services and experiences. He was a brave and gallant soldier of the Union during the Civil war, served two terms as sheriff, and was one of the most efficient officers Steuben County ever had, and has been variously identified with farming, business, religious and social matters. He is now living retired in the village of Hamilton.

Mr. Keyes was born in Knox County, Ohio, December 12, 1841, a son of Tolman and Mary (Richards) Keyes. His father was a native of Vermont and his mother of Connecticut, and they were married in Vermont shortly afterward moving to Ohio. Tolman Keyes served as a soldier in the War of 1812. In 1844 this family came to Steuben County and settled in Richland Township, where they bought eighty acres of land from Mr. Gordon, who had acquired it direct from the government. Mary Keyes died at Alvarado in the spring of 1863, at the age of sixty-three, while the father lived to the age of eighty-four, dying at Orland in Steuben County. He was a republican and he and his wife were active in the Methodist Church. Their children were David, Hiram, Augustus, Charles, William H., Harvey H., Elizabeth, Phoebe and Salinda. The only survivor now is William H. Keyes.

The latter was about three years old when his parents came to Steuben County, and he grew up on the homestead farm in Richland Township and attended the local schools. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company A of the Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry, under Col. John F. Miller, who later became United States senator from California. His first battle was that of Pittsburg Landing. Soon afterward he was sent home on a furlough, but rejoined his regiment in time to participate in the battles of Liberty Gap and Chickamauga. The regiment was then assigned to post duty at Chattanooga and Mr. Keyes for a time was in General Stanley's headquarters, and then detailed to the postal department. He had charge of the mail sent to Sherman after the cap-

ture of Atlanta, and continued on duty until his discharge early in November, 1864. Early in 1865 he again enlisted as a recruit, and was with Company B of the Fifty-Sixth Pennsylvania Infantry until the close of the war. Altogether he served three years and five months. Mr. Keyes saw much of the country while a soldier and his travels have since taken him over most of the United States. He has been in twenty-nine states, from the Atlantic to the Pacific, and from St. Cloud, Minnesota, to Atlanta, Georgia.

From his savings as a soldier Mr. Keyes bought forty acres of land in Richland Township, and was one of the hard working farmers in that locality until 1878, when he was elected sheriff. He then sold his farm. Prior to his election as sheriff he had been identified with the organization known as the Regulators at Metz, and his work in behalf of law and order had attracted attention to his exceptional qualifications for a peace officer, and went far toward getting him the more important position of sheriff. He was re-elected in 1880, and distinguished himself not only in the routine duties of sheriff but also as a detective officer, effecting the capture of several well-known criminals.

After retiring from the office Mr. Keyes invested his capital of \$5,000 in a farm of 100 acres in section 23 of Otsego Township, and he still owns that place. He was successful as a farmer when he operated his own land and has been equally successful in the choice of his renters. William Lewis has been running the Keyes farm now for twelve years. In 1900 Mr. Keyes moved to the village of Hamilton, and has since lived largely retired.

In matters of politics he has supported the republican party since voting for Lincoln the second time. He was trustee of Richland Township in 1876. Since he was seventeen years old he has been a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and for a number of years has been a local minister.

January 10, 1865, Mr. Keyes married Melvina Cary. She was born in Knox County, Ohio, January 18, 1843, a daughter of William and Melissa Cary. Mr. and Mrs. Keyes were playmates in childhood and were rocked in the same cradle. The Cary family were also pioneers of Steuben County. Mr. and Mrs. Keyes had no children of their own, but they reared from the age of eighteen months an adopted daughter known as Cora Keyes, who is now the wife of Elza Dewire, of Eaton, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Dewire have two living children, a son and a daughter. Mrs. Keyes died in 1901 and in 1902 Mr. Keyes married Mrs. Eva Riblett, widow of Samuel Riblett. Her son, Victor Riblett, whose home is in Detroit, was in the great war, serving in the army at Fort Benjamin Harrison and Fort Shelby, was made a corporal at Fort Shelby and later at Camp Taylor was promoted to second lieutenant. Mr. and Mrs. Keyes had four children: Ella Odessa, aged fifteen, a high school student; William Howard, aged thirteen; Iola, aged eleven; and Ruth May, who died in infancy.

In many ways Mr. Keyes has exerted his personal influence for the good and upbuilding of his county. He had much to do with getting the Wabash Railroad located through the village of Hamilton, making a visit to Detroit for a personal interview with the directors of the road. During his residence on the farm he also sold agricultural implements, especially the Champion Binder and Harvester, and distributed many of those machines throughout Steuben County. Mr. Keyes was elected president of the Steuben Sunday School Association and held that office six years. During that time he made Steuben one of the banner Sunday school counties of



the state. He was also a Sunday school field worker for a number of years and attended the conventions regularly.

CASPER A. DEARDORFF is a well known farmer of Noble County and since his marriage has worked his way to independence, beginning as a renter and finally purchasing the farm which he owns today, located a mile east of Cromwell in Sparta Township.

He was born in Whitley County, Indiana, December 17, 1862, a son of Abraham and Susan (Kendell) Deardorff. His father was born in Stark County, Ohio, October 17, 1817, and died July 18, 1864, when Casper was only two years old. The mother was born in 1828 and died in 1888. Of their family of children only three are still living: Ozro, a farmer near Fort Wayne; Ellen, wife of Solomon Fleck; and Casper A.

Casper A. Deardorff spent his boyhood days in Whitley County near Cherubusco, attending the district schools there during the winter sessions. Every summer as soon as his strength permitted he did his share of work on the home farm, and helped his mother to provide the necessities of her household. He lived with his mother to the age of twenty-one.

In August, 1884, he married Miss Arie J. Gaff. She was born in Greene Township of Noble County, June 4, 1865, daughter of Joseph and Susan (Hawk) Gaff. Joseph D. Gaff was born in Stark County, Ohio, August 11, 1833, and his wife was born in Wayne County, Ohio, October 15, 1837, and is still living. The living children in the Gaff family are Mary, Henry, Arie J., Warren, Nora, Minnie, Cora, Lena and Oliver P. There are also forty grandchildren.

After their marriage Casper A. Deardorff and wife began housekeeping near Cherubusco as renters, subsequently moved to Elkhart County and farmed there fourteen years as renters, and by careful economy and thrifty management secured the modest capital which enabled them in 1903 to buy their present farm of forty-seven acres. Mr. and Mrs. Deardorff have three children and twelve grandchildren. Etta, the oldest child, is a graduate of the common schools and the wife of Harry Bunger; Albert L. is a graduate of the common schools and married Leda Cress; Edna M. is the wife of Harrison Lemon. Mr. Deardorff is affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees and is a republican in politics.

WARREN K. ROSENBERY, a former commissioner of Noble County, is proprietor of the Pleasant Hill Farm, three and a half miles north of Kendallville. Mr. Rosenbury is a native of Noble County and has spent most of his active career there as a practical and progressive farmer. He was born at a place three miles northeast of where he now lives May 17, 1851. The Rosenbury family has been in Noble County for over seventy years. His parents were Andrew and Justine (Metlin) Rosenbury. His father was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, November 25, 1811, and his mother in Summit County of the same state, December 5, 1811. They were married in Ohio and in 1848 came to Indiana and settled in Noble County. Their first settlement was six miles northeast of Kendallville. Seven years later they sold that farm, after improving it from the wilderness, and bought 280 acres where Warren K. Rosenbury now lives. The parents spent the rest of their days in that locality. Both were members of the Methodist Protestant Church. Of their nine children only two are now living. The daughter, Jane M., lives in Kansas, the widow of Benjamin Devoe.

Warren K. Rosenbury grew up on the farm where he now lives, attended the public schools, and was with his parents to the age of twenty-four. On February 15, 1877, he married Lorana Evans. She was born in Licking County, Ohio, March 23, 1855, was educated there, and became a teacher. She taught in Ohio and came to Indiana to teach.

After his marriage Mr. Rosenbury lived in Ohio three years, and then returned to Noble County and settled in Allen Township. He sold his first farm and in 1892 bought 200 acres of the old homestead. He has made this a very productive place, devoted to general crops and stock, and has everything in a well ordered prosperity.

Mr. Rosenbury lost his first wife by death February 15, 1899. They were the parents of three children: Joseph A., a graduate of the common schools and now living in Montana; Lizzie L., a graduate of high school and wife of C. R. Nicewander, of South Bend, Indiana; and Sarah T., wife of Floyd Dehal. On August 12, 1900, Mr. Rosenbury married for his present wife Carrie Cothran. She was born in New York State.

Mr. Rosenbury and family are members of the Presbyterian Church at Kendallville. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and in politics is a republican. He was elected on that ticket to the office of commissioner from the northern district, and served three years from January 1, 1905.

MAHUE A. BRACKNEY is a general farmer and stockman, with a well ordered farm in Noble Township two miles north of Miriam. He was born in Jefferson Township of Noble County, July 14, 1873, son of George W. and Lucinda J. (Zimmerman) Brackney, both of whom are natives of Ohio. After their marriage they came to Indiana and settled in Jefferson Township and later moved to a farm in Green Township, where the father died after many years of industrious labor. The mother subsequently removed to Albion, where she is still living. There were five children: Minnie, wife of Charles Sealey; Mahue A.; George J., of Tulsa, Oklahoma; Edna, wife of Albert Johnson; Lulu, a kindergarten teacher.

Mr. M. A. Brackney was fourteen years old when his parents removed to Green Township, and all his early education was acquired in the schools of Jefferson and Green. Living at home to the age of twenty-one, he acquired a practical knowledge of farming under the direction of his father, and since his marriage and the establishment of a home of his own he has been making sturdy progress towards independence, and now has a good farm of eighty acres.

He married Miss Nellie Ott, who was born in Noble Township, March 24, 1878, daughter of Cornelius Ott. To their union were born four children: Marie, a graduate of the common schools; Harry, at home; Elsie, who also finished the common school course; and Hubert, who is still a school boy. Mrs. Brackney is a member of the Burr Oak Baptist Church. Politically Mr. Brackney affiliates with the democratic party.

JOHN WILLIAM MERTZ. The wonderful changes that have been brought about by science and the ingenuity of man, even within the ordinary lifetime of an individual, seem so marvelous that intelligent and thoughtful earth dwellers of today hesitate about placing a limit to future achievement. In these changes agricultural industries have had place, and a modern American farm, in method of cultivation and its machinery equipments, illustrates





CASPER A. DEARDORFF AND FAMILY

Folck, a farmer, and has two children, Martha Leona and Jessie Marie. The third and youngest child is Lolabelle, now a resident of Washington, District of Columbia.

**THOMAS J. HALFERTY.** One of the oldest farms under one continuous ownership in Noble County is the Meadow Brook Farm, comprising 179 acres, all in section 33 of Orange Township. The present proprietor is Thomas J. Halferty. Mr. Halferty was born there, and all his life has been familiar with its scenes, associations and activities.

He was born August 1, 1860, son of William and Catherine (Brodebeck) Halferty. His father was born in Morrow County, Ohio, May 1, 1819, and died July 27, 1875. His mother was born in Maryland, April 22, 1820, and when she was a girl her family moved to Clark County, Ohio, and later to Morrow County, where she was married. The parents after a brief residence in Morrow County moved to Noble County, Indiana, and were pioneers in the community of Brimfield, where they developed a tract of raw land in section 33 of Orange Township. There the father and mother spent the rest of their lives on the old farm. They were among the first members of the United Brethren Church in that community and were active supporters of the cause. In politics William Halferty was a democrat. To him and his wife were born four children, two of whom died in infancy. The only surviving daughter is Mary E., born May 11, 1857, and now the wife of Mason B. Faux, of Orange Township.

Thomas J. Halferty learned much of the science of farming when a boy. He also acquired a good education in the local schools. He was about fifteen when his father died, and almost from that time forward he had an active and responsible part in the management of the homestead.

September 19, 1883, he married Miss Emma L. Kiser. She was born in Jefferson Township of Noble County, November 24, 1860, daughter of Michael and Elizabeth (Stotts) Kiser. Michael Kiser was born in Huron County, Ohio, grew up and married there, and in 1858 became one of the pioneer settlers in Jefferson Township of Noble County, Indiana. Mrs. Halferty had a common school education. She and her husband have two children. Addie D., who was born November 22, 1885, is the wife of Ora Bowen, and they have a daughter, Talitha, born November 22, 1903. Mr. and Mrs. Halferty are very proud of this granddaughter. Their son, Thomas O., born November 6, 1887, was educated in the common schools and now lives at home and has assumed many of the responsibilities of the farm. He married Hazel B. Harp. The family are members of the United Brethren Church and Mr. Halferty has been a leader in that denomination. He is a republican and has served as township supervisor.

**JOHN W. ADAIR.** When John W. Adair was elected member of the County Board of Commissioners of Noble County on November 5, 1918, to represent the Southern District, he received the support of a large majority of his neighbors and old friends, who respected his integrity of character, his good business ability and judgment, and his long standing as a successful farmer in the county.

Mr. Adair, whose farm of 160 acres lies in sections 18 and 19 in Noble Township, was born in Washington Township of the same county, February 1, 1868, son of John N. and Christina (Bashford) Adair, both natives of Ohio. The respective families came to Noble County, Indiana, at an early

day, and John and Christina were married here and then settled on a farm in Washington Township. Later they lived for a time in Wisconsin, but on returning to Indiana settled in Noble Township, where they spent the rest of their days. John Adair was active in the republican party and at one time served as justice of the peace in Whitley County. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. There were four sons in the family: William, of Whitley County; Thomas, of Whitley County; Edwin L., of Albion; and John W.

John W. Adair grew up on his father's farm, and received the advantages of the district schools to the age of sixteen. He then continued to live at home with his parents until he was twenty-one, and on March 31, 1894, he established a home of his own by his marriage to Ella E. Knapp. She was also born in Washington Township.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Adair bought a farm in Washington Township, but after seven years bought their present home in Noble Township. They have been greatly prospered as farmers and in 1915 they completed a modern country home. Mr. Adair is also a director in the Wolf Creek Bank and a stockholder in the Cromwell-Sparta State Bank.

He and his wife are members of the Baptist Church and he on its finance committee. Mr. and Mrs. Adair have four children: Merle, a student in Wolf Lake High School; Helen F., also a high school girl; and Joseph and Donald, both attending the grade schools.

**JOHN D. MILLER, JR.,** is one of the leading farmers and stock men of Eden Township, and has been identified with the agricultural enterprise of La-Grange County since early manhood.

He was born on a farm in Elkhart County, Indiana, July 10, 1885, a son of David C. J. and Fannie Miller. The parents were both natives of Elkhart County, his father born six miles east of Goshen. David J. Miller spent his life on the old home where he was born and reared. He and his wife were members of the Amish Mennonite Church. In their family were eight children: Jacob D., John D., Catherine deceased, Lizzie, Lydia, Clara, Amos and Fannie.

John D. Miller grew up on the farm where his father was born, attended district schools and worked for his father to the age of twenty-one. On February 22, 1906, he married Katie Christner. They have no children of their own but have an adopted child. They are active members of the Amish Mennonite Church.

Mr. Miller has a good farm of ninety-nine acres in Eden Township. He specializes in the breeding of Hereford cattle, his herd being headed by Tips Star Light and Tips Cherry Lass.

**MORTON FRIEND** is proprietor of a farm in Milgrove Township, part of which was acquired by his maternal grandfather, a member of the original Vermont colony in that part of Steuben County. Some of the fields have been in cultivation eighty years, and under its present ownership the farm is one of the best in Steuben County.

Mr. Morton Friend was born on this farm, located a mile north of Orland, July 13, 1873. He is a son of Jefferson L. and Nancy (Kidder) Friend, his mother having also been born on the same land. She was a daughter of Alanson Kidder, a native of Vermont, who married Alzoa Chapin. Alanson Kidder was with the first settlers who came from Vermont to Steuben County in 1836, and was an influential member of the Vermont settlement in and around Orland. He acquired his land, cleared it,



and farmed it until about 1866, when he sold and subsequently moved to Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, where he died. His children were Mary, Laura, Joseph, Alzoa and Nancy. Alanson Kidder had eighty acres of the farm now owned by Morton Friend.

Jefferson L. Friend was a native of Stark County, Ohio, and as a boy during the '50s went with his parents to Williams County, Ohio, making the journey with ox teams. He grew to manhood in Northwest Ohio, and attended school at Orland. He left school to enter the army and served during the last eleven months of the war in the Fourteenth Michigan Infantry. A few years afterward he bought the eighty acres from Alanson Kidder, and through his energy as a farmer and good manager increased his holdings to about 205 acres. He lived there the rest of his life. His children were: Fannie, wife of Dr. Philip Quick, of Olivet, Michigan; Guy K., who married Emma Barber; Morton; Zoä, wife of Elmer Hunter; and Gretchen, wife of Jesse Reek.

Morton Friend acquired his education at Orland, finishing in the high school. Since boyhood he has been at work on the home farm, and since 1900 has been farming the place for himself. He owns 178 acres in sections 17 and 20, and as a stock man is a breeder of blooded Holstein cattle.

In 1903 he married Effie Freeman, a daughter of Samuel and Olive Freeman. They have three children, named Maynard J., Frances Josephine and Philip K.

ALBERT J. COLLINS. There are several communities in Northeast Indiana and Southern Michigan which are deeply appreciative of the services of Albert J. Collins, particularly as an educator. For thirty-eight years he was a schoolmaster, school administrator, and only recently retired from his office as superintendent of schools at Orland to take up his duties as clerk of the Circuit Court of Steuben County, an office to which he was elected in 1918. His official duties require his residence at Angola, to which city he moved in the summer of 1919.

Mr. Collins was born in Delaware Township, Defiance County, Ohio, November 27, 1861. He represents old American stock. His grandparents were William and Maria Collins. The former a native of Pennsylvania, moved in early manhood to Defiance County, Ohio, and spent most of his active life as a farmer in Defiance and Williams County. His children were named John, William, Jr., Jesse L., Mary and Nancy. The parents of the Steuben County official were Jesse L. and Rachel (Grow) Collins, the former a native of Lucas County, Ohio, and the latter of Pennsylvania, daughter of Martin and Elizabeth (Myers) Grow. Jesse L. Collins when a young man took up farming in Defiance County, moved to Williams County in that state in 1864, and for the rest of his active life was busily engaged with the duties of his farm. He spent his last days on the farm of his son Albert in Millgrove Township, where he died August 11, 1911. He and his wife were active members of the Dunkard Church. They had a large family of thirteen children, four of whom died in infancy. The other nine were named Alvaro S., Albert J., Elizabeth M., Diantha, who died in childhood, Viola T., Melissa E., Jesse Elmer, who died when a boy, Ora E. and Chloe G.

Albert J. Collins attended his first schools in Williams County, Ohio. He took his high school work at Montpelier and Pioneer, Ohio, and from high school entered Hillsdale College in Michigan, where he completed the regular course and grad-

uated in 1892. Mr. Collins was a member of the Alpha Tau Omega Greek Letter fraternity at Hillsdale, and was also well known in athletic circles. He especially excelled as a wrestler, and has in his possession six medals won in contests held under the auspices of the Michigan Intercollegiate Athletic Association.

Since his graduation from Hillsdale Mr. Collins with the exception of one year, has steadily devoted his time to teaching. In the fall of 1893 he came to Orland as superintendent of public schools. He was connected with the schools of that town until 1901, and from then until 1907 was superintendent of schools at Hamilton and from 1907 to 1912 was superintendent at White Pigeon, Michigan. During 1912-13 he was temporarily retired from school work, and spent that year on his farm in Millgrove Township. He resumed his work with the Orland schools in 1913 as assistant superintendent, and in 1914 was made superintendent. Orland has some of the best public schools in Steuben County, and many of the improvements and advances have been made while Mr. Collins has been in charge.

He owns a fine farm of 120 acres in section 32 of Millgrove and in section 5 of Jackson Township. Mr. Collins was therefore not without long and practical experience in official affairs when he was inducted into the office of clerk of the Circuit Court. He is a member of the Masonic Order at Orland.

November 7, 1891, he married Eva Jane Cleveland, a daughter of Albertus B. and Rebecca J. Cleveland. They have had seven children, named as follows: Albert Russell, Lois G., Gelee, who died when four months old, Floiad G., Cleveland C., Rachel R. and Albertus B.

ALFRED H. KING. The roll of prosperous farmers in Swan Township of Noble County would not be complete without reference to the name of Alfred H. King, who for many years has successfully tended his acres and looked after his interests as an agriculturist at his home in section 12.

Mr. King represents one of the oldest established families in this part of Northeast Indiana. He was born in Swan Township, November 1, 1872, and is a son of Ira M. and Catherine (Haines) King, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. Ira M. King was born September 18, 1828, and came to Indiana at an early date. His parents settled in Noble County as early as 1837, and were among the first to develop the lands in Swan Township. He married for his first wife Jane Perry, a sister of George Perry. There were three children by that union, one of whom is John King, now a resident of Michigan. Ira King married for his second wife Catherine Haines, who came to Noble County in 1854. To their marriage were born seven children, three of whom are still living: Frank E., a graduate of Purdue University with the degree of Civil Engineer, and has attained prominence in his profession; Alfred H.; and Lloyd E., who graduated from Purdue University with the degree of Electrical Engineer and is now connected with the Western Electric Company at Peru, Illinois.

Alfred H. King grew up on the old farm in Swan Township, and chose agriculture as his vocation. After finishing the course of the common schools he attended Avilla High School, and later graduated from Purdue University with the degree Bachelor of Science. He has turned his university training to good account as a farmer. For several years he looked after the home farm and he now owns ninety-five acres.

August 29, 1901, he married Miss Alberta Boden-



hafer, daughter of Levi and Eva (Morgan) Bodenhafer. Mrs. King is a graduate of the Avilla High School, and before her marriage was a teacher at Kendallville. Mr. and Mrs. King have three children: Laura A., a graduate of the high school, and Winston L. and Harry P. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Avilla and Mr. King is one of the official board and superintendent of the Sunday school. Politically he is a republican.

JACOB C. TROYER has spent many years as a successful farmer in LaGrange County, his home being a mile north and three-quarters of a mile west of Topeka. He is in Eden Township and owns a seventy-acre place in sections twenty-three and twenty-four.

Mr. Troyer was born in Wayne County, Ohio, February 4, 1868, a son of Levi B. and Leah (Zook) Troyer. His father was born in Holmes County, Ohio, and at the age of four years went to Wayne County, where he spent the rest of his life. His wife was a native of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, but was married in Ohio. In the family of Levi Troyer and wife were five children: Mennow Z., of McPherson County, Kansas; Joel L., of West Liberty, Ohio; Jacob C., and Mary A. and Emma, the latter of McPherson County, Kansas.

Jacob C. Troyer grew up on his father's farm in Wayne County and lived there until he was thirty years of age. He married in Indiana and then for a brief time lived in Wayne County before coming to his present place in LaGrange County.

Mr. Troyer married Elizabeth Hostettler December 6, 1892. She was born in Newbury Township of LaGrange County December 7, 1870, daughter of Moses and Mary A. (Mehl) Hostettler. She was reared and educated in her native township. Mr. and Mrs. Troyer have no children of their own but have adopted a nephew of Mrs. Troyer, Keith W. Hostettler, who is a graduate of the common schools and is now in the high school at Goshen. Mr. Troyer and family are members of the Mennonite Church at Maple Grove. He is a republican in politics and is a stockholder in the Topeka State Bank.

FRANK B. DELLER, who has lived in Steuben County over sixty years, is the only surviving son of a rather large family, and taking the old homestead which had been cleared and improved by his father in Scott Township, he has gone steadily ahead improving and making use of his talents, and has increased his material possessions until he is now one of the leading farmers of the county.

Mr. Deller was born in Williams County, Ohio, January 18, 1854, a son of Benjamin and Hannah (Wolf) Deller. His mother was born in Pennsylvania in 1823. Benjamin Deller, who was born in France in 1813, was fourteen years old when he came with his parents to New York City. He was a son of Gotlieb and Elizabeth Deller, who soon located in Pennsylvania, and afterward moved to Columbiana County, Ohio, where Gotlieb died a few years later on his farm. His widow then lived with her children and moved with them to Williams County, Ohio, during the '40s. The Deller family had a log house in Williams County. In 1857 they came to Steuben County, where Benjamin Deller and wife settled on the farm now owned by their son Frank. Of 160 acres not a stick of timber had been cut, and the first home of the family was a log building. Benjamin Deller as his means increased put up a substantial barn in 1859 and a house in 1860, and lived there in comfortable circumstances until his death in 1874. His wife died in 1876. He was

a democrat, and they were members of the Dunkard Church. Their children were: Lucinda; William, who was a Union soldier, was wounded in battle and died at Nashville, Tennessee; twin children who died in infancy; Elizabeth; Jane; Frank; Mary; and Lydia.

Frank Deller grew up on the old homestead and acquired a good education in the district schools and in the Angola High School. In early manhood he applied his energies to farming on the home place, and had just come to manhood when his father died. Taking the original 160 acres, he has gradually increased its area until he now has 358 acres. This land is improved with modern buildings, and the material for those buildings came chiefly from timber grown and cut on the farm. Mr. Deller is a general farmer and stock raiser. He has a pure-bred Shorthorn bull and grades of Holstein and Jersey cattle. He has never sought any office, and is a democratic voter. He gave the land on which the South Scott Union Church is built, and there his family attend church and Sunday school.

Mr. Deller is proud of his family of children and his numerous grandchildren. March 18, 1877, he married Miss Clara Cleveland, who was born in Steuben County, November 11, 1859, a daughter of Frederick and Amelia (Taylor) Cleveland. Her parents were pioneers in the county, where her father died in 1864. Her mother later married John Lininger, and she died August 6, 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Deller have six children: William, Lowell, Ella, Margie, Frank H. and Wayne B. The two youngest sons are in the home circle. William, whose home is in Steuben Township, married Lena Dutler and has five children, named Ruth, Maud, Helen, Hershel and Lewis. Lowell, who lives in the northwest corner of Scott Township, married Jennie Quance, and has four children, Audry, Russell, Roscoe and Margaret. Ella is the wife of Cary E. Covell, former county surveyor and chairman of the Draft Board, and has two children, Lucile and Wendell. Margie is the wife of Carl Sanders and the mother of two children, Dorothy and Willis. Margie Deller was first married to Earl Beard and had one son, Robert.

A. J. RICH has lived a life of varied experience, rich in service and hard work, but for the greater part he has been a successful farmer in Noble County. Mr. Rich has a fine and well improved place of 221 acres in section 25 of Swan Township, and makes his home in the Village of Laotto.

He was born in Eel River Township of Allen County, Indiana, July 27, 1864, son of Byram L. and Sarmelia (Brook) Rich. His father was born in Knox County, Ohio, July 2, 1833, and his mother in Delaware County, Ohio, July 3rd, of the same year. She came with her parents to Noble County and they settled in Green Township as early as 1848, and spent the rest of their days there.

The Rich family is one of the pioneers in the early history of Allen County, Indiana. They settled on the Maumee River, eight miles east of Fort Wayne, as early as 1837. Four years later they moved to Whitley County, near Churubusco. The father of Byram L. Rich was a blacksmith by trade. He kept a well patronized shop on his land in Whitley County. He was a very skillful worker and deserved all the patronage that came to him. Later he went to Mason County, Illinois, but finally returned to Whitley County and spent his last years in Churubusco. He was an active member of the Baptist Church. He was a republican and for many years held the office of justice of the peace. The death of this old pioneer occurred in 1887.

Byram L. Rich was one of six children. After

his marriage he went to Illinois, then lived in Allen County, Indiana, for some years, and in 1873 moved to Noble County. During all his active life he was engaged in the lumber business. He and his wife were members of the Dunkard Church. Of their nine children five grew to maturity, and those still living are: Appleton; Mrs. Sloffer, of Laotto; A. J. Rich; and Mrs. Dickses.

A. J. Rich was nine years old when his parents moved to Noble County, and he received some of his schooling here. In 1879 he went back to Allen County, and in 1883 he and his brother went south and he was in the South for a period of eighteen months. On returning to Allen County he worked on his father's farm. September 20, 1891, Mr. Rich married Ida A. Zinn. She was born on the farm in section 25 of Swan Township September 1, 1868, and was educated in the common schools. Her father, Levi Zinn, was a native of Pennsylvania and married Mary A. Fryer. They were married in Noble County, Indiana, and then located in DeKalb County. Mr. and Mrs. Rich are the parents of two children: Waldo A., born July 13, 1892, has been in the service of the United States army during the great war, and Perma A., a graduate of high school and now a student in Indiana State University.

The family are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Rich is a Mason, and his wife and children are members of the Eastern Star. In politics he is a steadfast supporter of republican interests.

GEORGE W. GEIGER is one of the oldest residents of Green Township, Noble County, and his position and citizenship is the more esteemed because of the fact that he is a surviving veteran of the great war for the Union. He was a young man when he bore arms in defense of the flag, and since then for more than half a century he has been identified with the agricultural community where he was born and reared.

On the farm that he now owns, comprising 100 acres, he was born, March 7, 1841, son of Thomas and Mary J. (McGuire) Geiger. His parents were born in Licking County, Ohio, his father December 22, 1814, and his mother in 1815. They were married in Licking County, September 18, 1835, and a few days later they joined a party of thirty or more who started with wagons and teams and after six weeks of journeying over rough roads and trails arrived on Eel River in Indiana, October 20, 1835. In Green Township, of Noble County, Thomas Geiger bought 200 acres of wild land. He at once began its clearing and cultivation, and continued one of the sturdy citizens of that locality the rest of his life. He was an active member of the Baptist Church and a republican. Of eleven children born to this worthy pioneer couple only four are now living: William, a farmer in Green Township; Clara, wife of Horace McDuffee; George W.; and Irene, widow of James Harter.

George W. Geiger grew up on the home farm and as a boy assisted in the work of the fields and in clearing more of the land. He had a common school education. On August 7, 1862, he enlisted in Company E of the Eightieth Indiana Infantry. A few weeks later, on the 8th of October, he participated in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky. December 29, 1862, he was in the battle of Murfreesboro or Stone River, and after that continued with his command until May 12, 1863, when he was taken ill, and after a period in a hospital was granted an honorable discharge November 3, 1863. He then returned home and has since applied himself to the

main business of life, farming, of which he has made a notable success.

On August 12, 1862, a few days after his enlistment in the army, Mr. Geiger married Miss Rebecca Russell. They had a long and happy life together for over half a century, until their companionship was terminated by her death on August 17, 1913. Mr. Geiger has four children: Catherine, wife of William Hosler; Dora, wife of C. V. Crider; A. M. Geiger, of Allen County, Indiana; and Herschel Geiger, of Green Township, Noble County. June 27, 1918, Mr. Geiger married Mrs. Alice Robinson, who was born in Allen County, Indiana. Her maiden name was Alice Pratt. Mr. Geiger and family are members of the Close Communion Baptist Church, and in politics he is a republican.

JOHN W. LOW. The family name of Low is one of the first to occur in the annals of Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County, and the veteran farmer and business man, proprietor of the Sunnyside Farm in Eden Township, John W. Low, is a son of the original pioneer.

Mr. Low, whose farm is a mile and one-quarter north of Topeka, was born in Clear Spring Township February 9, 1845, a son of Nicholas and Elizabeth (Hendricks) Low. His parents were both natives of Baltimore County, Maryland, where they grew up and on coming west lived for a time in Ohio and in 1832 entered three hundred twenty acres in Clear Spring Township. They were probably the second family to locate in that township, which then was a wilderness with the Indians still roaming through the woods. Nicholas Low cleared a space among the trees for his cabin, and gradually cleared up his land and died there about 1885. His wife was a member of the Methodist Church and he was a democrat in politics. In their family were nine children, four of whom died in infancy, one at the age of ten years, and the others are: Mary J., wife of Joel Greenawalt, of Clear Spring Township; Thomas, living in California; John, and Martha, widow of Solomon Herrington.

John Low grew up on his father's farm and had a district school education. In November, 1867, he married Elizabeth Coppes. She was a daughter of Richard and Hannah Coppes and spent her girlhood in Clear Spring Township, where she and Mr. Low attended the same school. After their marriage they lived on the Coppes Farm for three years, and in 1872 bought the place where Mr. Low is still living. He has a ninety-acre farm and many years of industry have brought their sure rewards in comfort and a competence for his declining years. Mr. Low lost his first wife January 20, 1889. She was the mother of three children: Hannah, who attended the common schools and Hillsdale College and is now the wife of Rudolph Kenagy, of Topeka, Indiana; Martha J., a graduate of the State Normal School, has been a very successful teacher, doing her first work in district schools, spending eight years at Marion, Indiana, for three years was at Gary, Indiana, two years at Oakland, California, and is now connected with the schools of Michigan City, and Emma, who also attended the State Normal and taught for a number of years in the district schools, is the wife of William O. Hostettler of Eden Township. On May 3, 1891, Mr. Low married Laura Prentiss, of Noble County, where she was born. Mrs. Low is a veteran teacher, having thirty-two terms to her credit. She is a member of the Baptist Church at Topeka. Mr. Low was counted as the second active prohibitionist in his township, and several times served as county chairman of his party. He and his wife are both stockholders in the Farmers State Bank of Topeka.



**WILLIAM E. BUTZ.** While he has always gone about his affairs quietly and with an unassuming nature, William E. Butz has been identified with the energetic and enterprising citizenship of Noble County for over thirty years, and is one of its most useful citizens.

He was born on a farm in York Township adjoining the one where he lives today on May 14, 1868. His father, Christian Butz, was born in Germany and came to the United States when a young man, first locating in York Township of Noble County and later buying land there. He married Mary Lee, and they spent the rest of their days in that locality. They were members of the Lutheran Church and Christian was a democrat. He and his wife had ten children, and nine are still living: Minnie, of York Township; Ulric, a farmer, contractor and carpenter in York Township; John G., a York Township farmer; Anna, wife of John Shisler; Lena, wife of Clarence Wemple; William E.; Ida, wife of George Hoffman; Fred, of Kendallville; and Clara, wife of Thorlo Shaffer, of Kendallville.

William E. Butz grew up on the home farm and had a district school education. After reaching manhood he married Delma Renahan. They are the parents of six children: Cleo, a graduate of high school, who attended Defiance College in Ohio and is now the wife of Walter Wolfe; Lela, a graduate of high school and wife of Harvey Hull; Forest, a high school graduate; Harold, in the second year of high school; Walter, in the eighth grade; and Ruby.

Mr. Butz has been greatly prospered in his business affairs and is proprietor of the Walnut Row Farm, consisting of three hundred and forty acres and one of the best farms in York Township. Mr. Butz is well known as a breeder of Belgian horses and Shorthorn cattle. He is one of the directors of the Farmers State Bank of Wawaka, a director in the Farmers Telephone Company, and in politics is a democrat. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, while his wife and children are members of the Christian Church.

**CLAUD D. KILLINGER.** Every progressive community in order to keep up its progress must depend not only upon the enterprise of its older families but also the fresh blood and life of newcomers. One of the younger men who have recently identified themselves with Steuben County is Claud D. Killinger, now the head of a thriving business as a merchant at Metz.

Mr. Killinger was born at Edgerton in Williams County, Ohio, January 4, 1880, a son of William Henry and Mary (Schaffer) Killinger. His parents were both born in Williams County, his father in 1849 and his mother in 1851. The grandparents, John and Rebecca Killinger, and John and Mary Schaffer, were identified with the very early settlement and development of Williams County. William Henry Killinger grew up on a farm, had a public school education and as the oldest son assumed responsibilities in advance of his years. He continued farming until 1888, and since then has been engaged in the meat business at Edgerton. He is a republican and served for several years as assessor, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is an active member of the Methodist Church. His first wife died in 1888, the mother of four children, Holly, Edward, Claud D. and Georgia. For his second wife William H. Killinger married Sarah Eve, and they have two children, Gola May and Maurice.

Claud D. Killinger grew up at Edgerton, attended the high school there, and while going to school was clerk and delivery boy with a local gro-

cery firm. Later he learned more about merchandising as clerk at Edgerton, and in 1913 moved to Metz to take the management of the Stiefel store. Four years later, when the Stiefel Company went out of business, he remained at the old stand, introducing his stock of goods, and today the C. D. Killinger Company supplies much of the merchandise consumed in that section of Steuben County.

Mr. Killinger is a republican and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias at Metz. In 1905 he married Miss Glida Sickels, of Steuben County, daughter of Ananias and Flora Sickels, who were early settlers here. The father is still living in Metz.

**FREDERICK L. BLUHM** is one of the oldest bankers of Kendallville in point of active experience. He is now secretary of the Kendallville Trust & Savings Company and has been connected at different times with practically all the banks of that city.

He was born March 20, 1856, and in 1871, at the age of fifteen, came to the United States with his parents. The family located at Kendallville, where he finished his education. A poor boy, he went to work on the farm of John Mitchell, and was in his employ for about nine years. During that time he also attended night school and made himself proficient in the English language and other branches. He also saved most of his earnings, and had a steady ambition to make the best of his opportunities. For a year he worked in the great car works of Haskell & Barker at Michigan City, but then resumed employment with Mr. Mitchell, then president of the First National Bank of Kendallville. Mr. Mitchell took much interest in the young man, gave him every encouragement and opportunity to learn banking thoroughly, and if there is any detail in the management of a bank in which he has not had experience Mr. Bluhm does not know what it is. He worked as a janitor, as general utility boy, and clerk, and from that through all the grades of responsibility. He was with the First National Bank from 1882 to 1893. He was then made cashier, and continued with the institution until it liquidated May 1, 1894. After that he was with the Campbell & Fetter Bank fifteen years, and resigned to become assistant cashier in the Noble County Bank. After eight years there he entered upon his present duties as secretary of the Kendallville Trust & Savings Company.

Mr. Bluhm married May 29, 1888, Louise Lang. She was born in Brooklyn, New York, March 24, 1859, and was brought to Kendallville by her parents in 1864. She was educated in the public schools of that city. Mr. and Mrs. Bluhm have two children: Maurice L., born March 25, 1889, a graduate of the Kendallville High School and of Indiana University with the degree A. B., following which he entered the law school of the University of Chicago. He is now serving as an interne in the United States navy. He married Clara Miller, a teacher in the public schools of Kendallville. Edith Bluhm, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bluhm, is a graduate of the Kendallville High School and wife of John F. Gerwig, of Auburn, Indiana. The Bluhm family are members of the German Lutheran Church, and politically he is a republican. He has served as city clerk three years and was a member of the City Council from 1899 to 1911.

**SAMUEL F. HARLAN** is one of the older residents of Green Township, Noble County, and for a number of years has been the proprietor of what is known as High Point Farm, situated on the highest point of land between Fort Wayne and Goshen.





*William E. Butz*



Mr. Harlan is a man who has become successful through his own exertions and by relying entirely upon himself. He started life without capital beyond a pair of willing hands, and has gained a good farm, provided for his family, and enjoys the complete respect and esteem of a large community.

He was born in section 17 of Green Township July 19, 1869, son of James and Agnes (Baker) Harlan. His parents were both natives of Ohio, his father a native of Ashland County. They were married in that state and then came to Indiana and lived on a farm in Green Township of Noble County, where they spent the rest of their days. Both were active members of the Christian Church and the father was a republican. Their five living children are: Myrtle, wife of John S. Friskney; Jane, wife of Abraham Ott; Fannie, wife of Frederick Ott; Daniel, of Noble Township; and Samuel F.

Samuel F. Harlan grew up on his father's farm and had a limited district school education. When he was only twelve years old a neighboring farmer offered him a home and wages of four dollars a month. From that as a beginning he steadily increased his abilities and in a few years was getting sixteen dollars a month as a farm hand. He was not a spendthrift as a youth and by the time he was twenty-one years of age had more capital laid away than most young men at that period of life.

On November 22, 1890, Mr. Harlan married Miss Catherine Hire. She was born in Whitley County, Indiana, October 22, 1871, daughter of Leonard and Ellen (Bumbaugh) Hire. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Harlan bought forty acres, included within their present home, but they have greatly extended their possessions until they now have 180 acres, all well improved and constituting some of the most productive soil in Noble County. The farm has a good barn and a modern home.

Mr. and Mrs. Harlan had four children: Cleta May married Omer Zumbrun of Green Township; Bernice E. is the deceased wife of Floyd Shively; Elza J. is unmarried and living at home; and Lynn H., born in 1908, is still in school. The family are members of the Church of the Brethren and Mr. Harlan is one of its deacons. In politics he is a republican.

**WILLIAM O. HILDEBRAND, M. D.** In the county where he was born and reared Dr. William O. Hildebrand has carried on a very successful career as a physician and surgeon for the past fifteen years, with home and offices at Topeka.

Doctor Hildebrand was born in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County April 29, 1876, a son of William and Derline (Debow) Hildebrand. His father was born in Mansfield, Ohio, in 1841 and his mother in LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1845. Mr. Hildebrand when a boy came to DeKalb County, Indiana, with his parents, Moses and Maria (Seigler) Hildebrand, who located near Auburn. He grew up there and after his marriage settled on a farm in Bloomfield Township. His wife died there in 1884. They were active members of the Methodist Church.

Doctor Hildebrand, only son of his parents, grew up on a farm northeast of LaGrange, and completed his preliminary education in the common schools there. He graduated from the LaGrange High School in 1898, and acquired his first knowledge of medicines as a drug clerk at Kendallville, where he remained two years. He paid his own way through the Indiana Medical College, entering in 1901 and graduating in 1905. He has done much to improve his opportunities not only by experience but also by a post-graduate course at Chicago in 1907 and one

at the New York Post-Graduate School in 1912. Since 1905 he has had a busy practice at Topeka and is specializing in the treatment of the eye, ear and throat. Doctor Hildebrand is a member of the County, State, Tri-State and American Medical Associations.

November 26, 1902, he married Miss Edith M. Robbins. They have one daughter, Nedra L., born November 26, 1909. The family are members of the Lutheran Church. Doctor Hildebrand is affiliated with Topeka Lodge of Masons, the Ligonier Chapter and Council, and is a republican in politics. He and his family reside in a modern home completed in 1912. Doctor Hildebrand is a stockholder in the State Bank of Topeka. For two years he was a member of the Town Council. He accepted that post of responsibility largely in order to push the movement for the installing of a waterworks and electric light system, a valuable improvement brought about while he was a member of the Council.

**WILLIAM A. COOK**, partner and business associate with his son-in-law, Charles E. Lingle, conducting the leading hardware business at Hamilton, is a man of wide experience and has been engaged in farming and business affairs for over forty years.

He was born in Crawford County, Ohio, December 7, 1854, son of George and Catherine (Young) Cook and grandson of George Cook, Sr., a native of Germany who came to America when a young man and located on a farm in Pennsylvania. George Cook, Jr., a native of Pennsylvania, moved to Crawford County, Ohio, in the early fifties and spent the rest of his life there as a farmer. His wife, Catherine Young, died in 1855, the mother of ten children: David, George, Mary, Sarah and Andrew, both of whom died young, Samuel, Frederick, Rachel, Elizabeth and William A.

William A. Cook was only seven months old when his mother died. His father later married Mrs. Rebecca Ronk. William A. Cook grew up in the home of his stepmother and has for her memory only praise and gratitude, since she was in every respect a good and kind mother to him. He attended school in Crawford County, did some farming in Whetstone Township of that county, and in early manhood married Lottie Beck, daughter of Adam and Sarah Beck. About four years after his marriage he moved to Williams County, Ohio, and continued farming there for a number of years. He then engaged in business, and coming to Hamilton, Indiana, he and his son-in-law, Charles E. Lingle, bought the general hardware business which has since been conducted and has prospered under their management.

Mr. and Mrs. Cook have one child, Iola, wife of Charles E. Lingle.

**CHARLES E. LINGLE** is one of the enterprising young merchants of Steuben County, and active head of the leading hardware business at Hamilton. He spent most of his life over the Ohio state line in Williams County and was born there at Evansport, February 12, 1880, a son of Benjamin and Fannie (Eagle) Lingle, both natives of Williams County. His father was a farmer. Charles E. Lingle was one of twin brothers, William and Charles. He attended public school in his native county, and at the beginning of his independent career went to Flint, Michigan, and spent four years in the Durant and Dort carriage factory, which has since become an important auxiliary of the great automobile industry at Flint. He then returned to his native county, locating at Edon, and in 1905 bought the hardware business at Hamilton, Indiana, and has



conducted a flourishing enterprise there. His business associate and partner is his father-in-law, William A. Cook.

Mr. Lingle married in November, 1903, Iola Cook, daughter of W. A. and Lottie Cook. They have two children, Raymond and Isabel. Mr. and Mrs. Lingle are members of the Methodist Church.

PETER J. MILLER is a hard working, industrious and upright citizen of Clear Spring Township in LaGrange County, diligently working his home farm in section 10, in the same community where he was born and reared.

Mr. Miller was born March 10, 1872, a son of Jacob J. and Mattie (Nisley) Miller, the former a native of Holmes County, Ohio. The grandfather, Joni Miller, was born in Pennsylvania, from there came to Ohio, later came to Indiana, and died in LaGrange County. Joni Miller had sixteen children, named Jacob J., Christ, Jeremiah, Joni, Joseph, Emanuel, Samuel, John, Mattie, Anne, Lizzie and five others that died in infancy. In the family of Jacob J. Miller were eleven children, ten of whom are living today, named, John, Anna, Joni, Peter J., Susie, Lydia, Fannie, Eli, Noah and Jacob.

Peter J. Miller spent his boyhood on a farm in the same section as that in which his present home is located. He attended the district schools, and when not in school worked on the home farm until he was twenty-one years of age. December 3, 1892, he married Elizabeth Miller, who was born on the farm where she now resides. Mr. and Mrs. Miller attended the same school. Since their marriage they have lived in Clear Spring and Newbury townships and have occupied their present well situated and valuable farm of 120 acres since February 19, 1901.

Mr. and Mrs. Miller have four children: Emanuel, who married Lizzie Yoder and lives in Clear Spring Township; Lydia, who is the wife of V. V. Lambright; and Amandus and Joni, unmarried and at home. The family are members of the Amish Mennonite Church.

FRANK B. PHILLIPS. The membership of the Phillips family in Steuben County comprises a number of very successful farmers, good citizens and people of all around worth and ability. One of them is Frank B. Phillips, who was born in that county, and is successfully identified with the ownership and management of a good farm in Salem Township.

He was born in Jackson Township January 31, 1864, a son of Addison and Elizabeth (Wade) Phillips. His mother was a native of Canada, a daughter of Robert and Jane (Giles) Wade, a family that came in early times to LaGrange County, Indiana. Addison Phillips was born in New York State October 21, 1821, and as a young man worked on the Erie Canal. In early manhood he came to Steuben County, and arrived here practically penniless and worked out by the month on a farm. Later his parents came on and settled at Hamilton, where both of them now rest in the cemetery. Addison Phillips eventually settled in Jackson Township, where he acquired 103 acres of new land. A log cabin stood on the ground, but otherwise there were few improvements worthy of the name. He kept up the work diligently for many years, and before his death had good buildings and a farm thoroughly productive. His wife died on the old farm December 29, 1887, and he died there in 1899. He was very independent in politics, voting as a republican, also as a greenbacker, and was a supporter of Bryan during his first presidential campaign. Addison Phillips and wife had a large family of children, namely: Rollin, born December 16, 1854; Rebecca,

born March 19, 1856, deceased; Ellen, born September 24, 1857; Ida Isabel, born August 14, 1859; Otis E, born September 20, 1861, deceased; Frank; Charles, born January 29, 1866; Adelbert, born December 28, 1868; Mary Elizabeth, born September 20, 1871; Anna Lorene, born October 15, 1873, deceased; and Jay W., born March 14, 1877, who died in infancy.

Frank B. Phillips grew up on his father's homestead and after getting his education worked at what has been the chief business of his life. For three years he rented and then in 1890 bought eighty acres in Jackson Township. That was his home until 1901. He sold his place in February of that year and on April 3, 1901, bought his present home farm in Salem Township. He has done much to increase the value of his 160 acres, erecting good buildings, and otherwise keeping his place in perfect order and in a high degree of productiveness. Mr. Phillips is a democrat in politics, is a member of the Lodge and Encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Salem Center, and is also affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He and his wife have their church affiliations with the Latter Day Saints.

On January 27, 1887, he married Louetta Chamberlain. She was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, in 1864, daughter of Sherman and Mary (Jones) Chamberlain. Her father was born at Hudson in Summit County, Ohio, and her mother in the State of New York. Her father died in Noble County, Indiana, in 1877, at the age of fifty-four and her mother in 1905, aged seventy-four.

CHARLES ALFRED PHILLIPS, a well known Steuben County farmer, whose home is just across the road from his brother Frank, was born in Jackson Township January 29, 1866.

He received a public school education and has been a farmer since early manhood. He has made progress slowly but steadily, beginning with a purchase of twenty acres of the old homestead. He also inherited twenty acres, and finally had a farm of fifty-seven acres in Jackson Township. He sold that and went to Noble County and bought seventy acres, but after two years found employment at Kendallville with the Raber and Lang Cement Tile Works. In 1915 he acquired eighty acres in Salem Township, and since then has been a successful farmer and stock man. He is a democrat in politics and his wife attends the Evangelical Church.

In January, 1895, he married Miss Lillie Smith, of DeKalb County, Indiana, daughter of John Smith. They have one son, Claud, born November 3, 1896, in Jackson Township. He was educated in the public schools and married Delcia Meeks, of Jackson Township. They have a daughter, Arlene, and a son, Ned.

AARON M. CARR. One of the fine farms longest under one continuous ownership and management in DeKalb is the William Carr farm, two miles south of Auburn.

Its original settler, William Carr, is still living there, at the venerable age of eighty-seven. The responsible head of the farming business for many years has been his son, Aaron M. Carr.

The latter was born on this farm October 2, 1868, and is a son of William and Fannie (Shuger) Carr. William Carr was born in Richland County, Ohio, June 2, 1832, and was brought to DeKalb County in 1839. He grew up in a pioneer environment, and began the improvement of the land comprised in his present farm in 1859. He is the oldest member of the Auburn Lodge of Masons and is a democrat in politics. His wife died in 1872, and of their six

children three are living: Margaret, widow of David Dulany; Nora, wife of Miles Osburn, living in Spokane, Washington, and Aaron M.

Aaron M. Carr grew up on the home farm and was educated in the common schools. November 25, 1899, he married Anna Strebe. She was born at Auburn March 14, 1871, and was educated in the common schools. They have three sons: William F., the oldest, attended the Auburn High School two years and married Florence Antrup, who lives in Jackson Township, and Walter A., and George A. have both completed the work of the common schools.

Aaron M. Carr is affiliated with Auburn Lodge No. 191 of the Knights of Pythias, and Lodge No. 566 of the Loyal Order of Moose. He is quite active in the democratic party. Mr. Carr with the aid of his sons operates his farm of two hundred acres and handles good livestock of all kinds.

**ELIZABETH ROUSH.** No one can tell more of the events and personalities of Washington Township in Noble County than Mrs. Elizabeth Roush, who continuously since birth, a period of seventy years, has lived in one locality on the banks of the Tippecanoe River, where her father settled in pioneer times and established an institution widely known for years under the name Rider's Mills.

Mrs. Roush is the widow of the late Alfred Roush, who was born in Stark County, Ohio, in April, 1849. When he was a boy his parents moved to Noble County, Indiana, and he grew up there and on December 2, 1868, he and Elizabeth Rider were married. She was born on the farm where she now resides September 23, 1849, and is a daughter of Jacob and Hannah (Keister) Rider. Her father was a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where he was born October 11, 1813, and lived to the venerable age of ninety-seven. When he was twelve years old his parents moved to Ohio, and after his marriage he came to Noble County, Indiana, in 1845. At that time he located on the land which Mrs. Roush now owns. He acquired about 800 acres along the Tippecanoe River. At that time it was covered with heavy timber, and Mr. Rider had to clear away a space on which to erect his log cabin home. In that one locality he spent the rest of his years. He built his grist mill about 1854, and it was the favorite grinding place for farmers in the neighborhood for nearly half a century. He had learned the miller's trade in boyhood. In order to dispose of the timber from his land he also conducted a sawmill and a shingle mill, and in many other ways distinguished himself as a man of great enterprise. He was equally well known for his honest and upright character. In politics he was a democrat. Jacob Rider and wife had ten children, but only two are now living, Mrs. Elizabeth Roush and Mrs. Nancy Wilson.

Mrs. Roush had the privilege of attending an old log schoolhouse when she was a girl and later she herself became a teacher in the community. She is a member of the Evangelical Church, of which her husband was an active supporter. Alfred Roush was a democrat but later became aligned with the prohibition cause. Mrs. Roush owns 300 acres of land, 155 acres of which is included in the old Rider estate. She is also a stockholder in the North Webster State Bank and is executrix of the Roush estate.

Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Roush had nine children, and the four now living are: Harry, unmarried and at home with his mother; Alvin R., who married Orra Seymour; Nellie, a high school graduate and a former teacher, now the wife of A. D. Wilkin-

son; and R. W., who operates his mother's home farm.

**HARRY L. TAYLOR**, of Fremont, is proprietor of the largest and finest equipped garage in Steuben County. He has been in the automobile business for a number of years and prior to that was associated with his father in an extensive livestock shipping business with headquarters at Fremont. The Taylor family is an old one in Northeast Indiana, and several of its members are mentioned in this publication.

Harry L. Taylor is a son of John H. and Alice S. (Thomas) Taylor, and a grandson of Linus S. Taylor. Linus Taylor was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, near the city of Cleveland, in 1830. John Taylor was born in York Township of Steuben County November 7, 1858, attended the public schools in his native locality, also the college at Angola, and as a young man followed teaching as well as farming. In 1880 he married Alice Thomas, daughter of Richard and Minerva (Townsend) Thomas, and immediately after their marriage they pioneered to northern Kansas and tried farming in that state for about two years. Returning to Steuben County and locating in York Township, John Taylor moved from there in 1886 to Fremont, and has been a resident of that city for over thirty years. He has become widely known all over this section of the state as a livestock buyer, and is the oldest man in that business in the county. He still deals in all kinds of livestock except horses. He is a Scottish Rite and Knight Templar Mason, and a member of the Mystic Shrine. John Taylor and wife had two children: Harry L. and Berle E. The latter is in the oil business with headquarters at Fort Worth, Texas.

Harry L. Taylor was born in Smith County, Kansas, January 4, 1881, but has no memory of the state of his birth. He has lived in Fremont since 1886, and after finishing the high school course there became associated with his father in the livestock shipping business. In 1913, in connection with livestock, he also engaged in the automobile business, and since 1917 has given all his time to that work. In 1917 he built his garage, which is a building 60 by 130 feet, modern in every respect, including a vacuum vapor system of heating.

Mr. Taylor is a republican in politics and was a member of the Town Council of Fremont four years. He is affiliated with Northeastern Lodge No. 210, Free and Accepted Masons, with the Chapter, Council and Commandery and with the Mystic Shrine at Fort Wayne. He is a member of the Elks Lodge at Coldwater, Michigan. His wife is a member of the Methodist Church and the family attend worship there. January 14, 1905, Mr. Taylor married Miss Maud E. Stroh, of Jamestown Township, Steuben County. They have one son, Percy Barre, born April 23, 1906.

**FRANK HUGHES**, a former clerk of the Circuit Court of Steuben County and now a member of the Indiana State Tax Board, in the inheritance tax department, has had a very busy and useful career. In early life he was a successful teacher, but for the past twenty years has given his time chiefly to farming in Salem Township, where he still lives.

Mr. Hughes was born in that township September 3, 1866, a son of John and Martha (Meek) Hughes. His parents were both born in Ohio. His grandfather, David Hughes, was a pioneer settler in Salem Township, and kept a store at Dutch Mills



Corners. He also served as justice of the peace at Flint for a number of years, and died there. His children included: Lafayette; James, who died as a Union soldier; Eliza; Mary, widow of Luther Hill; Alice; and Nancy.

John Hughes grew up and received his education in the public schools of Steuben County, and for a number of years was employed in a saw mill at Dutch Mills Corners. He spent nearly all his life in that township and died in 1893, at the age of fifty-five. He was a republican in politics and a member of the Reformed Lutheran Church. His widow, who died in October, 1918, at the age of seventy-two, was the mother of twelve children, named Alonzo, Frank, Lester, Lewis, Emma, Sumner, Josephine, Porter, Rachel, Earl and Burl, twins, and James, who died at the age of twelve years.

Frank Hughes in addition to the advantages afforded by the local district schools attended the American Normal School at Logansport, Indiana, also the Tri-State Normal College at Angola and the State Normal School at Terre Haute. He was only a boy when he taught his first term of school at Helmer, and was employed there for a second term. After that he followed teaching twenty years and for nine years was connected with the schools of Salem Township. The summer seasons he was engaged in farming and about 1897 he bought a farm in Salem Township of seventy acres. Later he bought another ten acres and then forty acres, giving him his present well proportioned farm of 120 acres, improved with two sets of buildings.

In 1911 Mr. Hughes left his farm and went to Angola to perform his duties as clerk of the Circuit Court. He was elected to that office in 1910, and held it four years. He then remained in the office as deputy for two and a half years. Since then his public duties have been as a member of the state tax board. He is a republican and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Salem Center, while he and his wife are active members of the Presbyterian Church of Salem Township.

March 27, 1901, Mr. Hughes married Miss Leona E. Parsell. She was born in Jackson Township September 8, 1879, a daughter of Austin M. and Mary Adaline (Weicht) Parsell. Her mother is a sister of Eugene F. Weicht, of Steuben County. Austin Parsell and wife live in Jackson Township. Mr. and Mrs. Hughes have one daughter, Martha Adaline, born March 23, 1905. She graduated from the eighth grade of the common schools in 1919.

JACOB W. JENNINGS. When the people of Troy Township, DeKalb County, chose Jacob W. Jennings as trustee in 1918 it was as a tribute of appreciation of his good business qualities and the energy he has displayed as a farmer, and was also an honor bestowed upon a family of long and prominent standing in that part of DeKalb County.

His grandfather was Peter Jennings, who settled in Troy Township in 1843. Peter Jennings was born in New Jersey September 13, 1802, a son of Peter, a native of the same county and of English descent. In 1821 Peter Jennings moved with his parents to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and from there came to DeKalb County in 1843. He settled in section 29, and had to clear away some of the heavy timber before he could build his log cabin. Eventually he acquired a good farm of over 200 acres. In 1829 he married Catherine Rainsberger, a daughter of John Rainsberger. She died in 1881 and he lived to be past fourscore. His children were Elizabeth, John, Isaac, William, George, Phoebe and Abraham.

William Jennings, father of Jacob W., was born in Carroll County, Ohio, October 14, 1835, and

was eight years old when the family drove their ox and horse teams across the country to DeKalb County. He had a useful part in clearing up the old homestead, and in 1860 he settled on a farm of his own in section 21 and for many years was a general farmer, and he also specialized in Merino sheep for wool purposes. In 1859 he married Anna McCord, daughter of David McCord, who settled in Steuben County, Indiana, in 1840. Mrs. Anna Jennings died in 1918. She was the mother of five children, four of whom are still living: H. S. Jennings, of Corning, Iowa; Olive, unmarried and at home; Eldora, wife of D. E. McClellan, of Williams County, Ohio, and Jacob W.

Jacob W. Jennings was born in Troy Township January 12, 1875, grew up on the home farm and attended district school No. 4. On March 7, 1897, he married Ruby Skelton, who was born in Troy Township. After their marriage they lived in Williams County, Ohio, four years, lived for eighteen months on his father's homestead, and since then have occupied their present farm, comprising eighty acres with good improvements. Mr. and Mrs. Jennings have had two children, Glenn B., born June 16, 1905, a student in the public schools, and Chester H., who died aged fifteen years.

Mr. Jennings is affiliated with Butler Lodge No. 158, Knights of Pythias. He is a republican in politics and served four years as a member of the Township Advisory Board before his election to the office of township trustee November 5, 1918. He is a stockholder in the Cooperative Association.

CHARLES A. WERKER. Farm management and the business of farming generally have found a man of unusual enterprise in the person of Charles A. Werker, whose home is two and a half miles southwest of Kimmell. While Mr. Werker is member of one of the oldest families of Noble County, his own career has been a direct product of his individual energies and capabilities, and his reputation shows that he has made good in every particular.

He was born in Sparta Township, September 22, 1874, son of Yangulph and Clara (Schlabach) Werker. Yangulph Werker, who was born in Germany, July 4, 1847, was only five years old when brought to the United States by his parents. They settled in Stark County, Ohio, and he grew up there, receiving a common school education. At the age of nineteen he came to Indiana, settling in Allen County, then moved to Noble County, in Washington Township. He married Clara Schlabach in 1872. She was born in Ohio, and came to Noble County at the age of five years. Yangulph Werker after his marriage settled on a farm in Sparta Township, and was a prominent farmer in that locality for many years, but is now living retired in Cromwell. He is a democrat, and has never sought any official honors. He and his wife have seven children, named Charles A., William E., Melvin L., Wallace O., John Y., Orlo R. and Harvey R.

Charles A. Werker had a good preparation for life while living on the home farm. This was the result not only of attendance at the district schools but a wise use of his opportunities to learn farming in a practical fashion. At the age of twenty-one he started out on his own account. In 1899 he married Myrta M. Earnhart, who is a native of Sparta Township and is a woman of good education, having attended both the common and high schools.

Since his marriage Mr. Werker has been farming in Sparta Township and now has 390 acres under his direct management. He also owns 235 acres in Ohio, and is therefore one of the larger land owners. He has done an extensive business outside his







*Eha M Huntman*

farm in the buying, feeding and selling of livestock. He is secretary of the Kimmell Cooperative Shippers' Association and is one of the directors of the State Bank of Kimmell.

Mr. and Mrs. Werker have three children: Coral, born October 27, 1902, now a student in the public schools; Kenton E., born February 27, 1904, also a schoolboy; and Charles A., Jr., born December 13, 1908. The family are members of the Sparta Christian Church. Mr. Werker is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is a past grand of Kimmell Lodge. Politically he is a democrat.

ELZA M. HUNTSMAN, present trustee of Noble Township, has for many years been successfully identified with farming and stock raising in Noble County, and is proprietor of the Lakeside Farm, comprising sixty-six acres in Noble Township.

Mr. Huntsman was born in Greene Township of the same county October 6, 1869, a son of George and Susannah (Hosler) Huntsman. His father, who was born in Morrow County, Ohio, August 11, 1837, grew up and married there, his wife being also a native of Ohio. They were married in 1861, and in 1864 moved to Indiana, locating in Greene Township of Noble County, where the father spent the rest of his life as an industrious and progressive farmer. He was a member of the Burr Oak Baptist Church, with which his wife was also affiliated. She died January 21, 1904. Of their nine children five are still living: Elza M.; Alice, wife of D. A. Harlan; William H., a farmer in Greene Township; Cora, wife of Vernon Strouse; and Anson, a Greene Township farmer.

Elza M. Huntsman spent the first twenty-one years of his life on his father's farm, and during that time acquired a good common school education. Since then he has been a farmer on his own account and for about four years he operated a threshing outfit over a large part of Noble County.

April 26, 1899, he married Mertuss V. Winebrenner, who was born in Noble Township, July 16, 1868, was reared there and attended the district schools. She is a daughter of James E. and Elizabeth (Rivir) Winebrenner. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Huntsman worked his father's farm for a time and later bought forty acres in Greene Township, selling that to secure their present larger place in Noble Township, and finally made the move which brought them to their present farm, widely known as Lakeside Farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Huntsman have five children: Flossie F. is a graduate of the common schools and is the wife of Wallace Edsel. Bernice L. is the wife of Clarence Mawhorter. Beulah E. is a graduate of the Wolf Lake High School and is the wife of Ted Hile. Verlin B. is a farmer, and married Marie Brackney. Ruby, the youngest of the family, is still in the home circle. Mr. and Mrs. Huntsman are members of the Burr Oak Baptist Church and he is one of the trustees. He was elected on the democratic ticket to his present office as trustee of Noble Township by a majority of fifty votes. Normally the township has a republican margin of twenty-five, but his personal popularity succeeded in overcoming this handicap.

ELMER RITTER. The Ritter family has been identified with Steuben County over sixty-five years. Elmer Ritter, who was born and reared in this county, has been in business at Fremont for a number of years and is the present postmaster of that city.

He was born in Steuben Township of Steuben County August 10, 1867. His father, Philip Ritter,

was born in Union County, Pennsylvania, in 1820, a son of John Ritter, who soon after the birth of this son moved to Wayne County, Ohio, and later to Ashland County in that state. Philip Ritter learned the trade of carpenter, and in July, 1852, he settled in section 6 of Steuben Township. He bought 128 acres of heavily timbered land, and built his house of hewn logs the same spring. In 1868 he constructed a more commodious residence, and his success as a farmer gave him a place of nearly 200 acres, most of which was improved under his direct management and supervision. He continued to work at his trade as a carpenter and was also an undertaker in his locality for nearly half a century. He was a member of the United Brethren Church.

Philip Ritter married for his first wife Lucy Ann Kope, who died in 1854, the mother of three children, Henry, Mary and Jacob. Philip Ritter married for his second wife Martha (Gillander) Anderson, who was born in the north of Ireland. Of their eight children six are still living, named Martha, Barbara, Theophilus, Lavina, Elmer and Orpha.

Elmer Ritter grew up on the old homestead in Steuben Township, attended the local schools there, and on moving to Fremont he engaged in the draying business for five years, also sold meat for seven years and then resumed farming for three years. He was appointed to his present duties and responsibilities as postmaster of Fremont May 15, 1916, and has given a most gratifying administration of his office.

Mr. Ritter is a staunch democrat and served one term as a member of the City Council of Fremont. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America, and he and his family are members of the Methodist Church. In 1889 he married Miss Jennie Saul, of Steuben County. Of their two children a daughter died in infancy and the son, Saul C., was born January 8, 1892. The son was educated in the public schools of Fremont and on April 26, 1918, joined the army, being assigned on account of his previous experience to the postoffice department and was located at Camp Taylor, Kentucky. He has recently returned from service and is now assistant postmaster at Fremont, Indiana.

JOHN B. STUMPF during his early years was a man of tremendous vigor and industry, and literally with the work of his hands laid the foundation for the prosperity he enjoyed as one of the leading farmers of Salem Township in Steuben County. He has been a resident of Steuben County more than forty years.

Mr. Stumpf was born in Seneca County, Ohio, February 22, 1852, a son of George Michael and Elizabeth (Breacht) Stumpf. His parents were both natives of Germany. His father was born in 1812, the son of George and Margaret Stumpf, the former of whom died in Germany. George Michael came to America with his widowed mother, who lived in Ohio and died in Upper Sandusky at the age of ninety-eight. The son was married in Seneca County, Ohio, and in 1855 moved to Putnam County of that state. He died at Upper Sandusky in 1895, at the age of eighty-two. His wife came to this country with her parents, who also settled in Ohio. She died in Steuben County in 1884, when about sixty-four years of age. She was the mother of nine children: Rosa, Magdalena and Caroline, all deceased; John B., Mary, Sophronia, Frances, Catherine and Tina, who is also deceased.



John B. Stumpf grew up in Putnam County, Ohio, until he was seventeen years old. He then spent some time in the West and in 1875 located in Steuben County, where he worked by the day or by the job and for a number of employers. During that period of his life he grubbed out 200 acres with a grub hoe, and it was not unusual for him in the fall of the year to cut 100 shocks of corn a day. Such industry inevitably had its reward. He began as a renter and in 1877 bought fifty-five acres where he is living today in Salem Township. He now has a well proportioned farm of eighty-two acres, improved with good buildings, and it has furnished him a living and more during the forty years he has lived there. Mr. Stumpf is a democrat in politics.

In 1875 he married Miss Sarah Tubbs, whose home was in Steuben County, two and a half miles east of Salem Center. She is a daughter of Leroy and Rosa Jane Tubbs, both early settlers in Steuben County. Her father chopped a place in the woods to build his log cabin in Salem Township, east of Dutch sawmill, and had a good farm of eighty acres there. He died when still in the prime of life, but his widow survived until 1915, at the age of eighty-nine. Mr. and Mrs. Tubbs were members of the United Brethren Church, which Mr. and Mrs. Stumpf also attended. In the Tubbs family were five children, named Elizabeth, Emaline, Ira, Frank and Sarah.

Mr. and Mrs. Stumpf had five children. Ira married Pearl Middow, and their four children are Roy, Charles, Robert (deceased), and Glenna. Mary Evadell is the wife of Raymond Barnett, lives at Kendallville and has a daughter, Ruth. Willie, the third child, is deceased. Alvah Eugene married Bertha Harvey and has a daughter, Marjorie Christina. Ethel is seventeen years old.

**E. F. TINNEY.** The two most strongly marked characteristics of both the East and the West are combined in the residents of the section of country of which this volume treats. The enthusiastic enterprise which over-leaps all obstacles and makes possible almost any undertaking in the comparatively new and vigorous western states is here tempered by the stable and more careful policy that we have borrowed from our eastern neighbors, and the combination is one of peculiar force and power. It has been the means of placing this section of the country on a par with the older East, at the same time producing a reliability and certainty in business affairs which is sometimes lacking in the West. This happy combination of characteristics is possessed by the subject of this brief sketch, E. F. Tinney, secretary and manager of the Butler Basket Company at Butler, DeKalb County, and who is assuming a deservedly high place in the business circles of that community.

E. F. Tinney was born at Ypsilanti, Michigan, on June 12, 1876, and is the son of James D. and Lottie (Sharp) Tinney, who are now residents of Tucson, Arizona. The youthful days of E. F. Tinney were spent in Pontiac, Michigan, where he received a common school education. He supplemented this training by two correspondence courses and attended and graduated from business college. He then took a course in drafting, for which he had a natural aptitude, and for a time followed that line of work in a jobbing shop. He had a strong liking for machinery, in the handling of which he became an expert, and eventually was appointed superintendent of a carriage manufactory in Butler, with which he was identified until 1917. On July 1, 1911, Mr. Tinney bought the controlling interest in the Butler Basket Company, one of the live and

prosperous concerns of that city. The company is incorporated and the official personnel is as follows: President, E. C. Miller; vice president, Jesse Oberlin; treasurer, L. C. Harding; secretary and manager, E. F. Tinney; directors, in addition to the foregoing officers, Dr. A. A. Kramer and Walter J. Mondhank. Though but a comparatively recent comer to Butler, Mr. Tinney has made a favorable impression on the community and is identified with every movement for the advancement of the best interests of his town and county.

In February, 1898, Mr. Tinney was married to Jennie C. Capman, also a native of Michigan. Mrs. Tinney after completing the high school course attended a business college. To Mr. and Mrs. Tinney have been born three children, namely: Homer C., who is a high school graduate, was a participant in the World war, having served two years in France as an observer in the One Hundred and First Aviation Squadron, and Ruth and Margaret are students in the common schools.

Mr. and Mrs. Tinney are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of the official board of which Mr. Tinney is a member. Politically he supports the republican party and takes an intelligent interest in the trend of public events. His record is that of a man who by his own unaided efforts worked his way from a modest beginning to a position of influence in the business world.

**EUGENE SHARP.** In the scheme of local government provided for Indiana counties one of the most important offices is that of township trustee. Probably more care is taken to select men properly qualified to fill it, and the place is at once one of great responsibility and honor.

The present trustee of York Township, Steuben County, is Eugene Sharp, who is now in his second elected term. Mr. Sharp is a native of Steuben County, and has been known to his fellow citizens as a capable farmer, merchant and business man. He was born in Richland Township, July 7, 1864, son of Mortimer and Olive (Jackman) Sharp. His mother was born in Otsego Township of Steuben County, a daughter of Richard and Orilia (Aldrich) Jackman, numbered among the pioneer settlers. Isaac Sharp, grandfather of Eugene Sharp, was a native of New York, and for many years lived at Syracuse and managed the salt works at Liverpool. He married Melinda Schoville, and about 1852 came to Indiana and settled in Richland Township, where he acquired eighty acres of heavily timbered land. He had partially cleared this and improved it with buildings before he died five or six years later. His children were George, Adaline, Martha, Mary, Mortimer and Volney. Volney died in childhood.

Mortimer Sharp, who was born at Syracuse, New York, was educated in the schools of his native city and also in Richland Township, where he first put his youthful strength to test as a farmer. In 1865 he moved to Smithfield Township of DeKalb County, ran a farm there five years, after which he bought the old homestead in Richland Township, and lived on it until his death, September 11, 1880. His first wife died in 1872, the mother of two children, Eugene and Clyde F. He then married Amina Patterson, and had one other child, Eva. He was a member of the Methodist Church.

Eugene Sharp made good use of his early advantages in the schools of Otsego Township and at Angola, and put his knowledge to work teaching school for two terms. He farmed the home place five years, had a farm west of Hamilton in Otsego Township three years, and for three years was a general merchant at Hamilton. His business training was supplemented by thirteen months in the

grocery department of a department store at Angola, after which he returned to his farm in Otsego Township, and was busily engaged in its management for eight years. From there he became a resident of York Township by the purchase of a place of 120 acres. He raised ten successive crops on this land, and then retired and moved to Metz, where his home is today.

Mr. Sharp was first honored with the responsibilities of his present office in October, 1913, when appointed to fill a vacancy. He served a year and three months by appointment. In the meantime, in the fall of 1914, he was regularly elected trustee and four years later came another recognition of the adequacy of his work when he was re-elected. Mr. Sharp has filled all the offices in the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Hamilton and has been a member of the Grand Lodge.

October 27, 1887, he married Miss Lillie A. Swift, daughter of Oscar F. and Dema A. (Ball) Swift. Their children are three in number: Guy B., Audra L. and Olive.

JOSEPH W. GOODWIN is one of the most extensive land owners and lumber men in northern Indiana. He has been identified with farming and lumbering the greater part of his active life, covering a period of over forty years.

Mr. Goodwin, whose home is in Fremont, was born in Ashland County, Ohio, October 18, 1853, son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Good) Goodwin. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, his father born in 1817 and his mother in 1820. In May, 1854, the family came from Ohio and settled on a farm a mile west of Waterloo, Indiana, where Samuel Goodwin spent the rest of his days. He died in 1889 and his wife in 1865. In politics he was a whig and later a republican, was a member of the Evangelical Church, and finally became identified with the United Brethren denomination. He had the following children: Ellen, Leander, Lewis and Francis, both of whom died in infancy, Joseph W., Lucy, widow of Stephen George, a soldier of the Civil war, and Alice. Samuel Goodwin married for his second wife Mrs. Mary (Prosser) Brubaker. She died in 1917, at the age of eighty-nine. She was the mother of three children, only one of whom is now living, Frank, of Cincinnati.

Joseph W. Goodwin grew up at his father's home in Northeast Indiana, attended the public schools, and acquired very early in life a practical knowledge of both farming and lumbering. For many years he has been in the lumber business under the name of the Goodwin Lumber Company, both as manufacturers and as retailers. The company has yards at Fremont and Pleasant Lake. Mr. Goodwin owns over 600 acres of land in Steuben County, Indiana, and in Branch County, Michigan. He has been useful as a citizen as well as in business affairs, and has lent his influence for the promotion of every worthy movement. In politics usually a republican, he has frequently voted for the prohibition ticket and has always been a staunch temperance man. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church.

November 13, 1877, Mr. Goodwin married Miss Oliva Brown. Her father, Elder Joseph Brown, was one of the early preachers of the United Brethren faith in the North Ohio Conference. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin have five children. Lillian is the wife of William Hampton, superintendent of motive power in the great steel works at Gary, Indiana. Charles, a Young Men's Christian Association worker still with the army in France, married Lorain Dalmage, of Des Moines, Iowa. Alta, the third

child, is unmarried. Olie is the wife of Wallace Pirrington and is the mother of three children, named Wallace, Jr., Joseph and Mary June. Warren, the youngest child, married Louise Powers, and has one daughter, Margaret.

ISAIAH ALLESHOUSE came to Northeast Indiana when a boy, grew up in LaGrange County, and after varied experiences as a farmer in different localities, including a trial at homesteading in Nebraska, he has lived for many years and prospered as a farmer in Salem Township of Steuben County.

He was born in Holmes County, Ohio, March 11, 1855, a son of Adam and Rebecca (Lint) Alleshouse. His parents were natives of the same county, were married there, and in 1862 brought their family to LaGrange County, buying in Milford Township what is now the Cornell farm. They sold this land to its present proprietor, Mr. William Cornell. Their next purchase was a farm in Springfield Township, and Adam Alleshouse spent his last days in Michigan with his son George, where he died in 1904, at the age of seventy-eight. His wife died in Springfield Township of LaGrange County. They were members of the Reformed Church, and in politics he was a republican from the time that party was organized. Their children were: Benjamin, Isaiah, John, Lucy Ellen and Mary Jane, twins; George Washington, and Daniel.

Isaiah Alleshouse attended the public schools of LaGrange County after he was seven years old, and in early manhood he made his independent start by buying forty acres in Springfield Township. Selling that he came to Steuben County, rented the farm of his father-in-law two years, and lived in LaGrange County two years on his own farm, and for two years rented the Newton farm in Greenfield Township. After this came his western experience in Nebraska, where he took up a forty-acre homestead and went through all the trials and vicissitudes of homesteading and farming in the West for eight years. Selling out, he returned to Indiana, and has since been well contented with the climate, soil and opportunities of this section of the state. In Steuben County he located on forty acres which Mrs. Alleshouse had inherited from her parents, and they also bought forty-five acres more, giving them the place which is still his workshop as a farmer and the home where his children have grown up and where he is content to pass his declining years. Mr. Alleshouse is a prohibitionist in politics and a member of the United Brethren Church.

August 28, 1881, he married Miss Olive Eleanor Ransburg, who was born on the farm where she is now living June 8, 1862, a daughter of Leander and Harriet (Spangle) Ransberg, the father a native of Frederick, Maryland, and the mother of Seneca County, Ohio. After their marriage in Ohio the parents moved to Steuben County, and her father became one of the very prosperous farmers of this section, owning 320 acres. He died in Henry County, Ohio, in 1904, and the mother of Mrs. Alleshouse, who was born in 1833, died January 2, 1909. Leander Ransburg first married Rachael Mithour and had one daughter, Rachael E. By his second wife his children were Chloe, Ella, Edith, Lewis W. and Olive Eleanor.

Mr. and Mrs. Alleshouse had five children, and now have numerous grandchildren. Their youngest child, Cecil Dale, died in 1905, aged two years one month and two days. The oldest, Charlotte Estella, is the wife of Albert Ulmer, and her children are Vivaleen Frances, Wellington W., Kenneth Roy, Velma Lucile, Maynard, Gayland, Iona Pearl, Lawrence and Wilbur. Ottomer Amos Alleshouse married Ulah Woodford, and their children are Russell



Raymond, Gladys, Dorothy, Gerald W. and Woodford W. Carl Sherman Alleshouse married Francis Courtwright and has four children, Donald J., Russell I., Dale Wesley and Berdina Gay. Rollie Roy, the youngest of the family now living, was in the army about six months during the World war, and was assigned to duties as a cook at Camp Taylor, Louisville, Kentucky. He married Lovisa Anstett and has a son, Burton Rollie.

**AARON J. MOORE.** Three generations of the Moore family in Wilmington Township have been registered stock breeders. As a family they have some of the oldest herds of registered stock in the state, and the value of their enterprise in raising the standards of livestock husbandry is incalculable.

Aaron D. Moore, grandfather of the present generation, had his Durham Shorthorn cattle, Spanish Merino sheep and Poland China hogs registered in the books of the official associations of those breeds. Aaron D. Moore was born in Stark County, Ohio, January 17, 1831, son of a shoemaker, and he grew up in a home of very modest comforts and early had to make his own way in the world. He worked as a boatman on an Ohio canal, and in 1854 came to DeKalb County and settled in the big woods of Wilmington Township. He built his log cabin and used his skill as a hunter to provide meat for his family. It is said that he paid his first taxes with hides and furs. Besides clearing a hundred sixty acres of his own he helped others to clear land and was in every sense a valiant pioneer, and had few equals as an axe man. In 1851 he married Rebecca J. Caldwell, of Stark County, Ohio. Their children to grow up were Hiram M., Margaret A., Ella, A. Alvin, George M. and John R.

A grandson of this veteran stock breeder is Aaron J. Moore, who makes a specialty of Shropshire sheep and Poland China hogs. He was born in Wilmington Township November 24, 1896, and is a son of John R. Moore and Cora B. (Shanklin) Moore. John R. Moore was born on the farm where his son, Aaron J., now resides October 30, 1869, and died there December 7, 1918. He continued the stock breeding enterprise of his father. His wife was born in Defiance County, Ohio, January 3, 1874, and died February 12, 1919. They had three children: Aaron J., Gladys, who died while in high school, and John R., Jr., who is a high school graduate, took normal training in the Tri-State College and is a teacher.

Aaron J. Moore has spent all his life on the home farm. He attended high school two years at Waterloo and he has done much to continue the family tradition and profession as a stockman. He owns eighty acres of the old farm and has a herd of forty head of Shropshire sheep, all pure bred, the herd being headed by A. J. Moore's Best No. 63. His big type Poland China hogs also contain some of the finest representatives of their class. For several years his animals have been exhibited at state and county fairs.

November 18, 1915, Mr. Moore married Estella M. Quaintance. They have two children: Phyllis E., born September 2, 1916, and Aileen, born February 12, 1918. Mr. Moore is a member of the Ancient Order of Gleaners and a democrat in politics.

**HUGH W. DIRRIM** is one of the honored veterans of the Civil war, has spent most of his life in Northeast Indiana, and for nearly forty years was a successful farmer of Otsego Township in Steuben County. He is now enjoying the comforts of life in his home at Hamilton.

Mr. Dirrim was born in Harrison Township of Carroll County, Ohio, April 13, 1837, a son of James

Dirrim and a grandson of Richard Dirrim. Richard Dirrim was born in Delaware, served in the War of 1812, and in September, 1815, moved to Stark County, Ohio. James Dirrim was born in Pennsylvania, August 11, 1809, but was reared and educated in Stark County, Ohio. In May, 1845, he brought his family to Franklin Township of DeKalb County, Indiana, and settled on a tract of heavily timbered land in section 11. He made a good farm there, and spent the rest of his life in that locality. He was twice married. April 15, 1835, he married for his second wife Hannah Gillespie, a native of Ireland. They had a family of eleven children, and several of the sons fought in the ranks of the Union army. The children were: William, Sarah, Hugh W., James, Isaac, Richard, Margaret E., Hannah D., Elizabeth Ann, John and Milton.

Hugh W. Dirrim was about eight years old when he came to DeKalb County, and he received his education in the schools there. In November, 1862, he enlisted in the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry, and was in the battles of Stone River, Chickamauga and several other engagements. He was in the army until the close of hostilities in April, 1865. He returned home to take up farming and in 1873 removed to Otsego Township of Steuben County, where he acquired 133 acres. He developed that land, putting on the building improvements, and lived there with increasing prosperity for many years. In 1901 he retired and moved to Hamilton, and in 1908 sold his farm.

He married for his first wife Catherine Spiece, daughter of John Spiece. She died in October, 1900, the mother of six children, Orlando, Lincoln, Clarence, Jordan, Nettie and Emma. Nettie is now deceased. Mr. Dirrim married for his second wife Mary Spiece, sister of his first wife.

**EARL L. HALL** has had an active share in the business affairs of Fremont for a long period of years, and has been chiefly identified with the management of the local milling interests. He is manager of the Hammel Milling Company there, and is widely known among the grain raising farmers over a large surrounding territory.

Mr. Hall was born at Fremont, October 6, 1866, a son of Joseph H. and Delia (Beach) Hall. His father was born in Washington County, New York, August 24, 1824, went to Michigan at the age of twenty and about ten years later came to Fremont, Indiana, where he opened a harness shop and was one of the first business men in that town. He died April 23, 1904. His first wife was Mary Beach, by which union there are two living daughters, Effie and Ida. His second wife, Delia Beach, was a daughter of Samuel and Irene (Lawrence) Beach. They came from New York to Saline, Michigan, about 1833, and in 1836 settled in Branch County, that state, and took up government land there. Samuel Beach died there when about forty years of age and his wife also died young. Their children were named Cephus, Charles, Frank, William, Edward, Emily, Sarah, Delia and Catherine. Samuel Beach served as a justice of the peace in three different townships in Michigan, though all the time living in the same house. That was due to the fact that the county was rapidly settling and the large townships were being cut up and subdivided.

Earl L. Hall was reared in Fremont and attended the local schools and also worked on the farm with his father for nine years. He was also with his father in business for a time, afterward was engaged in the meat business for about eight years, and then engaged in the milling trade, working for



Otis Hammel. After a year and a half he took still a different line, the lumber trade, and followed that a year and a half. But for the past ten years Mr. Hall has been steadily engaged in the management of the Hammel Milling Company at Fremont.

In politics he is a prohibitionist, though formerly a republican. Mr. Hall owns sixteen acres of land adjoining the corporation limits of Fremont, which is known as a part of the Erastus Farnham farm. Mr. Farnham built the Hammel mill, also the railroad depot and the house in which Mr. Hall and family reside. Mr. Hall is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and is liberal in his religious views.

October 11, 1903, he married Miss Ida Bailey. She was born in Scott Township of Steuben County January 4, 1869, a daughter of John and Jane (Dygart) Bailey. Her father was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, October 8, 1830, and her mother in Scott Township of Steuben County February 6, 1844. Mrs. Hall's maternal grandparents were Abraham and Abigail (Barnes) Dygart, who came to New York State and were among the earliest settlers of Steuben County. John Bailey came to Steuben County with his parents, Michael and Catherine (Weaver) Bailey. John Bailey died September 30, 1903, and his wife on March 23, 1906. They have had two daughters, Lucy and Mrs. Hall. Lucy was born December 14, 1866, and died in May, 1867.

**FRANK T. DOLE.** The family of Dole has many relationships with Steuben County people and affairs. Frank T. Dole of Angola is former county treasurer and has been an intelligent and influential factor in the business life of the community for over thirty years.

Mr. Dole was born in York Township, Huron County, Ohio, June 1, 1858, a son of John and Susannah (Kirkwood) Dole. His parents arrived in Salem Township of Steuben County in the spring of 1861 and settled in the midst of the woods where the wild deer and wild turkey disported. They bought 101 acres and improved much of it into fields. Later this farm was rented to his son, Lewis Dole, and John Dole moved to Hudson, lived there six years, was then retired at Salem Center with his daughter, Mrs. W. E. Kinsey, and died at the Kinsey home in 1907, at the age of eighty-six. His wife passed away in 1904, at the age of eighty. John Dole was a son of Daniel and Elizabeth (Stratton) Dole, who also came to Steuben County. They were natives of Columbiana County, Ohio. Elizabeth Stratton Dole died in 1889, at the venerable age of ninety-six years. Her children were John, Hannah, Elwood, Mary, Joel and Lewis. John Dole along with farming followed the trade of carpenter for many years. He was a democrat, served as trustee of Salem Township several years, and he and his wife attended the Methodist Episcopal Church. Susannah Kirkwood was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, of Irish extraction, one of her brothers being a native of Ireland. John Dole and wife had a family of six children; Frank being the youngest. Daniel M. lives at Hudson, Indiana; Lewis, who died in 1910, at the age of sixty-two, left a widow, Mrs. Kate Ann (Greeno) Dole, now a resident of Angola; the third child, Charles, died in infancy; the fifth in the family was Sarah, who died in 1891, the wife of J. H. Woodford, of Salem Township. Special interest attaches to the fourth child, Elizabeth Dole, who is the wife of Mr. W. E. Kinsey, now living in Arizona. W. E. Kinsey was a son of Dr. Joseph E. Kinsey, and together they were merchants at Salem Center for a number

of years. William E. Kinsey and Elizabeth Dole were married in 1872 and their daughter, Lois I., was married in 1895 to Thomas R. Marshall, then a rising young Indiana lawyer, later governor of the state, and now vice president of the United States.

Frank T. Dole received his education in the public schools of Salem Township attended the Angola High School, and at the age of sixteen was working as a carpenter. He followed that mechanical trade until 1891. After that for a few years he was a merchant at Salem Center, and on moving to Angola entered the employ of Mr. L. C. Steifel, with whom he remained seventeen years. He then resumed the role of an independent merchant and in 1912 was called to the duties of county treasurer, an office he filled with signal usefulness and efficiency for four years. Since retiring from office he has been connected with several business enterprises and is now engaged in the canning business. He owns a beautiful home on North Wayne Street in Angola.

A republican in politics, he served six years in the City Council of Angola. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Rebekahs, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1878 Mr. Dole married Miss N. Ellen Kinsey. She was born in Salem Township November 6, 1857, is a sister of William E. Kinsey, above noted, and a daughter of Dr. Joseph and Mary (Dill) Kinsey. Doctor Kinsey was an early settler in Allen County, Indiana, moved from there to DeKalb County and in 1855 to Salem Center, where he established a large practice as a physician and was also associated with his son in the general mercantile business. He and his wife spent their last years in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dole, where Doctor Kinsey died in 1910, at the age of ninety-two, and his wife in 1905, aged seventy-eight.

Mr. and Mrs. Dole have four children. William Earl, born in 1883, has for a number of years been clerk in the Angola postoffice. He married Edna Cowen, a daughter of Elmer Cowen, and has a son, William Earl, Jr. Floyd J. Dole, born in 1886, is manager of the express office at Continental, Ohio. He spent about eighteen months in the army, being head cook for the One Hundred and Thirty-Seventh Field Artillery, and going overseas to France in December, 1918, returning to this country in February, 1919. The third child, Cora Mildred, was born in 1890, and is the wife of Wayne McKillen, and has a son, James Franklin. Lewis Purl Dole, born in 1894, spent three and a half months in training at Camp Grant toward the close of the war.

**JOHN MOUGHLER** is a well known DeKalb County resident, his home being in the southwest corner of Troy Township. He is one of a rather numerous group of farmers who earned their prosperity largely as renters. He farmed rented land for thirty years or more and in that time reared and provided for his family, and his later years are now being spent quietly, prosperously and busily on a farm of his own.

Mr. Moughler was born in Wayne County, Ohio, February 9, 1850, a son of Jacob and Hannah (Bordner) Moughler, the former a native of Lucas County, Ohio, and the latter of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. They grew up in Wayne County, Ohio, were married there and in the fall of 1852 came to DeKalb County, settling a mile and a half south of Butler in Wilmington Township. They spent the rest of their lives on that farm and the father cleared up and put in cultivation most of the land. The mother was a member of the

Christian Church. Jacob Moughler was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Butler and was a democrat in politics. In the family were seven children: Amanda, deceased; John; Mary, who became the wife of Orlando Bratton; Emma, deceased; Daniel, of Butler; Amos, deceased, and Charles, who died when two years old.

John Moughler grew up on the homestead south of Butler and attended the common schools. One of the schools he attended was kept in a log house. He played an industrious part helping his father clear and cultivate the farm, and lived at home to the age of thirty-one.

September 23, 1880, he married Alice Hendershot. She was born March 6, 1857, a daughter of B. F. and Susanna (Miller) Hendershot, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ashland County, Ohio. The parents were married in Williams County, Ohio, and began housekeeping in Defiance County, and spent the rest of their lives there.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Moughler rented the old Yoey Farm not far from his father's home. Two years later they moved to another farm in Wilmington Township and from there came to Troy Township. A distinctive feature of Mr. Moughler's career as a farmer is that for twenty-two years he lived on and rented one farm. This farm during this time had three different owners. He reared his family there and eventually put away enough to enable him to buy his present place of forty acres in the southwest corner of Troy Township. He keeps good grades of livestock, and is still busy with farming. Mr. Moughler is a democrat in politics.

He and his wife have two sons, Burl and Glenn. Burl is one of the leading young farmers of Troy Township, while Glenn has an eighty-acre farm six miles east of Auburn.

L. A. KINTNER is one of the most progressive of the modern farmers of Steuben County. He has worked hard, has made several changes, each one for the better, has adapted himself and his methods to changing conditions, and his place in Richland Township reflects well ordered prosperity at every turn.

He has lived most of his life in this county, but was born at Edon in Williams County, Ohio, February 10, 1868. His father was George Kintner, who was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, September 24, 1830. When a young man he moved to Williams County and located in a rather wild and primitive district southwest of Edon, where he improved a tract of land bought direct from the Government. He had previously operated a sawmill at Edon. About 1872 he sold his Ohio property and came to Steuben County, buying ninety-three and a fraction acres in Richland Township. This is the land now owned and occupied by his son L. A., and it has been under cultivation by members of the Kintner family nearly fifty years. In 1880 George Kintner built the large brick house which is still in a good state of repair and furnished an excellent home for the son and family. George Kintner retired and rented his farm in 1890, and lived in Angola until his death in 1907. He married Almira Garwood, who was born in Williams County, Ohio, January 30, 1840. She died in 1915, the mother of three children, H. P., L. A. and E. M. Kintner.

L. A. Kintner attended public school at Metz and took commercial courses in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola. All the time he was also acquiring practical experience as a farmer. One winter term he was teacher of a district school, and for three years or so worked out at monthly wages.

January 30, 1895, was an important date in his career, marking his marriage to Miss Permie M. Bockey, daughter of Sylvester Bockey. The following eight years he rented his father's farm. Moving to Fremont, he became a partner in the Fremont Lumber & Coal Company, but in January, 1906, left town to resume farming on the old Aleck McClue place south of Fremont, where he lived about a year and a half. In February, 1907, he made a formal purchase of the old Kintner homestead. His ownership has brought him prosperity and has resulted in many notable improvements, the building of good barns and other facilities, and everything is now well arranged and equipped for the general purpose farm. He feeds a number of stock every season.

Mr. Kintner is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and Chapter at Angola and with the Knights of Pythias. He and his wife have two children and one grandchild. Mildred A., the daughter, is the wife of Peter Dick, and their son is named Robert. The son is Maurice G. Kintner.

SETH DUNHAM. If any man has a thorough and authoritative knowledge of changing conditions in Otsego Township from pioneer times to the present it is Seth Dunham, a farmer there for over sixty years, and a witness of passing events and circumstances for fully three quarters of a century.

Mr. Dunham, who is still living on his farm at the venerable age of eighty-seven, was born in the City of Buffalo, Erie County, New York, August 7, 1832, a son of Samuel and Sophia (Wilber) Dunham. His mother was born in New York State and died there at the age of thirty-two. The father was born in Delaware County, New York. Samuel Dunham brought his children to Indiana in 1844, traveling overland with wagons and two yoke of oxen. After a journey of four weeks he reached Steuben County and settled in Otsego Township. He bought 160 acres of land from his brother, Charles Dunham, a previous settler, and during the next ten years did a great deal to make his land productive and a part of the growing community of homes and farms. He died at Hamilton April 28, 1856, at the age of fifty-two. He was a whig in politics and he died about the time the republican party was organized. He and his wife had eight children, Panama, Seth, Mary, Oliver and Oliva, twins, Harriet, Sophia and Ella.

Of this large family Seth Dunham is the only survivor. He was in his twelfth year when brought to Steuben County. Prior to that time he had attended public schools in New York State, and he also went to school some in the backwoods schools of Otsego Township. He adapted himself to the pioneer conditions, and became a good hunter as well as a good farmer. As late as 1852 Mr. Dunham killed fifteen deer in Otsego Township besides a large number of wild turkeys. At the time of his marriage he bought eighty acres of land where he lives today, and his increasing resources enabled him to improve his possessions until today he owns 280 acres. Along with good crops he has for many years handled livestock, not only raising cattle and hogs but buying and selling and feeding. Mr. Dunham has lived an interesting though not a conspicuous life, has done his duty quietly by his family and his neighbors, but has never sought the distinction of public office. He is a republican, having been identified with that party from the time of its organization, and his wife is a member of the Christian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Dunham are one of the oldest married couples in Steuben County. The date of



their marriage was November 10, 1859. Her maiden name was Mary Ann McEntarfer. She was born in Stark County, Ohio, August 2, 1837, and was an infant when her parents, Daniel and Elizabeth (Getel) McEntarfer, accomplished a pioneer overland journey with ox team and conveyance to Indiana in 1838. They settled in Franklin Township of DeKalb County, where her father died in 1860, at the age of sixty. Her mother spent her last days at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dunham and passed away in 1872. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Dunham. Caroline, the oldest, is the wife of Clark Tingler and had three children, Guy, Lloyd and Mabel. Ellen is the wife of Freeman Cary, and her family consists of Irina, Seth and Irvin. The son Seth married Zelma Teegardin, daughter of Thomas Teegardin. Viola Dunham is the wife of Edward Hand, and has six children, named Dorris, Kenneth, Dunham, Artis, Theodore and Donald.

ALEXANDER THOMPSON came to Steuben County during the Civil war, enlisted shortly afterward in an Indiana regiment, and at the close of the war returned and resumed his civic status as a farmer. He gave nearly half a century to the management of his business affairs, and is now retired.

Mr. Thompson was born in Crawford County, Ohio, September 27, 1846, a son of William Cannon and Harriet (Ferguson) Thompson. William Cannon Thompson was born in Indiana County, Pennsylvania, April 2, 1807, a son of Hugh S. Thompson. He married April 16, 1844, Harriet Ferguson, who was born in Richland County, near Mansfield, Ohio, April 10, 1819. After their marriage in Richland County they settled in Crawford County, and in 1864 moved to Steuben County, locating on the farm which their son Alexander now owns in Clear Lake Township. William C. Thompson died there May 31, 1890, and his widow at the home of her daughter Harriet in Hillsdale County, Michigan, in December, 1899. William C. Thompson was a republican, and he and his wife were United Presbyterians. Their children were: Hugh F., who was killed by a horse in Crawford County, Ohio, at the age of six years; Alexander; Mary Elizabeth; Harriet F.; John Franklin; and Effie, who was killed by a horse in Steuben County at the age of eight years.

Alexander Thompson lived in Crawford County until he was seventeen years of age, and acquired his education there. When he came to Steuben County in 1864 he rode horseback, and in the following February he enlisted at Fremont in the One Hundred and Fifty-Second Indiana Infantry, in Company C. He was with that regiment in service until the close of hostilities. On returning to Steuben County he bought sixty acres in Clear Lake Township. He farmed for many years, owned considerable property in Ray, where he had his home for twenty years, and he also owns the old homestead of eighty-five acres. Mr. Thompson is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Grand Army of the Republic. For a time he lived in Branch County, Michigan, and while there served as deputy sheriff of Branch County under William H. Herendeen.

In 1875 Mr. Thompson married Alice Ellis, of Branch County, a daughter of Daniel Ellis, now deceased. Mrs. Thompson died in 1901. She was the mother of six children, and a number of grandchildren now survive her. The oldest was Effie, who died when six years old. Madge is the wife of Dr. Lee H. Dugand, of Ludington, Michigan, and they have two children, named Muriel Margaret and George. Irene Thompson married C. S.

Stephens, of Portland, Oregon, and has a son, Kenneth. Ross A. is a railroad agent at Rose Lawn in Newton County, Indiana. He married Rose Swartzel. John Rollo Thompson is a well known citizen of Fremont and has a son, John R., Jr. The youngest of the family, Kenneth, died when six years old.

FRANCIS LEASON. In the early days of DeKalb County a substantial English family was established in Troy Township by the name Leason. A number of its representatives are still found in that vicinity, one of them being Mr. Francis Leason, who still goes about his daily vocation as a farmer on the east half of the northwest quarter of section 8.

He was born in Erie County, Ohio, February 2, 1854, a son of Joseph and Mary (Sharp) Leason. His father was born in England December 2, 1810, a son of Francis Leason, while the mother was born March 2, 1819, in the same country. The father grew up in Derbyshire and the mother in Nottingham, and they were married in June, 1848. The following week they set out for the United States and at once located in Erie County, Ohio. Joseph Leason rented a farm there a short time, then returned to England for two years, after which he again became an Erie County farmer and in 1856 made his second return to England. In 1862 he was again in Erie County, Ohio, and continued farming there until 1867, when he removed to Indiana and bought sixty acres in section 8 of Troy Township. He lived there until his death in 1879 his wife having passed away in 1872. He was one of the leading members of the United Brethren Church in the community. He never took out his papers to become an American citizen.

Francis Leason was the only child of his parents and since he was thirteen years of age has lived in Troy Township. He acquired his education in the common schools and on December 5, 1879, married Mary E. Stearns. She was born in Troy Township July 20, 1859, a daughter of John and Nancy (Ward) Stearns. Her father was born in Morrow County, Ohio, December 3, 1829, and her mother April 11, 1833, in Ashtabula County of the same state. They were married July 13, 1856, and Mrs. Leason is their only daughter.

Mr. and Mrs. Leason have three children: John, Charles, born February 17, 1883, married and living at Monroe, Michigan; and Carrie, born February 6, 1887, still at home with her parents. The latter are active members of the Zion United Brethren Church, and Mr. Leason is a republican. He and his wife have six grandchildren.

John Leason, son of Francis and Mary (Stearns) Leason, is a member of the third generation of this family and has a valuable farm in section 8 of Troy Township. He was born May 6, 1881, on a farm adjoining his present home, and he grew up and received his education in that locality. June 8, 1904, he married Mildred C. Hammond. She was born in Franklin Township of DeKalb County October 29, 1885, a daughter of George and Caroline Hammond. She was reared in her native township and received a common school education. After their marriage John Leason and wife lived on the home farm for about five years and then came to their present place, where they have eighty acres devoted to general farming and stock raising. They are active members of the West Zion United Brethren Church, Mr. Leason being on the official boards and finance committee. He is a republican in politics. To their marriage have been born five children, Violet, Martin, Mildred and Dorothea and Doris, twins.



WILLIAM GORSUCH has the reputation of being the wealthiest citizen of Sparta Township in Noble County. He is a very extensive land owner, and during his long life has used his industry and energy to such good advantage that accumulations have followed as a matter of course. An interesting fact and one that is significant is that he had only \$30 when he came to this county more than fifty-six years ago.

He was born in Delaware County, Ohio, November 25, 1842, son of Thomas and Anna (Cramer) Gorsuch. His parents spent all their lives in Delaware County. Of their six children only three are now living: Noah and John E., of Licking County, Ohio, and William.

William Gorsuch grew up in his native county and had little opportunity to attend school. He came to Noble County in 1863 to look after a tract of 240 acres of land in Sparta Township. He has made that county his permanent home. April 1, 1866, he married Mary E. Smith. She was born in Scotland County, Missouri, and came to Noble County with her parents during the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Gorsuch had three children, and the two still living are Thomas A. and John F., both farmers in Sparta Township. Mrs. Gorsuch, who was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, died April 16, 1915.

Mr. Gorsuch at the present time owns 458 acres of land in Sparta Township, and for many years has been a successful trader in land and other property. He has been a director in the Cromwell State Bank since it was organized, also a stockholder in the Kimmell State Bank, and in politics is a democrat.

GEORGE B. MAXTON has lived in Steuben County since he was about four years old. He has led a quiet, unostentatious, but exceedingly busy and useful life, mainly on one farm in Otsego Township, and is raising crops today on the same land that his father cultivated half a century ago.

Mr. Maxton was born in Richland County, Ohio, August 30, 1856, a son of John and Christina (Ralston) Maxton. His parents were both born in Pennsylvania, his father October 22, 1822, and his mother December 19, 1826. His grandparents, John and Anna (Clark) Maxton, spent most of their lives in Green County, Ohio. They were the parents of ten children. All these children were living and attended the funeral of their father, and at that time their combined ages were 709 years. John and Christina Maxton brought their family to Otsego Township, April 1, 1860, and settled on a farm of 141 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres. John Maxton cleared much of this land, put up some good buildings, saw his efforts prosper, his children grow to useful manhood and womanhood, and in these peaceful surroundings he died January 2, 1900, his wife passing away October 20, 1902. He was a democrat in politics and in religious views adopted a liberal attitude. The children were: Mrs. Jane Burch; Mrs. Lydia Gilbert, deceased; Mrs. Martha Beebe; George B.; Mrs. Mary Tasker; Joseph, who died in infancy; and Mrs. Anna Sheffer.

George B. Maxton grew up on the home farm, acquired a common school education and as a boy assisted his father in clearing more land for fields and tending the fields already in cultivation. He has always lived on the same place and is now proprietor of a farm with splendid improvements and of great productiveness. Mr. Maxton is a democrat, is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias at Angola and is a member of the Hamilton Co-operative Shippers Association.

In 1880 he married Miss Cassie Tingler. She was born in Hancock County, Ohio, May 25, 1858, and was about four years old when her parents, Michael and Nellie (Opp) Tingler, came to Steuben County and settled in Otsego Township. Her parents lived here upwards of half a century. Her mother died in 1906 and her father in 1910. Mrs. Maxton has one sister, Mrs. Phoebe Badger. Two children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Maxton, Hugh and Nellie. Hugh, born May 16, 1881, was educated in the common schools and in recent years has assumed many of the responsibilities of managing his father's farm. He married Miss Georgia Boyles, and their four children are Carroll, Denver, Lewis and Ruth. The daughter Nellie, who was born June 29, 1883, is the wife of Roy Orewiler, a son of Adam Orewiler, of Steuben County. Two sons comprise the family of Mr. and Mrs. Roy Orewiler, named Russell and Keith.

ADOLPH E. LAMBRIGHT, member of an old family of LaGrange County, has in his own right and in his own career achieved a dignified success as a farmer and good citizen, and while he has never been in politics has exercised a good influence in the community where he lives. His farm is in Johnson Township, three and a half miles north and one half mile west of Wolcottville.

He was born in Clear Spring Township of the same county January 2, 1866, son of Michael and Augusta (Snitzer) Lambright. His father was born in Germany March 9, 1839, and came to the United States with his father in 1847, being one of eight children, all of whom grew up in Holmes County, Ohio. Holmes County was the birthplace of Augusta Snitzer, who was born October 18, 1839. She and Michael Lambright were married in August, 1860, and in 1865 brought their family to Indiana and settled in Clear Spring Township, two and a half miles southwest of LaGrange. In 1871 he moved to Johnson Township and spent the rest of his active years as a farmer there, but late in life moved to Wolcottville and died there. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. Of their eight children six are still living: William J., of Wolcottville; Adolph E.; Ella, wife of William Rowe; Miles, of Elkhart, Indiana; Carrie, wife of Frank Eddy; and Alvin E., of Johnson Township.

Adolph E. has spent all his life in LaGrange County. He supplemented the advantages of the common schools by work in the Normal School at LaGrange and for twelve years was a teacher, and his former pupils credit him with being one of the best teachers of Johnson Township. While teaching he also engaged in farming. In April, 1898, after his marriage, he bought the farm where he now resides, consisting of 140 acres. Mr. Lambright is well known locally as a breeder of Duroc hogs. He and his family are members of the Methodist Church, and in politics he is a democrat.

Mr. Lambright was married April 21, 1891, to Emma Shuman, and they have six children. Agnes is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and a graduate dietitian of the Battle Creek Sanitarium and is now the wife of Edgar Vasser. Mildred is a graduate of high school, and had a two-year college course. Harold graduated from high school and is now a student of electrical engineering in Purdue University. Clyde finished his high school course and was also a student of the Fort Wayne Business College. Lois is now in the high school at Wolcottville, while Julia is in the grade school.



MR. AND MRS. WILLIAM GORSUCH





ROY A. VAN FOSSEN, though identified with Steuben County only a few years, is a member of a family which has been related with the communities of Northeast Indiana and across the state line in Williams County, Ohio, since pioneer times.

Mr. Van Fossen, whose farm is in Millgrove Township, was born in Williams County, Ohio, July 12, 1874, a son of John W. and Eliza J. (Gillis) Van Fossen. His paternal grandparents were William and Mary (Sloss) Van Fossen. More than eighty years ago they removed from Ohio to Dearbornville, Michigan, and in 1838 returned to Ohio and settled in Williams County. Williams County at that time was practically a wilderness. William Van Fossen took up Government land in Florence Township. He was identified with the clearing and improvement of that land the rest of his life. He and his wife had six children, named Elizabeth, Rachel, William, Margaret, Jane and Thomas.

John W. Van Fossen, who was born at Newark, Ohio, February 11, 1834, grew up from the age of four years in Williams County, acquired his education in public schools, and after attending the Northeastern Indiana Institute at Orland went west to Iowa and was one of the early teachers in that state. Returning to Williams County about the beginning of the Civil war, he enlisted October 31, 1862, in the Fifth Independent Company of Ohio Sharpshooters. After that until the close of hostilities he was with the Army of the Cumberland and was never absent a single day from duty. He participated in many engagements and after the battle of Chickamauga he was detailed for duty for six weeks in gathering up and burying the dead. The war over he returned to Williams County, and on February 22, 1866, married Eliza Jane Gillis. Her parents were William and Jane (McLaren) Gillis, the latter a native of Ireland. Mary Sloss, noted above as the wife of William Van Fossen, was also born in Ireland. William Gillis and wife were early settlers in Morrow County, Ohio, and in 1845 moved to Williams County, spending the rest of their days in Florence Township, where their industry cleared up a homestead.

After his marriage John W. Van Fossen bought a farm in Florence Township, then moved to another place in Northwest Township in the same county, and in 1891 came to Northeast Indiana, settling in LaGrange County, on the Dr. Thomas B. Sloss farm. He made his last move in 1900, when he came to Orland, where he died November 2, 1912. His widow survived him until November 27, 1918. The late Mr. Van Fossen was a republican and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and he and his wife were Presbyterians, though in LaGrange County they worshipped in the Congregational Church at Orland. He was at one time ruling elder of the West Eagle Creek Church in Williams County. Their children were seven in number: Arthur A., deceased; Harvey G.; Floy; Roy A.; Dr. William S., of Columbus, Ohio; Jeanette; and Ella.

Roy A. Van Fossen attended the public schools of Northwest Township in Williams County until he was sixteen years of age, when he came with his parents to LaGrange County. He subsequently graduated from the Orland High School. Since leaving school the burden of his activities has been as an agriculturist. He bought a farm of eighty acres in Millgrove Township in 1911, and for the past eight years has done much to give that place modern improvements, and he has it well stocked and equipped for general farming purposes. He has a number of pure bred Duroc Jersey hogs. Mr. Van Fossen is a republican and attends the Congregational Church.

In 1900 he married Miss Alice Casebeer, of Jamestown Township, daughter of Samuel and Gelain (Lucas) Casebeer, of Millgrove Township. Two children were born to their marriage: Arline, born November 10, 1902, graduated with the class of 1919 from the Orland High School. Wayne, born June 7, 1906, was just enjoying the promise of youth and the prospects of manhood when he died July 27, 1918.

WILLIAM M. DIGGINS has lived all his productive years in Noble County, and his interests in farming and as a public spirited citizen of Wayne Township have made him well known and highly esteemed in that community.

Mr. Diggins, whose fine farm is a mile and a half west of Kendallville, was born June 14, 1859, son of Artemus and Caroline (Ottman) Diggins, the former a native of New York State and the latter of Ohio. Artemus Diggins came to Indiana when a boy, his people locating four miles north of Kendallville. The Ottman family came to Indiana from Ohio, the parents of Caroline Ottman having been born in Germany. Artemus Diggins and wife were members of the Christian Church and in politics he was a republican. There were five children: William M.; Elmer E., a farmer on the old homestead; Carrie, unmarried, now living in Los Angeles and formerly a teacher; Linford W., a railway mail clerk on the New York Central Lines; and George F., a contractor at Kendallville.

William M. Diggins has spent his entire life in Noble County, was educated in the district schools and lived at home until he reached his maturity. After two years in North Dakota Territory he returned to Indiana and bought a farm. September 29, 1886, he married Miss Tillie M. Pierce. She was born in Noble County February 10, 1862, daughter of E. Clark Pierce. Her father was born in New York State and her mother in Ohio, and both families were early settlers in Indiana. E. Clark Pierce was brought to this state when only a year old.

After his marriage Mr. Diggins began house-keeping on the farm where he now resides, and he has made all the improvements. His place comprises 106 acres, and is the home of good live stock and of thrifty enterprise in every direction.

Mr. and Mrs. Diggins have two children and one grandchild. Frank C., born in July, 1887, married Inez C. Black and they live on the home farm. Harold H., born September 4, 1892, attended the Kendallville High School and spent two years in Purdue University. He married Ruth Needham. The family are members of the Christian Church. Mr. Diggins is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge No. 276, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is a republican.

RAY CLARK is one of the progressive farmers of Scott Township in Steuben County, having a fine farm of 140 acres in that locality.

He was born in Scott Township, June 22, 1876, a son of Arby and Louisa J. (Dygart) Clark. His mother was born in York Township, September 2, 1850, a daughter of Benjamin and Phoebe Anne (Carpenter) Dygart, one of the old and very prominent families in Steuben County. Arby Clark was born near Jamestown, New York, October 29, 1843, and was not yet eighteen years old when the Civil war broke out. He went all through that struggle as a member of Company A of the Forty-Ninth New York Infantry. After many battles he was captured and was a prisoner of war for three months in Libby prison, was then transferred to Bell Isle, and two weeks later made his escape and swam

down the James River all night and after many perils and adventures reached safety within the Union lines. Soon after the war he came back and settled in York Township of Steuben County and in 1877 took his family to Arkansas, where he lived five years. On returning to Steuben County he settled on forty acres in Scott Township, a tract of land that is now included in the farm of his son Ray. He continued farming there the rest of his life and died in December, 1915. His wife passed away June 30, 1915. They were the parents of six children: Clara, who was born in York Township in 1873; Ray; Nina, who was born January 6, 1879, in Arkansas and died at the age of eighteen years, three months and eight days; Ina May, born October 12, 1881, in Arkansas; Leah, born in Scott Township of Steuben County, June 20, 1883; and Arla, born in Scott Township, March 14, 1888.

Ray Clark had his first recollections of his parents' home in Arkansas and was about six years old when the family returned to Steuben County. He acquired his education in the local schools, and eventually acquired the homestead of his father and has added to its area 100 acres, giving him the 140 acres as above noted. He has made good improvements, has tiled much of the land, and devotes his enterprise to general crops and livestock. He feeds hogs, cattle and sheep every year. He is a republican voter, is affiliated with North East Lodge of the Masonic Order and Steuben Lodge No. 231 of the Odd Fellows at Fremont.

April 4, 1914, Mr. Clark married Miss Luella McClue. She was a daughter of Thomas and Helen (Farnham) McClue and granddaughter of Erastus Farnham, one of the very early settlers of Steuben County.

WESLEY WEAVER, whose affairs as a farmer of Noble County have long prospered, is a member of one of the old families of that section of Northeast Indiana, and his people have always done more than merely make a living, and have upheld all those moral forces which give character to a community.

Mr. Weaver was born on the farm where he now lives in section 30 of Orange Township July 8, 1861. His parents were Christian and Susanna (Towns) Weaver. Christian Weaver was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, January 1, 1826. In 1849, when twenty-three years of age, he journeyed overland to Northeastern Indiana and bought 180 acres in Noble County, now the home farm of Wesley Weaver. After making the purchase he returned on foot to Ohio, and the following year came to Indiana with the Towns family. He went to work in the woods, cleared away a spot and built a log house, and on September 20, 1851, married Susanna Towns. She was born in Stark County, Ohio, February 11, 1824. The Towns family settled in Steuben County in 1850. Christian Weaver, though starting life with limited means, has prospered far above the ordinary, and at the same time was extremely liberal of time and means in behalf of church and other worthy causes. His prosperity was represented by the ownership of about 300 acres of land. Soon after coming to this county he and his family joined the Springfield Church of the Brethren, and in 1855 he was elected an elder in this church. He was a deep student of the Bible, and as a preacher was unremitting in his devotions and work. During his life he officiated at many marriages and preached many funerals. He was a staunch democrat but never held any office. Christian Weaver died March 16, 1907. His good wife, who was the soul of

generosity, died January 10, 1897. Six children were born to them, and two are still living, Sylvanus, of Orange Township, and Wesley.

Wesley Weaver grew up on the old farm and was well educated in the district schools. He lived at home until his marriage.

Mr. Weaver married Miss Barbara Frick. She was born in Elkhart Township of Noble County and was educated in the local schools. Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Weaver have occupied the old Weaver homestead, containing 108 acres, and he also has 180 acres in Elkhart Township. He followed general farming and has good grades of livestock of all kinds. Mr. Weaver is also a stockholder in the Kendallville Motor Truck Company. He is a democrat, keeps well informed on all current affairs, and with his family is active in the Church of the Brethren.

Mr. and Mrs. Weaver have three children: Grover is a graduate of the common schools and married Mary Pickett; Olive is the wife of Lee Franks; and Wilber married Mary Chapman.

RALPH A. MORSE, a prominent young farmer of Steuben County, is the active manager of the Morse farm in Jamestown Township, where his father lived for many years. The family came to Steuben County over sixty-five years ago, and the name has always been associated with industry and sound citizenship.

Mr. Morse was born in Jackson Township September 15, 1883, a son of Orrin L. and Alice (Corbett) Morse, and a grandson of John Morse, who came in 1852 to Steuben County, first settling in Pleasant and later in Jackson Township, where he died. The children of John were George, Sanford, Francis, Hortense, Louisa, Jerome, Orrin and John.

Orrin L. Morse was born in Michigan June 5, 1847, and his wife was born the 25th of June of the same year. He grew up in Pleasant and Jackson townships, and after getting his education went west to Nebraska and homesteaded a quarter section. Later he returned to his home county and first had a farm of forty acres in Jackson Township. He sold that and in the spring of 1884 bought eighty acres in Jamestown Township, where his son Ralph now lives. He made many good improvements on this farm, building a substantial brick house in 1892. He lived on the farm and was active in its work until 1911, when he moved to Hamilton. In later years he has made his home at Mason, Michigan. His wife died on the old farm May 3, 1907. Orrin Morse is a republican and a member of the Methodist Church. He and his wife had two daughters and one son: Lillie, wife of C. W. Hertz, of Michigan; Daisy, wife of Ira Bowerman, of Jackson Township; and Ralph A.

Ralph A. Morse grew up on his father's farm and had a public school education, supplemented by courses in the Tri-State College at Angola. He has since been a farmer and now leases the home farm from his father. He handles good live stock. Mr. Morse is a republican and his wife is a Methodist. August 27, 1908, he married Miss Eva Tubbs, a native of Branch County, Michigan.

JOHN F. CAMERON, M. D. A native of Steuben County, Doctor Cameron chose this county as the scene of his life work, and as a physician and surgeon for thirty years he has gained real distinction in his profession and rendered a service that is appreciated.

Doctor Cameron was born in Richland Township May 8, 1855, a son of John and Mary (Carlin) Cameron. His maternal grandfather was Robert



Carlin. John Cameron was born in Scotland, son of George and Janet Cameron. George Cameron brought his family from Scotland in 1834, and after several years in Canada three of his children came to Indiana. John Cameron came to America six months previous to the family's immigration. He was nineteen years of age when he came to America, and on leaving Canada he went to the State of New York and took some sub-contracts for work on the Erie Canal. Later the same business brought him to Indiana as a contractor on the Wabash Canal. During a year and a half at that work he saved money sufficient to enable him to take up a homestead in Richland Township of Steuben County in 1841. He acquired 160 acres of timbered land, and lived there until his death in 1878. He was a man of prominence in that locality, serving twelve years as a justice of the peace, and was in his second term as a county commissioner when he died. He was also trustee of Richland Township two terms, and was very active and made his experience as a contractor count for public benefit in laying out and surveying public roads.

Doctor Cameron received his early education in the public schools of Richland Township, graduated from the academy at Angola, and spent one term in Hillsdale College of Michigan. He paid his way and earned the money for his medical course by teaching school. He began the study of medicine with his brother, Dr. J. G. Cameron, at Edon, Ohio, and then entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, where he graduated in 1880. On December 12, 1880, he married Elnora Powers, daughter of Hon. Clark Powers. She died in 1886, and her only child, J. Clark, died in infancy.

Doctor Cameron began practice at Hamilton on April 29, 1880, and has practiced medicine steadily in Steuben County ever since with the exception of the time he has been in school during post-graduate work. He still enjoys a large professional business at Hamilton and the surrounding country. He took post-graduate courses in the Medical School of New York, and was in Columbia University Medical College during the winter of 1886-87. Doctor Cameron was one of the first directors after the organization of the First National Bank at Angola, and has been steadily on the board of that institution ever since. Since 1887 he has frequently attended annual clinics in Rush Medical College at Chicago, and is a member of the County, State and American Medical associations. He is a charter member of Hamilton Lodge Knights of Pythias, which was organized in 1889.

On November 6, 1887, Doctor Cameron married Mary Jane Haughey. Don Franklin, the older son of Doctor Cameron, is a graduate of the Hamilton High School, the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the Indiana State University at Bloomington, and took his Master's degree at Chicago University, and has a Fellowship in the University of Minnesota. His major studies were chemistry and physics. He finished his undergraduate medical course in Johns Hopkins University, where he graduated in 1913 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He had one year as interne in St. Luke's Hospital at Chicago. He then served as an interne in Johns Hopkins University, and there took examination for a medical officer in the navy, receiving a reserve commission. For one year and a half he worked under the direction of Doctor Young, an eminent urologist at Brady Institute. He also did three years of post-graduate work in the Minnesota State University, but in the meantime, before receiving his degree, was called into the navy and at present is at the

Kansas City Recruiting Station with the rank of first lieutenant.

Angus Lavern, the second son, completed the high school work in Hamilton, attended the State Normal at Terre Haute two years, and is also a graduate of the Indiana State University, taking one year of his medical work there. He received the degree Bachelor of Arts from Indiana University, and has his Master's degree from the University of Chicago, where he did special work in pathology and bacteriology. He graduated in medicine from Rush Medical College in 1916. For one year he was connected with the staff of the Children's Memorial Hospital, and the second year was connected with the Presbyterian Hospital in Chicago in the capacity of assistant house surgeon. He went to France as a first lieutenant with Base Hospital No. 13, one of the first units of the American forces to go overseas. At present he is serving a three-year surgical fellowship at the University of Minnesota.

Mrs. Cameron's father was Timothy Haughey, who was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, November 5, 1824, and died June 28, 1914. Her mother was Mary Catherine Gerst, who was born November 29, 1823, in North Bavaria, Germany. Timothy Haughey was a pioneer of Steuben County, locating in Otsego Township in 1843. He spent practically all the rest of his life there as a farmer. During his first years in the county he also taught school during the winter terms. He and his wife had the following children: Christiana, Hannah Louise, William D., Phoebe Eliza, Mary Jane, Emily, Laura Rumina and Frances G. Mrs. Cameron is a graduate of Valparaiso University, and for eight years before her marriage taught school in Steuben County. She is a granddaughter of Robert and Hannah (Wyckoff) Haughey, both natives of eastern states. They settled in DeKalb County in 1846.

SHERMAN O. COLE. The ability with which he has directed his private affairs as a farmer and all around good citizen has commended him so strongly to the confidence and good will of his fellow citizens in Scott Township that Mr. Cole is by choice of the people serving as township trustee. He is a native of his present township and represents one of the old and prominent families of Steuben Township. Other references to the Cole family are found on other pages of this publication.

Mr. Cole was born in Scott Township, September 24, 1867, a son of Nelson and Eliza (Phenacie) Cole. He grew up on his father's farm, and the advantages of the public schools were supplemented by courses in the Tri-State College. From college he returned home and began farming, and his independent career was started with a small place of thirty acres. After keeping that for several years he sold it and bought a larger place of eighty acres situated just east of the farm of his brother, Frank Cole. He sold that in 1904 and then bought the 160-acre Kinney farm. Mr. Cole is in every way progressive and has given his farm some high class modern improvements. In 1916 he built a large barn 40x100 feet and also a hay and straw barn 40x60 feet. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising, and he owns two other farms in Scott Township, eighty acres in each and both improved with good buildings.

Mr. Cole has interested himself in local affairs and was elected township Trustee in 1918 for a term of four years. He is a republican, is affiliated with the Lodge of Odd Fellows at Metz and the Knights of Pythias at Fremont. He attends the Christian Church.



November 27, 1890, he married Mary Dotts, who was born in Scott Township, March 7, 1870, a daughter of John and Louisa (Sage) Dotts. Her father was born in Hancock County, Ohio, March 28, 1835, and her mother in Lorain County of the same state July 12, 1842. John Dotts was brought to Steuben County in 1847 by his father and step-mother, and he grew up here and was long well known in the citizenship of northeast Indiana. He died August 30, 1915, and his wife April 21, 1915. Mrs. Cole is one of four living children, the others being Elmer, Lena and Carl.

Mr. and Mrs. Cole also have four children. Wavel, born July 29, 1891, died February 13, 1900. Ora Nelson, born February 13, 1897, went to the common schools through the eighth grade, attended the Angola High School two years, and is now at home. Wilma, born April 20, 1901, graduated from the Tri-State College. Joyce, born March 15, 1908, is now in the grammar school.

**REUBEN B. WALB.** One of the hard working farmers and respected citizens of LaGrange County is Reuben B. Walb, who has spent nearly fifty years in cultivating crops and raising livestock, and now has a fine farm and country home in Johnson Township, in section 17.

He was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, November 21, 1850, a son of Reuben and Eliza (Beaver) Walb. The Walb family originated in Switzerland. On coming to America they settled in Pennsylvania. Reuben Walb after his marriage to Eliza Beaver moved to Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. Reuben B. Walb grew up there and became acquainted with Susanna Norris. They were married July 22, 1875, and continued to live in Pennsylvania several years.

April 5, 1878, Mr. Walb came to LaGrange County, Indiana, and settled in Clay Township. He owns forty acres of land there and worked it at the same time he followed his trade as a carpenter. In 1898 he moved his family to Johnson Township, where he has lived now for over twenty years. Mr. Walb is a republican, and is a trustee of the Valentine Methodist Church, where all his family attend worship.

Mr. and Mrs. Walb have five children: Ira B., who was born in Pennsylvania and is now living at LaGrange, Indiana; Clyde A., who was born in Clay Township, is a former county surveyor and a banker and contractor; Bertha P., born July 16, 1880, is a deaconess in the Methodist Church in Chicago; Vera, born in April, 1882, is the wife of Irvin Cook, of Johnson Township; and Ray, born June 8, 1885, is helping his father farm. Mr. and Mrs. Walb also have nine grandchildren.

**ZEOTUS P. KEESLAR**, whose home is in Millgrove Township, is a member of the rather numerous and specially prominent and influential Keeslar family, whose name is identified with the early settlement and affairs not only of Steuben County but of Branch County, Michigan.

Mr. Keeslar was born where Dan Pocock now lives in Millgrove Township, April 29, 1855. His grandfather was Peter Keeslar. Some more extended reference to members of the family, including Peter, is made on other pages. The parents of Zeotus were Dr. George and Mary (Green) Keeslar. Mary Green was born in Seneca County, New York, a daughter of David and Maranda Green. David Green, who died in Coldwater, Michigan, was one of the eminent citizens of Branch County. His wife died at Orland, at the home of her son, Dr. George Keeslar. Dr. George Keeslar was born in New York in 1829 and was a small child when he

went to Steuben County, Indiana, with his parents. He had a public school education, studied medicine with a physician at Orland, and in 1854 began a busy and successful practice at Auburn. His success and reputation as an able physician continued after he returned to Orland in 1869, and altogether he put in fifty busy and useful years in his profession. He died in 1905, having retired from practice about a year previous. He was a republican and a Knight Templar Mason. Doctor Keeslar's wife died in 1898. Their children were Zaida, who died in 1918; Zeotus, and George C.

Zeotus P. Keeslar attended school in Auburn, also the Orland Academy, and since early manhood his time and energies have been taken up with the practice of agriculture. He owns a good farm of eighty-two acres in Millgrove Township, and has paid much attention to stockraising, particularly the breeding of draft horses. He is a republican in politics.

March 10, 1885, Mr. Keeslar married Mary Alice Gamble, widow of Richard W. Gamble, and daughter of Evan A. and Elizabeth E. (Philips) Rogers. The Rogers family came to Steuben County, and her parents both died there. Mr. and Mrs. Keeslar had one son, George Evan, born in 1888. He lived only eleven months.

**DAVID A. BORNTRAGER.** It is by no means an individual opinion but one based upon the consensus of a community that David A. Borntrager is an exceptionally good farmer and an equally high class citizen. The offices of honor and trust he has filled in his township and county show that, while his farm is a model in arrangement and business like efficiency. This farm where he lives in Newbury Township was the scene of his birth December 30, 1864. He is a son of Amos and Lydia (Miller) Borntrager. The Borntragers are an old and numerous family in Northeast Indiana and several of the branches have been described in this publication. Amos Borntrager was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1826.

David A. Borntrager attended public school in Newbury Township and when a young man rented his father's farm for three years and then bought the old home place. All his activities have been centered around the farm where he was born. He now owns 240 acres comprising the homestead and has acquired additional land until his total holdings aggregate 355 acres. On this land he has built a new modern home, has rebuilt the barn, and his buildings are very substantial and well arranged for all the demands made upon them. During the past twelve years Mr. Borntrager has been a breeder of pure bred Duroc Jersey hogs and Hereford cattle. His farm is known as the Sunny Ridge Stock Farm.

In 1887 Mr. Borntrager married Mary Hostetler, a daughter of Jacob Hostetler. The children are four in number: Earley, a farmer in Newbury Township, married Delcie Mishler and has two daughters, Alice Hilda and Glenola Ruth; Flora Ameda, who is the wife of Neri Borntrager and has three children, named Ruby Minerva, Lorene Marjorie and Glenden Lamar; Amos Timothy, who has served with the American Expeditionary Forces in France and at present is engaged in reconstruction work, being still in service there; and Fannie Anna. Mr. and Mrs. Borntrager also took into their home Lester Paul Hostetler when he was three years old, and he is still with the family, being fourteen years of age. The son, Earley, was educated in the high school at Shipshewana, in the Goshen Normal College and for five years was a teacher in Newbury Township. The son, Amos Timothy, likewise graduated from the Shipshewana High

School and did normal work at Goshen, after which he taught for two years in his home township.

Mr. and Mrs. Borntrager are members of the Mennonite Church. Active in public affairs, he served twelve consecutive years as a member of the Township Advisory Board and for four years was a member of the LaGrange County Council.

**FRANK M. TUTTLE.** The conditions surrounding the operation of land in the fertile regions embraced in northeastern Indiana are so satisfactory that many of the most representative citizens have practically spent their lives here, being perfectly content with the results accruing from their investments in land and time. One of these alert farmers is Frank M. Tuttle of Pleasant Lake, who owns and operates a fine farm of 120 acres one mile west of town. He was born near Pleasant Lake in Steuben Township October 31, 1857, a son of Lemon Tuttle, born in New York State in 1813. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Felora Gould, was born in New York State in 1818, a daughter of Keah and Mehitabel (Sturges) Gould. In 1838 Lemon Tuttle came to Indiana and in 1840 located in Steuben Township, Steuben County, where he lived until his death in June, 1881. His wife died December 25th of the same year. Their children were as follows: Lorana, Emeret, Chester V., Frank, Alpha, Sylvester, Arad and Byron, the last three dying in infancy.

Frank M. Tuttle attended the district schools of Steuben Township, and was then given the additional advantage of two terms at Angola Academy. After attaining his majority he began farming on the old Tuttle homestead, where he remained until 1902, leaving it in that year to go to Colorado. Since then he has made five trips to that state, crossing the Rocky Mountains ten times. With the exception of these trips Mr. Tuttle has spent his entire life in Steuben Township. In the spring of 1919 he sold the Tuttle homestead and bought his present farm, one mile west of Pleasant Lake, which he is devoting to general farming.

In 1882 Mr. Tuttle was married first to Dora Lower, a daughter of Jacob Lower, and they had three children, Clair V., Carrol H., and Lower, the latter of whom died at the age of three months. Mrs. Tuttle died in 1901, and Mr. Tuttle was later married to Mildred Lemon, a daughter of Bert Lemon. Mr. Tuttle belongs to the Baptist Church of Pleasant Lake and gives it a generous support of time and money. He is prominent as a Mason and Knight of Pythias, taking a sincere interest in both fraternities. Since locating at Pleasant Lake he has become one of its representative citizens, and is ready to lend his influence to bring about any necessary improvements. An experienced farmer, he has known how to make his efforts yield him a good profit, and at the same time raise the standard for his neighborhood.

**WALTER A. ROSS** has spent his life in Northeast Indiana and owns one of the many excellent farms found in this part of the state. While he never attended a scientific school of agriculture, Mr. Ross has made a thorough study of agricultural methods, illustrated in the splendid farm of which he is proprietor, known as Maple Shade Stock Farm, comprising 187 acres. This farm is two and a half miles west of Wolcottville on the county line, with thirty acres in Orange Township of Noble County.

Mr. Ross was born in Noble County, near Brimfield, November 13, 1870, son of William and Mary (Bear) Ross. His father was born in Morrow County, Ohio, in 1833, while his mother was a na-

tive of Pennsylvania. They were married in Morrow County, then moved to Noble County, Indiana, and settled near Brimfield, and the father spent the rest of his life there as a farmer. The mother is still living on the old homestead. She is a member of the Mennonite Church and the father was a democrat. Of their six children three died young. Frank is a farmer in Orange Township, and Jennie is the wife of George Strater, of Wayne Township, Noble County.

Walter A. Ross grew up on the old farm, attended country schools and the schools at Brimfield, and lived at home to the age of twenty-one. He worked out by the year and by hard work, thrifty saving and good management accumulated the capital which finally enabled him to purchase eighty acres of his present splendid farm, where he has lived since April, 1905.

In 1892 Mr. Ross married Addie E. Dallas. She was born on the farm where she now lives, a daughter of James and Eliza E. (Young) Dallas. Mr. and Mrs. Ross have five children, who are an honor to their parents. Cecil D., the oldest, graduated from high school, spent three years in the Indiana State University, and was a teacher in the high school in Iowa when he enlisted, in June, 1917, in the Army Ambulance Service. He was assigned to duty with the French army and was overseas for sixteen months. He received his honorable discharge April 15, 1919. He saw real fighting, and was in the battle of Argonne, where the Americans gained the greatest triumph of the war, and in the Champagne offensive and defensive. Elmer, the second son, is a graduate of Purdue and has taken a mechanical engineering course in Purdue University. The three youngest children are Robert, Margaret and Raymond, the two former in the grammar schools. Mr. Ross is affiliated with Ionic Lodge No. 380, Free and Accepted Masons, of which his sons Cecil and Elmer are also members. He is a past master of this lodge and is past worthy patron of the Eastern Star, of which his wife is a member. The Maple Shade Stock Farm has gained considerable local note for its spotted Poland China hogs.

**FRANK F. LEWIS** is the fortunate owner of one of the well cultivated and valuable farms of Steuben County, land that has responded to his efforts as an agriculturist for a number of years. He was formerly a traveling man, but in the environment of his farm has found that true contentment and prosperity that is associated with the ownership of a portion of Indiana soil.

He was born at Orland August 29, 1869, and is a son of Hiram and Sallie Jeanette (Fuller) Lewis and grandson of Harvey and Elizabeth (Bassett) Lewis. His grandparents were early settlers in Salem Township of Steuben County, the land they owned and developed being now owned by the widow of their son, Dwight Lewis. Harvey Lewis returned to New York State for a time, but after 1855 lived in Steuben County until his death. He and his wife had the following children: Hiram M., Newel Pomeroy, Laura Ann, Frank B. and Dwight B.

Hiram Lewis was born in Coventry County, New York, in 1834. He acquired his education in New York and also in the Northeastern Indiana Institute at Orland. He was a teacher in the early days at Orland. By trade he was a carpenter, and he constructed the old boarding hall connected with the academy at Orland, and was a carpenter for the Kimball buildings on East Street, the two buildings now the hotel and bakery, and the homes of Hibbard Roberts, Ziba Roberts and John Roberts. A



very busy man always, he lived a brief but simple life and died in 1873, at the age of thirty-nine. He was a republican and his wife was a charter member of the Congregational Church at Orland. His wife was born in 1842 in Branch County, Michigan, in a log house along the banks of Gilead Lake. She survived her husband forty years, passing away in 1913, at the age of seventy-one. He had two sons, Homer, who died at the age of six months, and Frank.

Frank F. Lewis attended the public schools of Orland, graduated from the high school in 1887, and soon took up the business of traveling salesman. For fifteen years he sold buggies and did business in twenty-six states and in parts of Canada. In 1911 he returned to Steuben County and resumed farming and stock dealing. In 1904 he bought fifty acres, erected a good farm home in 1907, and also a barn, which was subsequently burned and replaced by a large and well appointed structure in 1915. Mr. Lewis now owns 176 acres in Millgrove Township. He is a republican in politics and has been affiliated with the lodge of Odd Fellows at Orland for the past twenty-four years.

November 27, 1890, he married Anna Carrie Twitchell. She was born in Jackson Township of Steuben County, September 22, 1869, a daughter of George and Laura (Scoville) Twitchell, and a granddaughter of Benjamin and Sabria (Rogers) Twitchell, the former born in 1805 and the latter in 1804, a daughter of Jonathan Rogers. Benjamin Twitchell and wife came to Steuben County in 1836, being among the earliest pioneers. He was a brother of Jonas Twitchell, Sr., one of the very first settlers in the county. Benjamin Twitchell was a blacksmith in Orland and also bought forty acres of land in Millgrove Township and another farm of 120 acres in Jackson Township, and died at Orland in 1868. He and his wife had the following children: Mary Jane, Henry, William, Homer, Betsy Ann, George Warren and Julia Viola. Betsy Ann Twitchell was the first white girl born in Steuben County.

George Twitchell was born in Steuben County in 1840, in Millgrove Township. His wife, Laura Scoville, was born in Richland Township in 1843. He was educated in the Northeast Indiana Institute at Orland, was a farmer and bought the old homestead of 120 acres in Millgrove Township. His wife died there in 1899, and he passed away in 1911. He was a republican and a Mason, and his wife was a member of the Congregational Church at Orland. Mrs. Lewis was one of four children, named Clyde Scoville, Anna Carrie, Cora Bell and Bertha Laura.

Mrs. Lewis graduated from the Orland High School, and she and her husband were the first graduates from that school to be married. For some years she was a teacher and she comes of a family of teachers, her brother and sisters having taught, as well as their mother.

Mr. and Mrs. Lewis became the parents of five children. Anna Laura was born December 29, 1891, graduated from the Orland High School in 1911, attended Hillsdale College in 1912-13 and is a milliner by profession, spending two and a half years in her work at Bronson, Michigan. Marion was born in 1893, and died when six and a half years old. Ella Marie was born in December, 1896, and died ten weeks later. Hiram Twitchell, born January 22, 1898, is a graduate of the Orland High School, and lives at home with his father. Clyde Scoville was born January 5, 1901, and has a fine record as an athlete in the Orland High School, having won prizes for running and being a good baseball player.

JOHN W. LONG. One of the rural places that stands out conspicuous for its improvements, extent of acreage, and well ordered management in Noble County is the Ideal Farm in York Township. The farm proper comprises 400 acres, and its proprietor, John W. Long, also owns an additional 152 acres in another part of the township. His home is a mile west of Albion.

That Mr. Long is a very successful farmer and business man needs no proof beyond what has already been stated, but it is interesting to know that he has gained that prosperity practically through his own unaided efforts. He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, January 30, 1860, son of John S. and Delila (Harvey) Long, his father a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Maryland. They were married in Ohio and on December 23, 1863, located in Elkhart Township of Noble County. The father bought land there and spent the rest of his days in that community. The mother died at the home of her son John W. John S. Long had a farm of a 120 acres. He was a democrat in politics, and he and his wife were active members of the Christian Church. In their family were fourteen children, divided equally between sons and daughters. The five still living are: Sarah, wife of Henry Conway; Permelia, widow of Daniel Whitmore; John W.; George, of Detroit, Michigan; and Frank, of Garrett, Indiana.

John W. Long grew up on the home farm in Noble County, acquired a district school education, and at the age of nineteen started out without a dollar and put in the next five years at hard work and monthly wages. In that time he had saved and accumulated a modest capital of \$600.

Thus fortified and with some degree of assurance for the future he married Catherine A. Stokes. Mrs. Long inherited forty acres, and they at once moved on that land and began farming. With that exception and with the money Mr. Long had saved before his marriage, all the subsequent prosperity has only been a just reward for their efforts and good judgment. Mr. Long has always been a stock raiser. He has also traded a number of farms and has made money in every such transaction. As a stockman he is a breeder of Shorthorn cattle, Poland China hogs and Percheron horses. Besides his farm he is vice president of the Albion Bank, is a stockholder in the Albion Roller Mills, and has a number of other interests that identify him prominently with his locality. On November 5, 1918, he was elected a member at large of the County Council. In politics Mr. Long is a republican.

He and his wife have four children: Fred is a graduate of high school and is a farmer on his own account; Orlando is also an independent farmer; Reed has a farm at Albion; and Cecil is still attending school.

JAMES C. WICOFF, of Clear Lake Township, has spent his entire life in Steuben County as a prosperous farmer, a member of one of the old families identified with Northeast Indiana and Northeastern Ohio.

He was born in York Township September 4, 1871, a son of Peter Bruce and Jane (Hathaway) Wicoff. Jane Hathaway was born at Bryan, Ohio, in 1840, a daughter of Richard and Lurinda (Bates) Hathaway, both natives of Morrow County, Ohio. Richard Hathaway was born in 1813 and his wife in 1818. When their daughter Jane was a small child they moved to Williams County, Ohio, where Richard Hathaway died in 1885 and his wife in 1893. The Hathaway children were: Doctor Calvin; Jane;





MR. AND MRS. JOHN W. LONG



Doctor Albert, of Ohio; Sarah, wife of Burton Donovan, of Fremont, Indiana; Charles, who was a railroad engineer and was killed while building a road in New Mexico; Horace, of Fremont, Indiana; Caroline, deceased; and Judson, deceased.

The grandfather of James C. Wicoff was John Wicoff, who married Margaret Castle. John Wicoff located in Williams County, Ohio, in 1844, and in 1864 moved to Berrien, Michigan, where Margaret Wicoff died November 21, 1865, at the age of sixty. John Wicoff lived to advanced years and was long a resident of Steuben County.

Peter Bruce Wicoff was born in Holmes County, Ohio, March 12, 1837, went as a boy with his parents to Williams County and was married on June 2, 1864. He and his wife at once removed to Berrien Springs, Michigan, and after one year returned to Williams County and settled in Northwest Township. Four years later they moved to Missouri and then to Kansas. In 1874 they settled in Steuben County on a farm of seventy-five acres in York Township. They later resumed their residence in Kansas, where Peter B. Wicoff owned 160 acres of land. In 1880 they located permanently on a farm in York Township, where Peter Bruce Wicoff died in 1907. His widow is now living at Fremont with a daughter. Peter B. Wicoff was a republican, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He had a record as a Union soldier, having enlisted in 1861 in Company H of the Third Ohio Cavalry. He was in service until the close of the war. The record of the children of Peter Bruce Wicoff and wife is as follows: Lurinda is the wife of William Hutchins, of Steuben County. Zoa E., a prominent educator, completed her work in the public schools of Williams County, also attended school in Jewel City, Kansas, the Angola High School, took the scientific course in the Tri-State College at Angola, and for a number of years taught in the country school district of Steuben County, was in the grade school at Crystal, Michigan, and for fourteen years has been connected with the schools at Fremont. She owns a fine home in that city. Her mother lives with her. Charles A. Wicoff is a farmer in York Township. He married Mary Reed, and they have seven children, named Helen, Harold J., Lucile, John, Milton, Arthur and Dale. The fourth of the family is Sarah Wicoff, who attended the State Normal School at Terre Haute, taught in Steuben County and at Angola for six years, and finally went to Battle Creek, Michigan, where she took the nurse's training course and for the past five years has been a trained nurse in the Battle Creek Sanitarium. John R. Wicoff after finishing his work in the Tri-State College taught three years and then took up railroading, and was killed in a railroad accident at Logansport in 1899. He married Sylvia Shertz. The sixth of the family is Harry J., unmarried and owner of a large ranch in Alberta, Canada. Archie B. died at the age of two years.

James C. Wicoff is the youngest of the family. He grew up on the home farm in York Township, attended the public schools, and for a number of years has devoted his best energies to farming. He bought a farm of seventy-five acres in York Township and recently sold that and on March 1, 1918, bought the Sam Bailey place of 100 acres in Clear Lake Township. This is one of the good farms, and under his management its resources are completely devoted to crops and livestock. Mr. Wicoff is a republican and attends the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1908 he married Miss Vera Hall. She was born in Hillsdale County, Michigan, October 21,

1876, a daughter of Thomas and Keziah (Weaver) Hall, formerly residents of York Township, Steuben County. Mr. and Mrs. Wicoff have one daughter, Esther, born September 21, 1910.

JONATHAN A. HONTZ. The ownership of 110 acres of land in northeast Indiana constitutes a competence which would satisfy the man of ordinary ambition. In the case of Jonathan A. Hontz the ownership of that body of land in Washington Township of Noble County is the product of his own energies and labors carried on through a period of thirty years or more, since he left home to take up the battle of life on his own account. His farm is nine miles south of Cromwell.

He was born in Sparta Township of the same county November 11, 1862, and has been a lifelong resident of Noble County. The parents, Jacob and Hannah (Hoak) Hontz, were both born in Ohio, his father in Stark County and his mother in Champaign County. Both families came to Noble County in early days, and Jacob and Hannah grew up and married here and then settled on a farm north of Cromwell, but in 1882 moved to the southeastern part of Washington Township, where they spent the rest of their lives. They were good Christian people, hard working and honest, and reared a family worthy of their names. The father was a democrat and quite active in the party. Of eleven children eight are still living: William, of North Webster, Indiana; Jonathan; Jennie, widow of Horace Scott; Daniel S., a dentist at North Webster; Harriet A., wife of Noah S. Stump; Lewis C., of Washington township; Effie, wife of Norvel Metz; and Mabel, wife of Joseph Luckey.

Jonathan Hontz attended the district school near his father's home, and after his education took his place in the fields, and lived on the home farm most of the time until he was twenty-eight years old. In September, 1900, he married Pearl C. Todd, who was born in Dallas County, Iowa, but came to Indiana before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Hontz have seven children: Mary O., wife of Leroy Ringenberg; Mildred M., who is a student in the high school at Etna, Indiana; Ermel L., Sedrick D., Neva, Mabel L. and Thomas M. The family are members of the Baptist Church and Mr. Hontz is affiliated with Etna Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, he and his wife both being members of the Rebekah Lodge. In politics he is a democrat.

WILLIAM W. HOSLER. Good citizenship is not measured altogether by a man's success in his own business, but also by the interest he shows and the part he takes in the larger and broader affairs of the community in which he lives. While William W. Hosler is one of the most successful farmers of Orange Township, Noble County, his name is known and respected in that community fully as much for the valuable part he has taken at different times in the promotion of schools, good roads, and the raising of the standards of country life.

Mr. Hosler is the proprietor of what is known as the Maple Hill Farm, comprising 210 acres, located two and a half miles east of Brimfield. He has lived in Noble County nearly all his life but was born in Morrow County, Ohio, April 22, 1846, a son of Samuel R. and Barbara (Kifer) Hosler. His parents were married in Ohio, and in 1850 came to Noble County and located in Orange Township, where they were among the industrious and respected citizens the rest of their lives. The mother died in 1910, and the father, who was a republican, died in 1915. There were four children:



J. H. Hosler, deceased; William W.; Catherine M., wife of Thomas L. Imes; and Ella B., wife of Admoran Imes.

William W. Hosler was four years old when his parents came to Noble County. As a boy he attended the district schools, which were then far below the state of efficiency found in the country schools of this day and age. He also attended a commercial college in Chicago. For about a year he was employed as a clerk and bookkeeper at Brimfield, and then returned to the old farm. On December 10, 1874, Mr. Hosler married Mary E. Imes. She was born in Noble County in 1856, and died in 1916, at the age of sixty years. Mr. and Mrs. Hosler had only one daughter, Maude, who was a graduate of high school and spent three years in Oberlin College. She is now the wife of Edward H. Rhoades, of Toledo, Ohio. Mrs. Hosler was an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Brimfield. Mr. Hosler is a republican. One item of his public service which deserves especial record was his term as trustee of Orange Township. He was in that office four years, from 1884 to 1888. He was one of the original stockholders of the East Indiana Agricultural Fair Association when it was organized in 1883, and for many years has been a director and is now its general superintendent.

STILLMAN L. COLLINS is a grandson of the first permanent white settler in Jamestown Township, and his individual record has been in keeping with that of the two preceding generations. Mr. Collins, formerly a merchant at Jamestown, is now looking after the old homestead place where he was born.

Many of the interesting early chronicles of Jamestown Township might be described as the experiences of the Collins family. His grandfather, Barton Collins, was, like many other early settlers of Steuben County, a Vermonter. He was born in Richland County, Vermont, February 23, 1794. His wife was born in Rhode Island January 2, 1797, and they were married in 1820. Barton Collins first came to the West in 1834, visiting LaPorte, Indiana. In the spring of 1835 he sold his property in the East, and with his wife and six daughters and three sons came west by wagon and team, shipping his goods by water to Detroit and not recovering them for a number of weeks. He traveled through Southern Michigan to Coldwater and to Bronson, and then came south to the Vermont settlement at Orland. He was attracted to what is now Jamestown Township, and on the third of July, 1836, entered land at the Fort Wayne land office. Some days later all the men from the Vermont settlement came and helped him put up the first log house in Jamestown Township. He and his family lived isolated from neighbors, and when their supply of provisions ran out they had nothing to subsist upon except potatoes and salt. The nearest milling point was Burr Oak, Michigan, and Barton Collins before raising a crop of his own had to pay \$2 a bushel for wheat and \$1 a bushel for corn. Late in the fall of 1836 he bought an ox team and went to Detroit to get his goods. Barton Collins was a hard worker, a man of fine influence in the community, but his life was spared only a few years after coming to Steuben County. He died in January, 1849. His widow survived him many years and was one of the best known of the early settlers. She died July 16, 1882, when past eighty-five years of age. She was the mother of eleven children, and undoubtedly derived a great deal of satisfaction from the worthy places her sons and daughters attained in life.

The old homestead in Jamestown Township became the property of George W. Collins. He was

born in Vermont in 1829 and was six years of age when his parents came to Steuben County. He attended some of the first log cabin schools, and for over half a century was identified with the social and business life of Jamestown Township. In 1856 he married Avis Walter, whose parents, Seymour W. and Orra (Coe) Walter, came from Vermont to Steuben County in 1846. George W. Collins died in 1912, and his wife in March, 1918. They were the parents of five children: Stillman L., Seymour B., Orra, Lydia (who became the wife of Fred Baker), and Bert L.

Stillman L. Collins acquired his education in the district schools of Jamestown Township, also attended school at Orland and Angola and remained at home with his parents assisting in the work of the farm until he was twenty-six years old. For about twelve or fourteen years Mr. Collins conducted a general merchandise business at Jamestown. In 1914 he retired to the old home, where he owns 91½ acres and is giving his time to its management, and has it equipped with all the facilities for general farming and stockraising.

September 15, 1880, Mr. Collins married Frances J. Wooster, a daughter of Dennis K. and Sarah Jane (Hammond) Wooster. Her father was born in Onondaga County, New York, March 30, 1824, and her mother was born in England May 1, 1828. Dennis K. Wooster moved to Branch County, Michigan, about 1869, and a year later settled in Millgrove Township of Steuben County and spent his last years in Springfield Township of LaGrange County. He died in December, 1917. He and his wife had eight children: John, Frances J., Lyman H. (who died in childhood), Rupert L., Herbert and Helen, twins; Jennie E., and Dennis C.

Mr. Collins is affiliated with Lodge No. 261 of the Knights of Pythias at Fremont, and Mrs. Collins is a member of the Pythian Sisters of the same place. To their marriage were born four children, and they also have four grandchildren. Lois M., the oldest of their children, was a successful teacher for about twelve years and is a graduate nurse from the Homeopathic Hospital at Ann Arbor, Michigan. Mamie L. also taught school for about twelve years and is now a clerk in the War Department at Washington. Una is the wife of Clyde Berry, and her three children are named Thelma, Elmore and Owen. Grover, the only son, married Elva Darr and has one child, Dale.

GEORGE F. OTT is a well known farmer of Green Township, Noble County, lives on and has the active management of the Jesse Lock Farm, and is also an aggressive business man and especially active in the field of insurance.

Mr. Ott was born in Preble County, twelve miles north of Eaton, Ohio, June 1, 1870, son of John A. and Susanna (Gangler) Ott, both of whom were born and reared in Preble County, Ohio. The grandfather, John Ott, though he spent most of his active life in Preble County, came to Noble County, Indiana, at an early day and invested heavily in the new lands of that district. Mrs. John A. Ott died in 1874 in Noble County and her husband afterward spent his last years in Noble County, Indiana. He was an active member of the Lutheran Church. John A. Ott by his first marriage had three children: Matilda, who died at the age of fourteen; George F.; and Minnie, born December 29, 1873, is the wife of Carlous Lock, of Ligonier, Indiana.

George F. Ott was eight years old when brought to Noble County and received his education here in the public school. On December 13, 1890, he married Corilla Locke. Mrs. Ott was born on the farm where she now resides August 31, 1873, a daughter

of Jesse A. and Sarah A. (Moore) Locke. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Ott lived in Preble County, Ohio, during 1894-95, and then returned to Green Township and have since had their home on the Locke farm. Mr. Ott in addition to farming is solicitor in Green Township for the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company. He is a democrat, is present township assessor, and is a member of the Christian Chapel. His sons Willard and Carl are both active members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. and Mrs. Ott had six children, five of whom are still living: Carl, who is now serving in the United States Navy; Willard, unmarried and living in Illinois; Lulu, wife of Alfred H. Rider, of Whitley County, Indiana; Jessie and Harley, both at home.

**ORLANDO FIFER.** The agricultural interests of Steuben County are many and varied, and the farmers of this and other counties in northeastern Indiana are justly numbered among the most representative citizens of the state. One of these deserving of special mention is Orlando Fifer of Otsego Township, who was born in Pleasant Township, this county, March 14, 1873, a son of Lewis Fifer and grandson of Adam Fifer. The birth of Adam Fifer occurred in Pennsylvania in 1817, and his wife, Elizabeth, was born in Germany February 15, 1821. She was brought to the United States by her parents, who located in Ohio in 1826. The marriage of Adam and Elizabeth Fifer occurred in Ohio, and on March 28, 1861, they came to Steuben County, Indiana, locating in Steuben Township, where he died November 2, 1883. He and his wife had the following children: Elizabeth, Lewis, Margaret, Lydia, Mary J., Justinna, William, Hattie, Addison, Loretta, Franklin and one who died in infancy.

Lewis Fifer was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, October 13, 1842. On March 22, 1865, he was married to Mrs. Martha (Harpman) George, and they had five children, as follows: Elva Jane, Margaret Leonora, John Adam, Orlando and Jessie A. Lewis Fifer became a landowner of Otsego Township when he bought 100 acres in section 18, in 1873, and on it he erected good buildings and made other substantial improvements. He and his wife were consistent members of the United Berthren Church, and active in its good work. His political views made him subscribe to the policies and support the candidates of the republican party. A man of the utmost probity, Lewis Fifer carried on all of his business operations with scrupulous uprightness, and was known far and wide as a man of his word.

Orlando Fifer grew up on his father's farm, making himself useful from boyhood, and at the same time he attended the local schools. When he attained to sufficient years he began farming for his father, and in March, 1904, he bought his father's farm and owns 100 acres of fertile land, on which are excellent buildings. Here he carries on general farming and stock raising, and is noted for the efficient manner in which he carries on his work.

On March 1, 1904, Mr. Fifer was married to Minnie Swift, born in Otsego Township, a daughter of David and Anna (Strubble) Swift. Mr. and Mrs. Fifer have the following children: Lewis D., Grace A. and Leona L. Mr. Fifer belongs to the Knights of Pythias, the order of Moose and the Gleaners. Always interested in public matters, he has rendered valuable aid in securing improvements in his township, and holds the confidence and esteem of his neighbors.

**WALTER J. NEEDHAM** is one of the older residents of Noble County, having come here when a boy, and is a prosperous farmer with a home on Maple Street, two miles east of the Sanitarium, in section 11 of Orange Township.

Mr. Needham was born in Chicago, Illinois, November 2, 1869, son of Walter and Martha (Clews) Needham. His parents were both born in England and were married there. After their marriage they emigrated to Australia and lived there several years, where the father followed his trade as a butcher. He then went back to England, and soon afterward sought a new home in Canada, going from there to Chicago, and not long afterward coming to Noble County, Indiana. The father died in Noble County, and his widow is still living at Wolcottville. Of their thirteen children seven are still living: William B., who was born in Australia and is now living in Kendallville; Emma, wife of Carson Marker; Jennie, wife of Allen Hassinger; Anna, wife of George Holsinger; A. L. Needham; Walter J.; and Fannie, wife of Armel Gault.

Walter J. Needham was brought to Noble County when a boy and grew up on a farm and attended district schools. He helped farm the home place, and afterward bought the 160 acres contained therein.

November 1, 1892, he married Miss Julia B. Dye. Mrs. Needham was born in Orange Township, a mile east of Brimfield, and is a graduate of the Rome City High School. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Needham lived for five years in Rome City, where he was a railroad man, being a brakeman on the Lake Shore. He then moved to the farm where he now lives, and has his large place well cultivated, improved and managed as a valuable farm property.

Mr. and Mrs. Needham have two sons. Basil E. is a graduate of the Rome City High School and married Inez Rimmel and lives near his father's home. Bruce B. was born August 15, 1909. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rome City and Mr. Needham is a republican. Mrs. Needham is affiliated with the Eastern Star Chapter at Rome City.

**CHARLES S. SHUTTS**, a former assessor and trustee of Jamestown Township, was born in that locality of Steuben County, and has been successfully identified with farming there for the past thirty years.

Mr. Shutts was born in Jamestown Township August 24, 1866, a son of Herman C. and Mary (Collins) Shutts. His mother was born November 28, 1844, a daughter of Samuel and Betsie (Bush) Collins. Herman C. Shutts was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, June 6, 1839, a son of Charles S. and Susanna (Richey) Shutts. Charles S. Shutts was born July 6, 1809, died November 30, 1859, and was married January 19, 1832. Susanna Richey was born in 1808. They spent most of their lives in Sandusky County, Ohio, and their children were Mary Jane, Eliza, Herman C., Almira and Lucy S. Herman C. Shutts, only son of his parents, moved from Sandusky County, Ohio, to Jamestown Township in 1860, buying a farm in sections 19 and 18. All the improvements on that land were put there by his hands or at his direction, and he made a good farm out of the 120 acres, and resided there until his death. His children were: Charles S.; Lucy M., wife of Charles Turner; Jennie, wife of Horace Davis; and Erva L., who was married to Frank Mallory.



Charles S. Shutts attended public school in Jamestown Township, and was a little past twenty-two years of age when on March 12, 1889, he married Libbie M. Rubley. She is a graduate of the Collins District School, also attended the Tri-State College at Angola, and afterward taught school. She is a daughter of John and Mary (Frick) Rubley, her father, born in Richland County, Ohio, September 8, 1837. John Rubley came with his parents, J. J. and Margaret Rubley, to Jamestown Township of Steuben County in 1848, and during his mature life was known as one of the prosperous farmers of this section. He died September 27, 1911, at the age of seventy-four. John Rubley and wife had two children: John H. and Libbie M.

Soon after his marriage Mr Shutts removed to his present farm in section 29 of Steuben Township. He owns 120 acres, devoted to general farming and stockraising, and has made most of the improvements which give the land value, including a set of substantial buildings. His public record includes his four-year term of service as assessor from 1900 to 1904, while from 1904 to 1908 he was trustee of the township. Mr. and Mrs. Shutts have two children, Harry C. and Helen E.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN GRIFFITH, an honored veteran of the Civil war, was for upwards of half a century successfully engaged in farming in Otsego Township, Steuben County, and is now a retired resident of Hamilton.

He was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, May 16, 1846, a son of John and Jemima (Gossage) Griffith. Further reference to his parents and their pioneer efforts at home-making in Northeast Indiana are made on other pages. The family came to Indiana in 1850, when Benjamin Franklin was four years old. He lived in their pioneer home in DeKalb County until 1857, when his parents moved to Otsego Township in Steuben County. In these localities he acquired his education in the common schools, and in February, 1864, at the age of eighteen, enlisted in Company K of the One Hundred and Fifty-Second Indiana Infantry. He saw some hard service during the last year of the war, most of the time in the Shenandoah Valley. He returned from the army to take charge of the homestead and cared for his widowed mother until her death in 1884. He bought a part of the old farm, 128 acres, and had a busy life as an agriculturist until 1911, when he moved to Hamilton, where he owns a comfortable home. Mr. Griffith is a republican, has been stanch in his party affiliations for over half a century, and at one time was trustee of Otsego Township. For a number of years he was affiliated with the Odd Fellows Lodge at Angola and is a member of the Grand Army Post.

December 25, 1868, he married Miss Julia Carpenter. She was born in Huron County, Ohio, April 28, 1850, and was a small child when her parents, Harlow J. and Fanny (Merry) Carpenter, moved to Indiana in the fall of 1851 and settled in the woods of Otsego Township, just across from the old Seth Dunham place. Her father did much to improve his land there and died in 1883, at the age of sixty-eight. Her mother passed away in 1893, at the age of seventy-six. Mr. Carpenter was a republican, though in early life he had voted as a democrat. In the Carpenter family were six children: Jesse, former auditor of Steuben County; Sarah, wife of Robert Humphreys; George; Betsey, widow of Lewis Griffith, of Hamilton; Julia A.; and Caroline, wife of Levi Brown.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffith have had the following children: Eugene, died in 1894. Harlow, a resident

of Hamilton, married Samantha McClish, and they have four children, named Walter, Eugene, Isabel and Don. Walter was a soldier in the World war, spending most of his time at Fort Bliss, Texas, and Fort Jackson in North Carolina. He was in the service from May, 1918, until February, 1919. Maud the third child of Mr. and Mrs. Griffith, is the wife of Owen Garver, of Montana, and has two children, Valti and Fred. Lee is a resident of Tipton, Indiana. He married Nellie Knouse and has one son, Frank.

FERDINAND KNAPPE, who has passed the age of fourscore and has been a resident of Noble County for over sixty years, has been one of the most active as well as one of the most useful citizens of his community. He has built a solid structure of community esteem by his work and influence, and no one has more sturdily upheld the elements of Christianity, education and morality than this octogenarian citizen.

Mr. Knappe, who is still living on his farm in Washington Township, six miles south of Kimmell, was born in Pike County, Pennsylvania, March 9, 1838, a son of August and Anna M. (Wetzel) Knappe. His father was born in Prussian Poland and his mother in Baden, Germany. Both came by diverse routes to America about 1830, landed in New York City, and there became acquainted and married. They remained there about seven years, where August followed his trade as a cabinet maker. Later he followed the same occupation in Pennsylvania, then moved to New Jersey and lived in Sussex County until 1850, when he pioneered into the western country and located in Washington Township of Noble County, Indiana. Here he acquired eighty acres, and his first home was a cabin in the midst of the woods. He spent the rest of his life as a practical farmer, and acquired considerable land in that section. He was a man of distinctive leadership in his community. Both he and his wife for many years were active members of the Christian Church, though August was reared a Lutheran and his wife a Catholic. He was also affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and began voting as an American citizen with the whig party, later becoming a republican. In a family of nine children five are still living: Ferdinand; Joseph E., of Washington Township; Amelia, wife of Aaron King; Cecelia, twin sister of Amelia, wife of Jasper Gerken; and William, a farmer on the old homestead.

Ferdinand Knappe was about twelve years old when brought to Indiana. He grew up here, and since boyhood has sustained a career of active usefulness. In 1862 he married Eliza A. Long, and they had a long married companionship of more than fifty years, broken by the death of Mrs. Knappe on July 7, 1918. To their marriage were born two children. Joseph A., the older, died at the age of six years. Sarah, the only surviving child, was born October 25, 1864, and is the wife of George W. Stults. Mr. and Mrs. Stults have five children, namely: Nellie M., wife of Lester Sechrist; Ernest R., who is the present assessor of Washington Township; Flosse, wife of James Sparrow; Nona, wife of Glen Bailey; and Florence, unmarried.

Mr. Knappe has been a member of the Christian Broadway Church since 1863, as was also his wife, and he has been one of its most active leaders. He began teaching in the Sunday school when only fourteen years old, in 1852, and steadily served as teacher and superintendent and at one time was president of the Christian Sunday School Association of the Eel River Conference. Mr. Knappe owns a good farm of a hundred acres and still



gives this his active superintendence. He is remembered as one of the veteran school teachers of the pioneer days of Noble County. He began teaching in 1858, and did his last work in the schoolroom in 1880. At one time his wages were \$16 a month, and he boarded around among the families of his pupils. His highest wages as a teacher was \$30 a month. His terms of school were usually three or four months. He was elected and served as justice of the peace for a number of years and for two terms he was trustee of his township, from 1884 to 1888. Mr. Knappe is a republican in politics.

OWEN L. IDDINGS is one of the prosperous and successful farmers of Orange Township, Noble County, and has one of the most interesting homes in that locality. His farm is on the Fort Wayne road, five miles northwest of Kendallville, and comprises 100 acres. It is known as the Seldom Rest Farm. The farm has much local history connected with it. In the early days it was the haunt of a gang of counterfeiters and thieves, who made it their headquarters, from which they conducted raids upon the surrounding country, stealing horses and disposing of the spurious coin which they manufactured. All traces of these early uses have long since disappeared, and under Mr. Iddings' proprietorship it is a peaceful and productive landscape, the farm being devoted to general crops and livestock.

Mr. Iddings was born in Green Township of Noble County January 10, 1851, son of Jackson and Barbara (Dingman) Iddings. His people were pioneers and helped found the City of Kendallville and County of Noble. His father was born near Cleveland, Ohio, January 13, 1813. His mother was born near Dayton, Ohio, and was a member of the prominent Dingman-Forker family, who for a number of years has held family reunions and makes up one of the largest family relationships in this section of Indiana. The Dingman family came to Noble County in 1833, and bought eighty acres of land in section 33 of Wayne Township, now within the city limits of Kendallville. The first frame residence within the city limits was built by that family. Jackson Iddings arrived at Kendallville September 10, 1836, with his father, Henry Iddings. Henry Iddings entered a tract of land on which a part of Kendallville has since been built, and he developed it as a farm and lived there the rest of his life. All his children are now deceased.

Jackson Iddings after his marriage bought eighty acres two miles south of Kendallville, and after living there two or three years and making a number of improvements lost the land by reason of a defective title. He then removed to Green Township, buying 160 acres near Green Center, and cleared up that land and made it his home until 1853. He then moved a mile and a half northeast of Albion in Jefferson Township, where he acquired eighty acres, but after nine years sold that and bought a place two and a half miles west of Kendallville in Wayne Township. It was on that farm that Jackson Iddings spent his last days. He was a democrat and served as a justice of the peace in Green Township. His wife was a devout Baptist. In their family were thirteen children, six sons and seven daughters, and the four still living are: Asa, a farmer in Missouri; Owen L.; Ruth, wife of Willis Eckles; and Ida, widow of Fred Strater.

Owen L. Iddings lived at home with his parents until he was about thirty-five years of age. He

acquired a district school education and was well versed in farming before he made it his independent vocation.

December 30, 1886, he married Miss Ida Johnson. She was born in LaGrange County, Indiana, February 19, 1861, and was educated in the common schools of that county. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Iddings rented his father's farm and later bought it, and it has been under his proprietorship for the past eighteen years. Mrs. Iddings is an active member of the United Brethren Church.

Four children were born to their marriage: Scott is manager for the Indiana Oil Company at Kendallville, and married Gladys Newman. Bessie is a graduate of the common schools and is the wife of Holly Leemaster, of Wayne Township. Nellie, the third child, died at the age of two years and twenty-one days. Russell is a graduate of the Rome City High School and is now handling most of the responsibilities of the home farm. Mr. Iddings is a democrat in politics.

GEORGE M. ROWLEY has figured not only as proprietor of one of the fine farms of Millgrove Township in Steuben County, but also for his usefulness in public affairs. He has been township trustee and is present township assessor, and is proprietor of one of the finest farms around Lake Gage.

Mr. Rowley was born in Oneida County, New York, November 15, 1850, but has spent most of his life in Steuben County. He is a son of Francis A. and Almira A. (Rockwell) Rowley, both natives of New York State, and a grandson of Abner Rowley, who in the early days entered a tract of land in Steuben County but never came here to make his permanent home. The land which he took up was a tract of timber around Lake Gage. Its development was left to his son, Francis A. Rowley, who reached Millgrove Township in May, 1856. He made the first opening among the trees on the north side of Lake Gage, put up a frame house, gradually cleared land for cultivation, and he and his wife lived there the rest of their days. His first farm comprised ninety-six acres, and the property grew under his management until he owned an adjoining 160 acres. Frances A. Rowley and wife had three children: Charles J., who married Alice Birce and has four children, named Frank B., James, Lee and Servetus. George M. is second in age. Cora B. is unmarried and lives at Los Angeles, California.

George M. Rowley acquired his early education in the schools of Millgrove Township, where he has lived since he was six years old. He also attended the Orland Academy and for one term was a teacher. His youthful strength was given to farming his father's place, and in 1872 he married Ella M. Hastings, a daughter of John and Lydia (Sherwood) Hastings.

After his marriage he bought a farm adjoining the old homestead near Lake Gage, and his land has been wonderfully improved under his ownership of forty-five years. Practically all the buildings have been put there by him. His original farm comprised sixty-nine acres. He inherited ninety-eight acres of the old homestead, and has the complete tract of 165 acres devoted to general farming purposes.

Mr. and Mrs. Rowley have four children: Iva M. is the wife of Ralph Sperry, lives in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, and has one daughter, Ruth; Matie is unmarried and lives in Detroit; Ned married Ella Haskins, and his family consists of Harold, Helen and James; Nellie is the wife of Frank Gay, of Angola.

For twenty years or more Mr. Rowley has given part of his time to public affairs in public office. From 1895 to 1901 he was assessor of Millgrove

Township. From the duties of that office he gave his time to the trusteeship of Millgrove Township from 1901 to 1905. In 1914 he was again honored with election as assessor, and was re-elected in 1918.

**BENJAMIN SMITH GROGG.** The traveler through Richland Township whose attention is caught by the name "Progressive Farm" on substantial, well kept buildings, is not surprised to find in the owner of this property an unusually intelligent, well educated, thoughtful man whose farming enterprises are successful and profitable. Benjamin Smith Grogg, owner and proprietor of Progressive Farm, was born November 1, 1848, in Stark County, Ohio, and was brought to DeKalb County a babe in his mother's arms in 1849. His parents were Peter and Eliza (Smith) Grogg, whose other children were as follows: Amy Ann, who died in early womanhood; Lucinda, who is the wife of David Feagler; Jacob W., who married Mary Fair; James H., who married Ida Showers; Mary, who is the wife of J. A. Whittington; Daniel S., who is deceased, married Elizabeth Imler; Ellen, who is the wife of George Rakestrow; and Elmer E., who is deceased, married Ida Smith. The family of the last named live where Peter Grogg located when he first came to Indiana.

While there is a combination of French, Scotch, Irish and German blood in the Grogg ancestry, the history of the family in the United States centers in Pennsylvania, Ohio and Indiana. Peter Grogg, father of Benjamin S., was born March 2, 1821, in Stark County, Ohio, and was the seventh son born to Solomon and Mary (Snyder) Grogg, and his brothers were: John, Abraham, Solomon, George, Jacob and Daniel, and he had a sister, Catherine. On September 2, 1846, he was married to Eliza Smith, who was the fifth in a family of nine children born to Benjamin and Rachel (Bender) Smith, whose other children were as follows: Aaron B., Lucinda, Harriet, Susan, Caroline, Ephraim, Hiram and Catherine. Two children were born to Peter and Eliza Grogg before they took up their residence in DeKalb County. When Mr. Grogg located on his first quarter section of land there were only two acres cleared, and it was through his industrial efforts that the wild land was changed into one of the most productive farms in this county.

The parents of Benjamin S. Grogg belonged to the English Reformed Church at Tamarack, near their home, but they contributed to the building of churches at Waterloo and Fairfield Center, but later, under changed conditions, they united with the Lutheran, known to all as Sixteen Church, in Richland Township, a present day old landmark of the county. The old family burying place was in Union Cemetery, the younger members of the family owning crypts in the mausoleum in Woodlawn Cemetery.

As indicated above, Benjamin Smith Grogg is a man of progressive ideas, many of which he has introduced in the management of his farm. He merely superintends, however, having a capable tenant, for Mr. Grogg has not been an agriculturist all his life, in fact has been something of a traveler and perhaps has seen more of the western part of the United States than the majority of his neighbors. He has been in every state west of the Mississippi River and has traveled the whole length of Canada from Detroit to Vancouver, spending time in both mining and logging camps. He made the round trip from DeKalb County to the Pacific Coast four times while his parents were living. In these years of travel he has met with accident and adventure. At one time he was confined in a hos-

pital at Santa Fe, New Mexico, for eighty-four days. Like most men who have really done brave things, he is modest in telling of them. On one occasion he undertook the dangerous task of crossing the Columbia River on thin ice in order to carry a telegram to a family announcing the death of a soldier son in the barracks at Vancouver, being the only man to volunteer for this hazardous mission. He succeeded in crossing the cracking ice on Norwegian snow shoes, but had to remain at his destination for a week on account of the breaking ice, and then returned by means of a row boat.

Mr. Grogg owns a well tilled farm with exceptional improvements. His residence is of cement blocks, with sanitary plumbing and a heat, light and water system and with separate apartments for himself and for his tenant and family, the latter being Guy Myers, who married Gladys Grogg, a relative. They make Mr. Grogg exceedingly comfortable and he passes the most of his time at Progressive Farm. By careful plan he has the barn basement adapted to the care of livestock, having ample room and crib capacity, with a storage tank for water in the bank driveway, gravity forcing the water in a constant stream by the opening of a valve. When the wind pump fails, there is a gasoline engine to use in emergency, hence water is plentiful at all times, which is one of the greatest desiderata in successful agricultural industries.

Mr. Grogg's interest in public affairs is that of a well informed, peace-spirited citizen. In national matters he is a zealous republican in his political views, but in local campaigns, when some specific issue is at stake, he allows himself to follow his own good judgment and consider the man rather than the party.

**SETH S. AVERY.** Every community has several families which are regarded as most representative of its best characteristics, generally because of the lives of the founders of them, who by setting up high standards have so shaped the morality of the neighborhood. Steuben and Otsego townships claim the Avery family as belonging to this class and to them, and no one living here disputes the fact that Jesse Whitcomb Avery and his beloved wife, Eliza (Shumaker) Avery, exerted a powerful influence for good in this part of Steuben County. They were quiet, unostentatious people, who by the very simplicity and sincerity of their lives impressed their associates with their goodness and natural wisdom, and they so brought up their children that the present generation are being trained in the same admirable manner.

Seth S. Avery, the third born in their family, is one of the substantial men of his community, and is numbered among the reliable farmers and business men of Otsego Township. He was born in this township, July 28, 1859. A man of unusual intellectual development, Mr. Avery realized the importance of placing in definite form some record of the several old families from which he sprung, and in 1905, while both his parents were in full possession of their faculties, he led them to talk of their ancestors, setting down all the facts as he learned them. These facts he has embodied in a very interesting pamphlet from which the following has been gleaned.

The Avery family is of English descent, and documents in the family prove that it was located in the American Colonies many years ago. The first of the Averys of whom there is definite mention is Samuel Avery, who died in Dearborn Township, Kennebec County, Maine, where he had been married to Sarah Fall, and where their four children



were born. These children were as follows: John Hutcherson, of whom mention is made below; Amanda, who married Alexander Britton, and they had two daughters, Betsy and Emily; Dolly, who married David Chard, and they had the following children: George, Sarah, Susan, Amanda, Lydia and Rhoda; and Sarah, who married John K. Van Fleet, and they had the following children: Joshua, Samuel, John, Elizabeth, Anna, Ruth, Malvina and Thomas. Mrs. Sarah (Fall) Avery was a woman of strong character, and after the death of her husband she sought better opportunities for her children, first in Marion County, Ohio, and later in Steuben County, Indiana, arriving in the latter during the fall of 1836. Not long after she had located in Otsego Township she was married to George Quick, and they had two sons, Avery and Henry. Mrs. Avery was a sister of the mother of Aaron Taylor, another of Steuben County's prominent men.

John H. Avery, a son of Samuel and Sarah (Fall) Avery, was married first to Maria Whitcomb, and after her death, at the age of twenty-five years from dropsy, caused by the birth of her second child, Maria, who died at birth, he was married to his sister-in-law, Louisa Whitcomb. In addition to the infant daughter who did not survive, John H. Avery had by his first marriage a son, Jesse Whitcomb, and he was the father of Seth S. Avery, and was born February 18, 1833, at Big Island, Marion County, Ohio.

The Whitcomb family is another old established one of this country, Major Benjamin Whitcomb having served his country during the American Revolution, and as he was the father of Maria (Whitcomb) Avery, and consequently the grandfather on the maternal side of Jesse Whitcomb Avery, he was entitled to a life pension from the government. In fact his papers were placed in order and had it not been for the outbreak of the Civil war, and its long continuance, he would have doubtless received it. As it was this still remains an unpaid claim.

Jesse Whitcomb Avery lost his father in 1840, and as his stepmother received all the money left by him Mr. Avery only had as his portion an outlawed quit claim deed to real estate which had belonged to his paternal grandfather, Samuel Avery, and the west half of section 18, township 36, north, range 14, east, Steuben County, Indiana. Although he was early bereft of a father's protection, his grandmother looked after little Jesse Whitcomb Avery until a guardian was appointed, and through the latter, Elder Miner, an excellent home was secured for the lad with James Johnson, grandfather of Mrs. Mina (Johnson) Sutherland, of Otsego Township.

On February 19, 1854, Jesse Whitcomb Avery was united in marriage with Eliza Shumaker, and they located on the farm his father had entered from the government many years before, and which constituted practically his only inheritance. Here they resided for nearly sixty years, and on this farm all of their children were born and reared, they being as follows: Edward, Amro, Seth S., Mary, who is deceased, Emma, Lida and Jesse Whitcomb, who is also deceased. Mr. Avery and his wife were born in the same year, and they went to school together. Their tastes were similar, and they both held in the highest reverence truth, honor and upright living. Such a couple could not help but diffuse a highly moral atmosphere that was felt by all who came within the family circle. Children brought up in such a home could not help but develop into desirable citizens, for these parents did not simply teach the various virtues, they practiced them, and never by word or deed lowered

themselves in the estimation of their children or neighbors. Jesse Whitcomb Avery preceded his wife into the other world, but they lie side by side in the beautiful cemetery of Circle Hill. He died at his home in Otsego Township April 28, 1912, aged seventy-nine years, two months and ten days, and she died November 19, 1915, aged eighty-one years, eleven months and fourteen days. Having been for forty-seven years active in the Odd Fellows Lodge of Angola, his fraternity was in charge of the funeral services. He was a brunette, with brown eyes and straight black hair and had a Roman nose. His height was five feet, seven inches, and his weight was about 145 pounds. He died of hardening of the arteries. No man of Steuben County ever commanded more respect, and he was recognized as the epitome of honesty, sobriety and fair dealing.

His wife, Eliza (Shumaker) Avery, was equally notable and is remembered with tender affection by many outside her own family who are indebted to her for innumerable acts of kindness. She was born in Hardy County, West Virginia, December 5, 1833, and when she died she was the only survivor of the nine children born to her parents, Michael and Elizabeth (Myers) Shumaker. These children were as follows: Lydia, who became Mrs. John Baker; Sarah, who became first the wife of John Mills and later of Henry Secoir; John, who married Amanda Chard, mentioned in the records of the Avery family; Katie; Rosana; Amanda, who became the wife of Aaron Taylor, also mentioned in the Avery records; George, who became the husband of Katherine Lininger, was married first to Mary Bland; Eliza, who became Mrs. Avery; and Betsy, who became the wife of Henry Secoir, mentioned above.

A brother of Michael Shumaker, John Shumaker married and had five children, namely: Margaret, Rachael, John, James and Harvey. A sister of these two brothers, Mrs. Mary (Shumaker) McClain, had two children, George and Dorcas.

The Shumaker family, finding the confines of the old home in West Virginia too small for the young life growing up in it, set forth across the country, stopping for a time in Licking County, Ohio, which they left in 1845 intending to go to the Rock River region in Illinois. However, by the time they reached Steuben County the good father was so ill that they were forced to stay in a little log cabin schoolhouse which stood on the present farm of Frank Jackson, but then on the old Peter Russell Farm in Steuben Township. Here Michael Shumaker died a few days after his arrival, but his widow survived him many years, finally passing away in Steuben County in 1863. With his death the plans of his family were changed, and it was decided that they remain in Steuben County. They were poor and they worked hard, the girls going into the fields and woods and wrestling a living from nature. Eliza Shumaker became noted for her skill in dropping corn, being able to keep up with the horse drawing the marker, something all men did not accomplish, and she also dug for ginseng and other roots which were used for medicinal purposes. She also performed all of the arduous household tasks of her day, many of which are scarcely known to the present generation, and developed into one of the finest women God ever made. Sweet of disposition, her sunny temperament never allowed her to show temper, if she ever even felt it. Under the most discouraging circumstances she could always detect the silver lining, and she did not possess a single selfish thought. With her her home and family came first, but she had such a superabundance of Christian charity and kindly



affection that she was a beneficent presence in her community, and children and grandchildren rose up to call her blessed. During the last nine years of her life she could not be induced to leave her home, although no one would have been more welcome in the families of her children, and her thoughts, freed from domestic burdens, dwelt on beautiful subjects, showing that had she been spared some of the hardships which fell to her lot she would no doubt have developed artistic or literary talents of no mean order. Indeed there is no doubt but that her son Seth S. Avery inherits his undoubtedly clever ideas and literary tastes from his mother. When she was a girl educational opportunities were not many, and the schools were wide apart, but this undaunted young soul would walk two and one-half miles each way to school, and then in the evening repeat the walk in order to participate in the old-fashioned spelling matches, many of which she won, for she was a speller hard to "down." In her younger years she is described as being a blonde, with grey eyes and brown curly hair. In height she was five feet, four inches, and weighed about the same as her husband, 145 pounds. Her death was caused by valvular trouble of the heart.

Seth S. Avery first attended the public schools of Otsego Township, but his parents realizing that this son possessed unusual attainments sent him to the Angola High School, from which he was graduated in 1880. Mr. Avery then began teaching school during the winter season and attended Hillsdale College in the spring and fall for two years. Then he turned all of his attention to his educational work and was one of the popular instructors of the young in Steuben County until 1892. He then began selling fencing for the Peerless Fence Company, and is still its representative in this locality. He is a member of the Delta Tau Delta fraternity of his alma mater.

Mr. Avery and his sister, Mrs. Swift, live together, as he never married, and her late husband, Carl Swift, is deceased. Mrs. Lida Swift was born January 10, 1867, and she superintends the operation of the farm. Jesse Whitcomb Avery and his wife have passed from this life, but the weight of their upright and honorable lives remains, and their effect upon their contemporaries is going to be felt to the third and fourth generation.

J. BURTON LEMMON is member of an old and prominent family of Steuben County, and the family has an interesting military record. Mr. Lemmon himself fought as a Union soldier in the Civil war, had a son with the colors in the World war, while his grandfather was in the War of 1812 and his own father was a captain of militia in the early days.

Mr. Lemmon was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, in Green Creek Township, March 22, 1838, a son of Morris and Lucinda (Rathburn) Lemmon. His father was born in New York State in 1813 and his mother in the same state in 1820. Their settlement in Steuben County dates from 1843. The land they located on is now owned by Martin Lemmon in Otsego Township, comprising sixty-two and a half acres. Morris Lemmon increased his holdings here until he had 210 acres. Morris Lemmon was accompanied on his migration to Indiana by his father, John Lemmon, whose wife, a member of the Tuttle family, died in Sandusky County, Ohio. John Lemmon died in 1847. His four children were Morris, David, Laura and Mrs. Luretta Wickwire. Mr. Lemmon did not live long after coming to Steuben County, passing away in 1845. His widow survived until 1868. Their four children

were J. Burton, David Riley, Chaplin Brace and Henry Clay, the last two now deceased. The widowed mother married for her second husband David Lemmon, a brother of her first husband, and by that union had four children, Lavina, Morris A., Mildred and Saxton B. Morris Lemmon was a whig in politics and liberal in his religious views.

J. Burton Lemmon grew up on the homestead farm, acquired such educational advantages as were available, and from youth upward has been a factor in the farming affairs of Steuben County. On August 7, 1862, at Angola, he enlisted in Company H of the Seventy-fourth Indiana Infantry, and was in the army until honorably discharged June 14, 1865. He was in the battles of Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge, Jonesboro and many of the skirmishes in the Atlanta campaign. He was taken prisoner in Georgia in 1864 and for six months was confined at Andersonville. Mr. Lemmon has been a staunch republican in his political views.

November 20, 1867, he married Miss Celestia Carter, a native of Steuben County and daughter of Samuel Carter. She died November 22, 1879, the mother of three children, Mildred, Zoa and Frank. October 20, 1883, Mr. Lemmon married Miss Malinda Fee. She was born on the farm where she and her husband now reside in Otsego Township February 28, 1866, and is a daughter of Richard and Zilla (Avery) Fee. Her parents came from Ohio and settled in Otsego Township in 1856, and the farm now occupied by Mr. Lemmon and wife has been in the ownership of the Fee family for over sixty years. Mrs. Lemmon's mother died in 1916, at the age of eighty-three, while Mr. Fee passed away in January, 1870. There were six children in the Fee family: Maria, Almira, Dwight, Clarinda, Horace G. and Malinda.

Mr. and Mrs. Lemmon have three children: Ruth is the wife of Melvin Updyke and the mother of two children, Mildred and Keith. Err married Edna Musser, and their children are Harvey Burton, Gertrude, Richard Wier, Isabel and Dwight. Riley Avery, the youngest child, married Edith Rettabaugh and has a daughter, Reva. Riley A. was the soldier representative of the family in the World war, going into the army in August, 1918, and serving at Camp Sherman.

JOHN W. PALMER began life about the same place that many young men of the present day have to begin, with hardly better circumstances and with no better prospects, and his success is measured in the ownership of the Palmer Stock Farm, comprising 385 acres in York Township, one mile west and one mile north of Albion in Noble County. All of this he has made by his hard work and good judgment, and when taken in connection with his high standing as a citizen there are few who would deny that it is a complete measure of success and achievement.

Mr. Palmer was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, September 15, 1854, son of Henry and Hannah (Peffer) Palmer. His father was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, August 30, 1828. His mother was born in Tuscarawas County, March 3, 1835. They were married on January 11, 1852, and five years later, in 1857, arrived in Noble County, Indiana. Henry Palmer was one of the well-to-do and well thought of men of his generation, and before his death owned a farm of 185 acres in Noble County. He died January 8, 1894, and his wife passed away December 3, 1914. He was a republican in politics. Of the five children only two are now



J. W. PALMER AND WIFE AND SON C. C. PALMER FAMILY GROUP





living, John W. and Saloma. The latter is the widow of J. G. Steele and lives in York Township.

John W. Palmer was between three and four years old when brought to Noble County, and he has spent practically all his life within its limits. As a boy he attended the district schools, and learned farming under the eye and direction of his father. On November 15, 1881, he married Miss Alice Flanagan. Mrs. Palmer was born in Allen County, Indiana, February 27, 1858, daughter of John and Alice (Murphy) Flanagan. She spent her early girlhood near Ligonier, and had a district school education.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Palmer moved to the old Palmer homestead, and in 1882 he bought eighty acres of this farm and has since kept his possessions growing and expanding until he now has a well proportioned farm of 385 acres, and has built the comfortable house and the barns and other stock buildings. For a number of years he was a breeder of Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Palmer is a stockholder in the Farmers Bank at Albion. He is an active republican, has served as committeeman and as delegate to state conventions, and for four years was trustee of York Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Palmer had two children: Carlos C. and Mabel. Carlos is a graduate of the Albion High School and the Fort Wayne Business College, spent one year at Purdue University and is now field man representing the Iowa Homestead and lives at Des Moines, Iowa. He married Addie Kitt and has two children, John and Jane. The daughter Mabel graduated from the Albion High School and married Carl R. Cobbs. She died in July, 1914. She became the mother of one child, Kenneth P. Cobbs.

JOHN WAGNER has been a resident of DeKalb County for over half a century, spent many industrious years as a farmer, and is now enjoying his well merited comfort and retirement on his home place in Franklin Township.

He was born in Germany October 8, 1842, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Jacobs) Wagner. His parents on coming to America spent a short time in Ohio and then settled in Indiana, north of Waterloo, and their last years were spent in Franklin Township. They were buried at Hamilton, Indiana. Both were active members of the Reformed Church, and the father voted as a democrat.

John Wagner is the only one of eight children still living. He was twelve years old when he came to this country and received most of his education in the common schools of Germany. He began earning his own living as a youth in DeKalb County and has pursued a straightforward and industrious career.

In 1869 he married Catherine Anthony, who was born in Stark County, Ohio, and was educated in the district schools there. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wagner settled on a farm in DeKalb County, and their home life was uninterrupted until her death more than thirty years later, in 1901. Mr. Wagner still lives on the home farm of eighty acres.

There were seven children, six of whom are still living: Sarilla, wife of John Timbleson; Lewis; Minnie E., wife of William Sanders, of Fort Wayne; Charles; Clarence, who married Lottie Walter and has five children, named Homer, Frank, Bessie, John and Dorothy, and Vernie, wife of Glenn Moughler, of Wilmington Township. Mr. Wagner is a democrat in politics and has served as a member of the Township Advisory Board of Franklin Township.

MILO THOMPSON has played a varied and useful part in the affairs of Steuben County, is a lawyer

by profession, has been a farmer, is present trustee of Millgrove Township, and is one of the best known and influential citizens of Orland.

He was born in Gilead Township of Branch County, Michigan, January 8, 1862, a son of Melvin and Orsena P. (Brown) Thompson, both natives of New York State. His grandfather, James Thompson, brought his family from New York to Southern Michigan and settled in Branch County in the early days. Melvin Thompson after reaching manhood moved over the state line from Branch County to Millgrove Township in 1867, and spent the rest of his life in that township as a farmer. He died in 1907. Milo Thompson has a younger sister, Della, wife of Moses Latta.

Mr. Milo Thompson grew up on his father's farm in Millgrove Township, attended the district schools there and later the public schools at Orland. One of his early experiences was teaching, a vocation he followed for three terms. After that he was a farmer in Millgrove township and in 1896 left the farm and engaged in the practice of law at Bronson in his native Michigan county. He remained there five years and in 1901 returned to the farm in Millgrove. His home has been at Orland since 1909, and he is the man consulted by most of the people in that community in matters of law and he has developed a good practice. Mr. Thompson was elected trustee of Millgrove Township in 1908 and served a term of six years, until 1914. Then after an interim of four years he was again elected trustee in 1918. Besides the duties of that office he is clerk of the Village of Orland. Mr. Thompson is unmarried, is a member of the Masonic Lodge, Star Lodge No. 225, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, at Orland.

ALFRED HANTZ has been a resident farmer of Steuben County forty-five years, and since 1890 his farm operations have been conducted on a place across the township line between Scott and York townships. He is enjoying a well-earned prosperity, is a man of substantial character, and his work and activities have commended him to a large group of fellow citizens.

He was born in Williams County, Ohio, December 20, 1852, a son of Jesse and Mary Ann (Gorman) Hantz. His father was born in Wilkesbarre, Pennsylvania. His mother was the daughter of Abraham Gorman. Jesse Hantz was a Williams County farmer, but in the spring of 1865 moved to Scott Township, Steuben County, and spent the rest of his life there. He was the owner of 240 acres. He and his wife were members of the German Reformed Church. He had a family of six children: Sarah, who married Joshua Metz; Alfred; Jane, wife of Nicholas Bontrigger; George; Eli; and Anna, who died in childhood.

Alfred Hantz attended the public schools of Scott Township and learned his business as a farmer while on his father's home. He remained at home until the age of twenty-five.

In 1871 he married Maria Lahman, who died in August, 1874. Her only child, Martha, is wife of Sherman Goodrich. They had a large family of eight children, named William, Gertrude, Maude, Jessie, Ford, Edith, Herman and Martha.

March 21, 1875, Mr. Hantz married Mary A. Kaufman, daughter of Joseph and Anna Kaufman. He and his wife had eight children: Jesse, James, Fred, Anna, Charles, Ella, Robert and Irvin. The son Jesse was drowned July 4, 1898. James died at the age of fourteen. Fred married Ethel Henry, and they have five children, Clarence, Orville, Dorothy, Cecil and Clinton. Anna is the wife of Nelson Barron and the mother of two children,

Mildred Mary and Roscoe A. Charles married Ethel Krantz, and they have a son, Robert. Irvin married Olie Teegardin and has two children, Earl W. and Lois Mary.

Mr. Alfred Hantz in 1873 moved to a farm in the south part of Scott Township and lived there until 1890. In that year he removed to his present place, where he has 175 acres, ninety-five acres being in York Township and eighty acres in Scott Township. His house is in York Township while his barn is across the road in Scott Township. Mr. Hantz does general farming and stock raising, has remodeled the house and put up many substantial buildings.

GEORGE H. WEBB. The records of the Webb family in Steuben County runs back for over seventy years. George Webb, representing the third generation, has for many years been a successful farmer in Jamestown Township, where he was born, and beginning with little more than his bare hands and with a rented farm he has achieved a position of prestige and influence in that community.

Mr. Webb was born March 3, 1872, son of Henry and Nancy (Parker) Webb, and a grandson of John and Grace (Harrison) Webb. His grandparents as well as his father were natives of England. His grandfather was a pioneer in Steuben County. He brought his family from England in 1830, lived for several years in Michigan, and in about 1845 came to Steuben County, where he acquired a large amount of land and was very successful in all his business affairs. Henry Webb came to manhood in Steuben County and in 1850 went with his brother Arthur to California. They traveled west by mule team, and on returning came back by way of the Isthmus of Panama. He was in the gold mines and other districts of California for about five years. On returning to the States Henry Webb began farming in Jamestown Township, lived here many years, and the last twenty years of his life were spent at Angola, where he died in May, 1914. His wife passed away in 1916. The children were: Ida, who married Theron Summers; Grace, who became the wife of Silas Bressler; George; and Edna, who married Frank Wert.

George Webb acquired his early education in the district schools of Millgrove Township, also attended school at Angola, and for thirty years has occupied his present farm in Jamestown Township, beginning his independent career as a renter and now owning 160 acres.

He has followed general farming and stockraising, and all the improvements, comprising a set of substantial farm buildings, were made under his personal direction.

Mr. Webb married April 3, 1895, Vinnie Lucas, a daughter of Thomas Lucas. They have two children: Helen Arlene, born in 1904, and died April 10, 1909, and George Harley, born April 16, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Webb are Methodists and members of the church at Nevada Mills.

THOMAS LUCAS, a retired resident of Orland, was for many years a man of conspicuous enterprise in the farming and stockraising interests of Steuben County. He has been progressive, has sought to better conditions in the community as well as those affecting his own life and circumstances, and he and his family are among the most respected members of that community.

Mr. Lucas was born in Ohio March 21, 1849, a son of Israel and Betsey Elizabeth (Bailey) Lucas. His mother was born in Ireland. Israel Lucas was born July 5, 1795, and his birthplace is of special interest. He was born in the stockade at Marietta, Ohio.

Marietta was the first point of settlement in the State of Ohio when the emigrants from New England floated down the Ohio River and established their first foothold in the Northwest Territory there. When at the age of fourteen his father died the responsibility of looking after the rest of the family, including two younger brothers and two sisters, devolved upon him. He bound out these children and then bound himself out. In 1854, when well advanced in years, he moved to Waterhouse Corners, Kinderhook Township, Branch County, Michigan, and in 1864 located in Jamestown Township of Steuben County, where he spent the rest of his life. He and his wife had seven children: James H., Robert, Zevolenia, Theodore, Israel, Girard and Thomas E.

Thomas E. Lucas acquired his early education in the district schools of Kinderhook, Michigan, also attended school at Nevada Mills in Steuben County, and during his youth learned the miller's trade. He worked five years in the grist mill at Nevada Mills, and after that engaged in farming in Millgrove Township. He was on his farm until February, 1915, since which date he has made his home in Orland. Mr. Lucas still owns 382 acres in Millgrove Township. For a number of years he was recognized as one of the leading sheep raisers in Northeastern Indiana, making a specialty of the blooded Delaine and Merino sheep. He was a member of the American Sheep Growers' Association. It is his distinction to have introduced the culture of peppermint in Steuben County, one of the big money-making crops in that part of the state. Mr. Lucas is affiliated with the Masonic bodies at Orland, including Lodge No. 225, and the chapters of the Royal Arch and Eastern Star.

November 27, 1870, Mr. Lucas married Sarah Helen Chrystler, a daughter of Abraham and Martha Chrystler. To their marriage were born five children: Vinnie, wife of George Webb; Ora D., who married Ella Showater; Ella, wife of Elmer Grabell; Jesse E., who married Mattie Murray; and Harley S., who married Libby Murray.

JOHN OESCH. On leaving home and venturing upon his own responsibilities John Oesch had about \$300. His active career as a farmer, spent chiefly in LaGrange County, has brought him much to satisfy his ambition, and he has no fear of the wolf at the door nor even of the tax collector. His farm in Eden Township is often called the home of the Percherons, and his breeding stock of those horses represent some of the finest in Indiana.

He was born in Huron County, Ontario, Canada, January 29, 1860, a son of Daniel and Barbara (Roth) Oesch, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Germany, but brought to Canada by her parents when only seven years old. They were married in Waterloo County, Canada, and in 1869 moved to Hickory County, Missouri. They bought land, but after living there four years through some technicality lost title. Daniel Oesch then brought his family to Howard County, Indiana, locating and living near Kokomo for a year and a half. He next moved fifteen miles northeast of Fort Wayne and bought forty acres, where he spent the rest of his days. He died at the age of eighty-one. He and his family were Mennonites in religion and in politics after coming to the United States he was aligned with the democratic party. There are three living children: Christian, of Allen County, Indiana; Leah, wife of Joseph Delegrange, of Allen County; and John.

John Oesch lived with his father during the different moves above recorded and acquired a com-



mon school education. On leaving home at the age of twenty-five he possessed the modest fortune above noted. December 18, 1884, he married Mary A. Troyer. For a year he rented a farm and then bought thirty-four acres, across the road from where he lives today. He traded this thirty-four acres for seventy-five acres included in his present farm. He bought fifteen acres adjoining and also has eighty-two and a half acres in Newbury Township.

Mr. Oesch has been a horse breeder for thirty-three years. He began with the Clyde horses, changing to the Shire, and now for many years has been a specialist in the Percheron. In the spring of 1919 he had six registered mares, three registered stallions and other young stock, giving him thirteen head of full bloods. He is regarded as one of the wealthy men of Eden Township. He is a stockholder in the State Bank of Topeka and also the Farmers State Bank of the same place.

Mr. and Mrs. Oesch had fourteen children, one of whom died in infancy. Those still living are: Levi, Jennetta, Daniel, Amanda, William, Lester, Freeman, Artie, Erma, Chauncey, John and Truman. The family are members of the Mennonite Church. Mr. Oesch is a republican in political affiliation.

**IRA SCHLOTTERBACK.** One of the historic colonies planted in Noble County in the earliest pioneer days comprised several families from the vicinity of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, including the Engles, Hostetters, Wolfes and Teals, all of whom came in 1832 and all settled in the same neighborhood, living in the midst of wild conditions, with Indians as neighbors, and enduring with the patience typical of real frontiersmen the hardships of their time.

One of this group of early settlers was Gideon Schlotterback, who was born near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in 1812. He was about twenty years of age when he came to Noble County, and shortly afterward, in the same year, he married Mary Engle, member of one of the families just mentioned. They settled on a farm, and were long prominent and substantial residents of Noble County. Gideon Schlotterback as a result of his long continued labors accumulated an estate of 440 acres. He and his wife had twelve children, three of whom are still living: Amelia, wife of C. G. Fait, living in North Dakota; Amy, wife of A. B. Koontz, of Goshen, Indiana, and Ira.

Ira Schlotterback was born in Perry Township, a mile east of where he now lives, February 10, 1850. For over forty years he has borne his share of responsibilities as a farmer in that locality. His farm is located in section 33 of Perry Township on the line between that and Sparta Township, where he own 136 acres. The first school he attended was kept in a log schoolhouse, and he lived with his parents and helped with the farm work until after he was twenty-one years of age. On February 11, 1875, he married Sarah J. John. She was born at Ligonier, Indiana, November 19, 1854, and grew up in Perry Township. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Slotterback managed the old farm, and he now lives on what is known as the Engle Farm. He is engaged in general farming and stock raising.

He and his wife have the following children: Leon is married and lives at Ligonier; Lulu is the wife of Eugene Swinehart and lives near Mongo in LaGrange County; Thomas is married and lives near Noblesville, Indiana; Willis is managing the old home place of 136 acres in Sparta and Perry townships, is married and is a republican in politics;

and Ina, the youngest of the family, is the wife of O. G. Bowen, an electrician at Ligonier.

**PHARAOH HONESS.** Steuben County with its beautiful topography is an attractive place for people to spend their declining years as well as a country that repays effort and youthful enthusiasm. Pharaoh Honess spent many years of his life in the service of the New York Central Lines. When he retired from railroading he sought a home in the country, and selected his present place in Scott Township, where he is carrying on a systematic business as a farmer. Mr. Honess is a man of interesting personality, and is father of a very brilliant and scholarly family.

He was born in Kent County, England, February 22, 1852, a son of William and Margaret (Seeley) Honess. His parents spent all their lives in England, and in their family of twelve children Pharaoh was the third of age. The latter remained at home until he was twenty-one years of age, and is largely self-educated. Arriving in New York without money, he had to make shift to earn a living at different occupations for a time, and soon went to the vicinity of Cleveland, Ohio. While working there in 1875 he studied music in night classes at Baldwin University, and spent part of his time composing two pieces of music each week for the Baldwin University. In 1880 Mr. Honess went to work for the New York Central Lines, was night yard master, was soon made check clerk in the freight house, later was waybiller in the office, and then bookkeeper and collector and chief clerk. He collected millions of dollars for the railroad company and never filed a bond. After twenty years of faithful and efficient service he resigned and in April, 1900, came to Steuben County and bought thirty-eight and one-half acres of land where he lives in Scott Township. He has since added ten acres, and has made a good home and made a living as a farmer and stock raiser. He keeps a small herd of Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Honess is a member of the Congregational Church.

July 5, 1884, Mr. Honess married Anna Riddles. She was born at Cuyahoga, near Cleveland, August 20, 1863, a daughter of William and Sarah (Nichols) Ford. Her father was born in Kent County, England, in 1804, and her mother in Broome County, New York, in 1822. The family settled in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, where her father died in 1886 and her mother in 1894. Both were laid to rest in the Monroe Street Cemetery of Cleveland. Mrs. Honess' father was in the meat business at Cleveland for many years and later was a farmer. Mrs. Honess was one of four children: Charles, deceased; Edward, of Lorain, Ohio; Mary, deceased; and Anna. A half sister of Mrs. Honess is Mrs. Sarah Dunham, of Angola.

Mr. and Mrs. Honess have five children. Charles, the oldest, born June 28, 1885, was educated at Berea in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, also at the Angola High School, and graduated from Oberlin College, Ohio, in 1912. He won a scholarship in Cornell University, where he took his Master's Degree in 1913. He also won scholarships at Yale and the University of Chicago and received a Fellowship in Columbia University. He is now geologist for the State of Oklahoma. He is a member of the Sigma Psi Chi Fraternity. Arthur P. Honess, the second son, was born August 10, 1887, is a graduate of the Angola High School, finished his work at Oberlin College in 1914, and won a Fellowship in Princeton University, valued at \$1,000 a year. He remained in Princeton three years, receiving his Master of Arts Degree. He has since been con-



nected with the Pennsylvania State College, where he is now professor of mineralogy and of other subjects. The third child, Edith, born January 21, 1893, is a graduate of Angola High School, graduated from Oberlin College in June, 1918, and is now teacher of science in the Scott Township High School. Thus Mr. Honess' three oldest children have achieved when still young noteworthy distinction in the field of scholarship. The fourth child, Clayton, was born March 19, 1895, completed the grammar school work and is a mechanic. He was drafted in the World war, went into the army in July, 1918, as a private and was promoted to top sergeant in the Heavy Artillery. He received his honorable discharge in January, 1919. Leon Honess, the youngest of the family, was born in November, 1904, and is now in the freshman year of the Scott Township High School.

**HERBERT FENTON NEWMAM.** It has been said that at no time in history has opportunity been so bountiful to the tenant farmer and renter as within the last two or three years. The estate of Herbert Fenton Newnam is one which shows what was possible to the industrious and capable farm tenant in the years of more restricted opportunity, since he made steady progress and while a tenant bought and paid for a farm of his own, which he still occupies and which gives him a place among the foremost agriculturists of Noble County.

Mr. Newnam, whose home is in the northwest corner of Wayne Township in that county, has a large amount of land under cultivation, and has a home equipped with all the modern improvements, including a lighting plant and heating system. He was born on a farm in Milford Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, November 10, 1872. His parents were Joseph E. and Isadora (Spaulding) Newnam. His father was born in Wayne Township of Noble County and his mother in Brushy Prairie. After their marriage they settled on a farm across the road from where Herbert now lives, later lived in Ohio two years, and then returned to Noble County. They now reside at South Milford. The father is affiliated with Lodge No. 380 of Masons, of which he is a past master, is also a Knight of Pythias, and is a republican in politics. There were just two sons, Herbert F. and Vern I. The latter is a machinist with the Alliance Steel Foundry at Alliance, Ohio.

Herbert Fenton Newnam grew up on a farm joining the one where he now lives, and attended the public schools at South Milford. For three years he clerked in a store. On April 1, 1895, he married Miss Mattie I. Gross. She was born near the center of Milford Township in LaGrange County April 21, 1870, daughter of William and Isabelle (Frances) Gross. She was educated in the common schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Newnam started housekeeping at Greenfield Mills, lived there two years, and at Brushy Prairie one year, and then came to the farm which they now own. For twenty years they worked and saved as renters, and used the proceeds of this long period to buy and construct the splendid farm of 334 acres which they now own.

Mr. and Mrs. Newnam have one daughter, Grossie Joe, born February 18, 1897. She graduated from the South Milford High School with the class of 1915, and in December of that year married John Wible. Mr. Wible was born in Kendallville, Indiana, graduated from the South Milford High School in 1911, and he and his young wife lived happily together for only a little more

than a year, until their marriage was broken by his death on January 7, 1917.

Mr. Newnam is affiliated with Wolcottville Lodge No. 380, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with South Milford Lodge No. 619, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is a past noble grand, and has been a member of the Grand Lodge and is also a member of the Encampment. Mrs. Newnam is a Rebekah and has held all the chief offices in that order. The daughter Grossie Joe belongs to the Eastern Star Chapter at Wolcottville and to the Rebekahs at South Milford. Mr. Newnam in politics is a republican.

**SAMUEL A. STOUT.** His friends and neighbors regard Samuel A. Stout as one of the fortunate men of Steuben County, though his good fortune, represented in the ownership of what is known as the "Otter Lake Stock Farm," has been the product of long years of capable management and labor, good judgment and that all around character which the good farmer represents.

Mr. Stout was born on the farm which he now owns in section 32 of Jackson Township, September 11, 1859. He is a son of Hervey B. and Sarah (Alcott) Stout, his mother a native of Ohio and a daughter of Samuel Alcott, who married a Miss Collins. Mr. Stout's grandfather, George Stout, married for his first wife a Miss Bliss. He was an early settler in Michigan, and from that state came to Salem Township of Steuben County and settled on a farm along the county line between Steuben and DeKalb counties, but spent his last years in Jackson Township. The children of his first marriage were Aaron, Orville, Hervey B., George, Edward, Caroline and Nancy. He married for his second wife Cassie Shaddock, and they had four daughters, named Mary, Anna, Olive and Emma.

Hervey B. Stout, who was born in Lenawee County, Michigan, in December, 1827, and died in 1880, began his career as a farmer in Salem Township, lived there several years, and then bought the land in Jackson Township comprised in the Otter Lake Stock Farm. When it came into his possession it was practically all wild land. He cleared away a space for his log cabin house and barn and made many good improvements before his death. He cleared up eighty acres out of the 120. He and his wife had eight children: Ellen, wife of T. K. Miller; Charles L.; Jane, who married William Lock; Orville M.; Samuel A.; Lydia A., who married M. K. Hall; Dora B., who became the wife of James Parsell; and Frank B.

Samuel A. Stout had the educational advantages supplied by the district schools of Jackson Township. When a young man he went out to work on farms at monthly wages, and continued in that way for eleven years, gaining experience and also some meager capital which enabled him to start for himself.

In April, 1892, Mr. Stout married Miss Kate Velie, a daughter of Tunis and Margaret (Kroutz) Velie. In August following his marriage Mr. Stout came to his present farm, and during his proprietorship of more than a quarter of a century has erected all the substantial buildings, has equipped his place especially for stockraising, and now has the ownership and supervision of 303 broad acres.

He and his wife have three daughters, Clara B., Ruth M. and Mabel G. The two older daughters are both graduates of the Flint High School, and Clara is also a graduate of the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, and Ruth has spent two terms in that institution.

JAMES D. ROWLEY is one of the oldest residents of Butler Township, DeKalb County, and for nearly half a century has been identified with its farming interests. His home place is in section 36 of that township.

Mr. Rowley was born in Henry County, Ohio, March 23, 1845, a son of Thomas and Ellen (Davis) Rowley. His father and mother were born in County Antrim, Ireland, and after their marriage came to the United States. They made their first home in Henry County, Ohio, where the father worked in the construction of the canal between Lake Erie and the Ohio River, and his wife boarded other workmen. Later he followed different lines of employment in Illinois and Southwestern Indiana, and eventually settled in Jackson Township of DeKalb County, where he and his wife spent the rest of their years. As a farmer he cleared up eighty acres of land. He was a democrat, and he and his wife were faithful Catholics. Of their eight children three are still living: James D., Catherine, wife of Samuel Surface, and John, of Fort Wayne.

James D. Rowley grew up from early boyhood in Jackson Township, attended public schools, and has made industry the keynote of his life and by that means has found prosperity sufficient for all his requirements. He is still engaged in general farming and stock raising and owns 215 acres in Jackson and Butler townships. He and his family are members of the Catholic Church.

Mr. Rowley married Ella Surface on February 23, 1871. They have nine living children, named, Thomas, Charles, Carl, Elizabeth, Catherine, Mabel, Grace, Walter and Ralph. The son, Carl, is a physician at Boston, Massachusetts; Elizabeth is the wife of Martin Schaaf, of Fort Wayne; Catherine is the wife of Thomas Kavanaugh, and Mabel is the wife of Forest Sheets.

EUGENE VAN AUKEN. "Some of the thrifty character of his ancestors has been exemplified by Eugene Van Auker in the management of his farming enterprise in Otsego Township of Steuben County. He is one of the men who make farming pay, and does so by able and progressive management of every detail.

Mr. Van Auker was born in Steuben Township September 23, 1872, and is a son of Elton and Sarah (Dutter) Van Auker and a grandson of Everet Van Auker. This is one of the oldest and most prominent family names in Steuben County. Elton Van Auker was born in Portage County, Ohio, and his wife in Pennsylvania, a daughter of George and Anna Dutter. Elton Van Auker as a young man worked in a freight house at Angola, but aside from that experience spent his life as a farmer in Steuben Township. His children were Lena, Eugene, Paul and Carl E. Only Eugene and Carl are now living.

Eugene Van Auker attended public school at Angola and the district schools of Steuben Township, and has been farming steadily since early manhood. In 1897 he moved to Otsego Township, and for seven years rented land. His present prosperity is the more creditable for the fact that he began with a minimum of capital and proved his ability as a renter before he became an independent owner. In 1904 he bought his present place of 120 acres in sections 1 and 12. He has kept improvements steadily going forward, and even in the midst of war times in the summer of 1918 he built a large bank barn, 40 by 80 feet, one of the best barns in the township.

Mr. Van Auker is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Metz. He married November 2, 1893, Dora George, a daughter of Robert

and Ann (Smith) George. They have two children, Ralph and Mildred.

OTIS G. GATES is proprietor of a farm in Otsego Township of Steuben County around which the associations of the Gates family center covering a period of over three quarters of a century. Mr. Gates is able to appreciate the remarkable changes and transformations made in the seven decades since his grandparents settled here. As he goes about his fields he doubtless often thinks and is grateful for the labors done by the earlier generations, and his own career has been a part of the substantial character of the Gates family.

He was born on this farm October 25, 1864, a son of Ransom and Abbie (Ellis) Gates and a grandson of Levi and Sallie Gates. Levi Gates brought his family from New York State in 1840. Their place of settlement was in the midst of the heavy woods of Otsego Township. Indians were still found in that locality, and wild animals abounded in the woods. Levi Gates built a log house for the shelter of his family. On the east side of a big tree he put up a shelter which he called a barn, the trunk of the tree forming one side of that structure. He pursued his industrious labors until called away by death a few years after coming to the county. His wife survived to a good old age. Ransom Gates was born in New York State in 1834. He grew up on the home farm, attended the primitive district schools, and during his mature career followed a busy life as a farmer and thresherman. He owned 130 acres of the farm now occupied by his son Otis. He died in 1911. He was a republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife, who was born in Ohio in 1837, died in 1913. Their children were five in number: Van Rennselaer, who died in infancy, Blanche, Otis, Pearl and Burr.

Otis G. Gates attended the public schools when a boy, learned farming under his father, and is now proprietor of 170 acres, devoted to good crops and good livestock. Mr. Gates is a republican and attends the Methodist Episcopal Church.

August 22, 1886, he married Miss Sarah Denman. She was born near Rome City in Noble County, a daughter of Smith and Nancy Denman, early settlers in that section of Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Gates have two children, Blanche and Glenn. Blanche is the wife of Blaine Willoughby, living on the Gates farm, and their children are Celeta, Gaylor and Ivan. Glenn, who is also on the farm with his father, married Gladys Burkhart, of Williams County, Ohio, and their two children are Otto and Max.

HARVEY C. KNIGHT. While not the wealthiest man in Steuben County, Harvey C. Knight enjoys the ownership of a good farm, has paid for it out of his own efforts, and his record proves that he has been thoroughly able to fight his own battles and take care of himself and those dependent upon him. What he has he has earned, and beginning as a farm laborer he has steadily progressed toward the goal of independence.

Mr. Knight was born in Steuben Township of Steuben County March 8, 1867, a son of Austin and Mary Ann (Dahoff) Knight. His mother was a daughter of Peter Dahoff. Austin Knight was born in Stark County, Ohio, and came to Steuben County about 1858. For several years he was employed grubbing stumps and splitting rails. He then followed the carpenter's trade until 1872, and since then has been a busy blacksmith, being proprietor of a well patronized shop at Pleasant Lake. He and his



wife had six children: Ella, who died in childhood; Harvey; Emma; Elizabeth; Herman, who died when about five years old; and Charles, who died at the age of six months.

Harvey C. Knight acquired his early education in the public schools of Pleasant Lake and was a boy helper to his father in the blacksmith shop, though he never took up that as a regular trade or occupation. For about twelve years he worked for farmers and other employers at monthly wages, and his next advancement was to renting farms, and in November, 1891, he bought his first property in Pleasant Lake. Five years later he bought sixteen and two-thirds acres in Steuben Township. This land had no improvements or buildings. He built a barn there in 1898 and about the same time acquired another forty acres. He had several other deals in real estate and in 1906 sold his property in Steuben Township and bought his present place of 120 acres in Millgrove Township. He and his family lived there since 1907, and he has used his land for general farming and stockraising purposes. His farm is in sections 27 and 28 of Millgrove Township.

Mr. Knight married in 1901 Rosa Webb, a daughter of Arthur and Rosa (Case) Webb. Her father was born in England and came to Steuben County about 1845. Some further reference to the Webb family will be found on other pages. Mrs. Knight is a member of the Methodist Church. She was the mother of five children: Bertice, who died at the age of four months; Walter, Vira, Myrlen, and Albert.

ALBERT S. HILL. No man in Noble County stands higher in general esteem than Albert S. Hill, a substantial farmer of Wayne Township and with many interests that identify him with the life and affairs of that community. Mr. Hill's farm is in section 13 of Wayne Township.

He was born in Noble County November 16, 1865, son of Nicholas and Mary (Kinney) Hill. Nicholas Hill was born in Germany in 1824 and was sixteen years of age when his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Simon Hill immigrated to America and established their home in the wilderness of Noble County, Indiana. Nicholas Hill grew up there and spent his life as a successful farmer. He died April 5, 1902. He and his wife had the following children: Mary, unmarried; Lawrence, deceased; Arvilla, wife of William Wright, of Kendallville; Orange L., a farmer on the old homestead; Wilbur H.; Charles R., of Richmond, Indiana; Albert S.; Rilla, who died in 1918, the wife of Gottlieb Snyder. The father married for a second wife Frances Zimmerman, but her only child is deceased.

Albert S. Hill grew up on the old farm which was entered by his grandfather from the Government. He was educated in the district schools and was at home until after his marriage. September 30, 1886, he married Miss Emma C. Hovarter. She was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, November 11, 1866, daughter of Jacob and Mary Hovarter, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Germany, but brought to the United States when only eight years old.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill realized their ambitions after much denial and struggle and hard work. For seven years they were farm renters and moved to their present well kept farm in 1904. Mr. Hill owns 180 acres, and all of it represents what he and his wife have gained since their marriage. They have two children: Verne R., born October 22, 1889, is a graduate of the common schools, is a farmer in Noble County, but by his marriage to Cora M. Uhl has two children, Ruth May and Don A. Rus-

sell J., the second child, is a graduate of the common schools and married September 11, 1918, Leone Lasho.

Mrs. Hill is a member of the Methodist Church at Wayne Center. Mr. Hill is affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees Tent No. 52. Politically he has always been a steadfast republican. He uses his farm as a means of extensive operations in cattle buying and feeding. He buys carloads of sheep and cattle, feeds them for market on his farm, and thus does a larger stock business than the size of his farm would justify if he handled his animals through every stage of growth and development. He is also a stockholder in the Kendallville Fair Association.

JOSEPH M. SHEW was one of the citizens of Noble County whose memory deserve to be cherished long among his former associates and in the permanent records of the county. He was a man of great enterprise and usefulness, though physically a cripple, and did a great service as a teacher, an occupation he followed many years, and also at one time held the office of county treasurer.

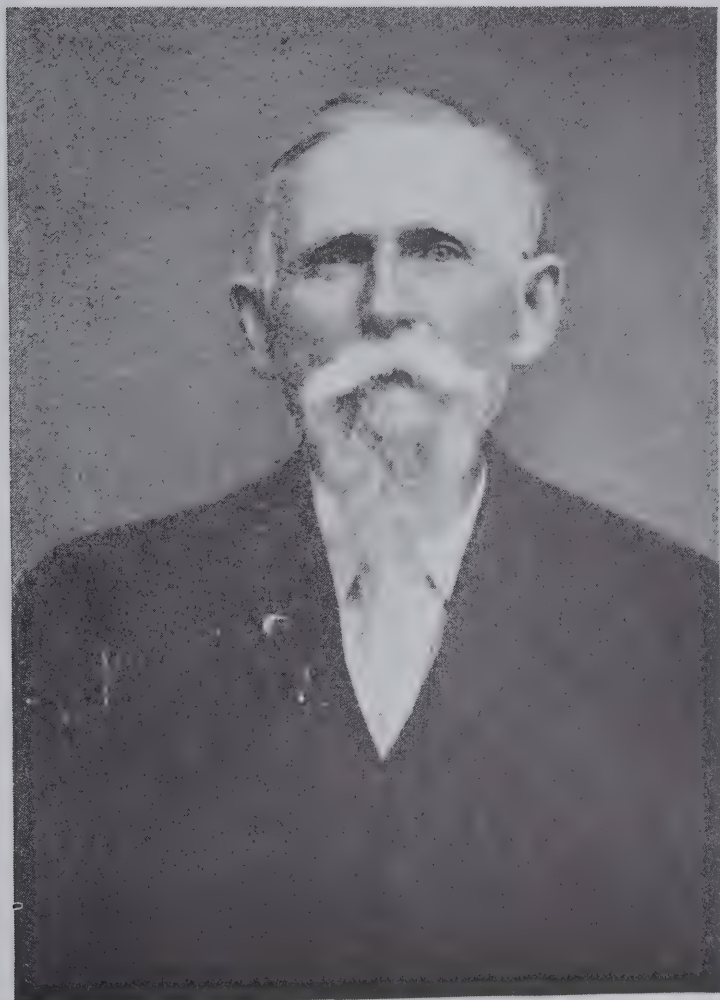
He was born in Ohio May 21, 1841, and came with his parents to Noble County, Indiana, when a boy. The family located in York Township, three miles north of Albion, and in that locality he grew up, attending the common schools and also the college at Wolcottville. He had a well trained mind, and used it as a teacher in the public schools of this county for twenty-eight terms. All the time he was teaching he lived on the farm. In 1889 he was elected county treasurer, and filled that office with signal ability for four years. He was always active as a republican and was a member of the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Albion.

He married for his first wife Melissa A. Niles, who died at the age of twenty-six. She was the mother of two children: Clarence W., cashier in Campbell & Felters Bank at Kendallville, and Bertha, wife of Clyde Bowman, a resident of Chicago. Mr. Shew married for his second wife Mrs. Almada (Deater) Spencer, widow of Clifford Spencer. Mrs. Shew, who is still living in Washington Township, on the farm of 110 acres, which is cultivated by renters, was born at Albion, Indiana, in 1860. By her first husband, Clifford Spencer, she had one son, who died at the age of fourteen months. Mrs. Shew is the mother of three children: Paul N., a mechanic at Warsaw, Indiana; Leila, wife of Floyd Feters, of Noble County; and William B., who lives with his mother. Mrs. Shew is a member of the Baptist Church and is affiliated with the Rebekah Lodge.

JORDEN PRIEST, owner of a good farm in section 17 of Washington Township in Noble County, was thrown upon his own resources at an early age, has fought the battles of life for himself ever since, and has earned material success and at the same time the substantial esteem of a large community.

He was born in Licking County, Ohio, June 11, 1855, son of George and Mary (Smith) Priest. His parents were also natives of Licking County, and George Priest spent all his life in Ohio as a farmer. After his death his widow married Matthew Wright, and they came to Noble County, Indiana, where she died. She was an active member of the United Brethren Church. George Priest and wife had nine children, five of whom are deceased, and the four living are: Allen, a farmer in Sparta Township of Noble County; George, a retired farmer at Kimmell; Jorden; and Olive, wife of Lewis Schlabach.





JOSEPH M. SHEW



Jorden Priest had opportunities to attend school in Ohio until he was about thirteen years old. At that age, in 1868, he left home and coming to Indiana accepted any opportunity for honorable employment that would give him a livelihood. He worked out on farms and continued in that way until past thirty years of age.

On November 28, 1889, he married Luella Prentice. She was born in Sparta Township of Noble County December 16, 1860, daughter of Nathaniel and Catherine (Rice) Prentice. Her father was born in New York State July 8, 1808, and her mother in Pennsylvania in 1822. Both the Rice and Prentice families were early settlers in Noble County, and Nathaniel and Catherine after their marriage settled on a farm in Sparta Township and spent the rest of their days there. Both were active church members and Nathaniel Prentice for many years dispensed local justice as a justice of the peace. He was a democrat in politics.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Priest settled on their present farm of eighty acres, and have since achieved independence and prosperity. They have one daughter, Mary C., who is a graduate of the common schools and of the Cromwell High School. She is now the wife of Oscar Correll, of Washington Township. Mr. and Mrs. Priest have one grandchild, Charles Edward. The family are members of the United Brethren Church and Mr. Priest is a steward, while his wife has been superintendent of the Sunday school for nearly thirty years. Politically he votes as a democrat, but never interests himself in politics beyond that.

**TOBIAS V. YODER.** At one time Tobias V. Yoder was known as a diligent and ambitious young farm hand, but long since he raised himself above that status into that of an independent farm owner and today he is regarded as one of the largest land owners and most extensive farmers and stock men in LaGrange County. His home place is in section 2 of Eden Township, known as the General Grain Farm, a place of 231 acres. That, however, is only part of his extensive holdings.

He was born in Eden Township April 9, 1870, a son of Valentine T. and Catherine (Schrock) Yoder. His parents were both born at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, his father September 23, 1842, and his mother in March, 1843. His father died April 10, 1913, and his mother July 23, 1918. Both the Yoder and Schrock families came to Indiana in early days, the former settling in Newbury Township and the latter in Eden Township of LaGrange County. Valentine Yoder after his marriage settled in section 4 of Eden Township, and spent the rest of his life there. He and his family were members of the Amish Mennonite Church. Of nine children eight are still living: John H., a farmer in Clear Spring Township; Tobias V.; Daniel V., a farmer in Clay Township; Joseph E., of Eden Township; Moses V. and Levi L., both of Newbury Township; Henry H., of Eden Township; and Gertie, wife of Joseph Hooley, of Newbury Township.

Tobias V. Yoder grew up on the home farm and attended the district schools to the age of fifteen. The following six years he worked as a hand for his father, and at the age of twenty-one had a team and some other property, which he used to run his father's farm for seven years. He then bought, rented, and for many years has lived at his present location. He began his land accumulations with 184 acres, and now owns 805 acres in LaGrange County, besides 160 acres in Kansas and 240 acres in Oklahoma. Through all the years he

has made much of his income by livestock. Mr. Yoder is a democrat and he and his family are active in the Amish Mennonite Church.

To him and his wife were born ten children, and the eight now living are: Lydia A., wife of David Christner; Lizzie, wife of Emanuel P. Miller; Rosa, widow of Brice Elliott; Rufus T., Valentine T., Mina E., Milo T. and Amsey T., all of whom are at home.

**GEORGE W. LOGAN.** The record of George W. Logan, of Clear Lake township, Steuben County, is that of a successful farmer, a man who has made his own way in the world, and out of his industry and good management has achieved material circumstances and civic esteem worthy of his many years of well directed efforts.

Mr. Logan was born in Clear Lake Township October 26, 1870, a son of Robert and Caroline (Ovenhouse) Logan. His father was born in Williams County, Ohio, in 1827, and his mother in Seneca County, Ohio, in 1838. They were married in that state and in 1869 came to Clear Lake Township, where they established a home on fifty acres of land. The father died there in the midst of his labors in 1877, and his wife in 1874. He was a democrat in politics. Their children were Lizzie, Samuel, Maggie (deceased), Thomas, Lettie, George W., and Clyde.

George W. Logan was only four years old when his mother died and seven when his father passed away. After that he grew up in the home of his sister Maggie, wife of Frank McElhenie. From the McElhenie home he attended the neighboring district schools and was early schooled in habits of industry and thrift. For a number of years he earned monthly wages. In 1894 he went out to Nebraska, worked there for three years and then bought 160 acres and rented other land. He was in Nebraska about seven years, and on returning to Steuben County in 1901 bought forty acres. He has since added another forty and has his farm well improved with good buildings and is doing a prosperous business.

Mr. Logan is a republican, and while living in Nebraska was affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. On October 26, 1893, he married Miss Alma Court. She was born in Salem Township of Steuben County in February, 1870, a daughter of Orrin and Mary (Brinker) Court. Her parents came to Steuben County from Marion County, Ohio, during the '60s. They settled in Salem Township and in 1873 moved to York Township, where her father died in 1887, at the age of fifty-four. Mrs. Logan's mother is still living and is now eighty-one years of age. In the Court family were ten children, named Fannie, Emma, John, Mary, Martha, Alma, George, William, Isora and Curtis. Mr. and Mrs. Logan have one son, Robert Q., born May 4, 1907.

**GREELY M. ZIMMERMAN.** Probably no one name has been longer or more continuously associated with the mercantile enterprise of Ligonier than that of Zimmerman. Sixty years ago one of the leading stores of the village, it was conducted by Jacob C. Zimmerman, and until recently one of the largest establishments patronized by the general public had as one of the proprietors Greely M. Zimmerman. In this enterprise he was associated with his brother and sister. In September, 1918, they closed out the business and are now engaged in real estate operations and looking after various properties they own. In many other ways he has been actively identified with the social and civic affairs of his home city, and is one of the most popular citizens.



He was born in Albion, Indiana, October 23, 1855, a son of Jacob C. and Sarah J. (Brown) Zimmerman. His father was born in Switzerland in 1827, and was brought to the United States when four years old, growing up in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. He first came to Indiana and located in Elkhart Township in 1849, and was married in this county. His wife was a native of Ohio. For about five years Jacob Zimmerman was clerk in a store at Albion, Indiana, and in 1857 moved to Ligonier, where he engaged in business for himself. He was a merchant almost half a century, until his death in 1903. In politics a republican, at one time he represented the counties of Elkhart and Noble in the State Legislature. He is the type of citizen who is frequently selected for places of trust and responsibility. He served eight years as trustee of Perry Township, and was also a member of the town council. He was a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, and a member of the Presbyterian Church. Jacob Zimmerman and wife had seven children, four of whom died in infancy. The three still living are: Greely M.; Frank W.; and Venona J., wife of S. C. Sackett.

Greely M. Zimmerman was two years old when his parents moved to Ligonier, and he grew up in that city, acquiring his education in the public schools. At the age of fifteen he took his place in his father's store, and had an uninterrupted career of business activity for nearly fifty years. He owns one-third of all the Zimmerman estate properties, also has other real estate, and has two farms aggregating 346 acres in Noble County. Like his father he has always affiliated with the republican party. He served sixteen years as treasurer of the City of Ligonier. He is prominent in Masonry, being affiliated with the lodge, Royal Arch Chapter, Council and Commandery, and also the Scottish Rite Consistory. He is a past illustrious master of Ligonier Council, Royal and Select Masters, No. 59, and for the past twenty-six years has been treasurer of his lodge, council and chapter. He is also affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

Mr. Zimmerman has two children by his first marriage: Beulah Z., a graduate of high school and wife of Henry D. Stone, living in Los Angeles, California; and Bonnie, wife of Capt. Charles A. Green, of Tampa, Florida. In 1909 Mr. Zimmerman married for his present wife Mrs. Sarah A. Baker Ward, a daughter of William H. Baker, of Goshen, Indiana.

**CHARLES E. PIPER.** For over thirty years Charles E. Piper has been working his way steadily toward prosperity and improved conditions for himself and family, and is noted as one of the leading farmers in Washington Township of Noble County. He owns a fine farm in section 11 of that township, his acreage comprising eighty-eight and twelve-one hundredths, devoted to the staple crops and livestock.

Mr. Piper was born in the same township October 3, 1862, son of George and Samantha (Shelpman) Piper. His father was born in Springfield, Ohio, in 1828, and his mother in Pickaway County, Ohio, in 1839. Her parents died when she was a small girl, and her uncle, Doctor Jones, brought her to Noble Township and gave her all the advantages of his home, sending her to school, and she remained with the Jones family until her marriage. George Piper and wife settled on a farm, and remained identified with agriculture until his death on September 14, 1907. His widow is still living. George Piper was at one time one of the largest farmers in Noble County, his operations being con-

ducted on 600 acres. He was especially a stock farmer. He finally divided his land among his children. He was active in every moral and religious cause, served for a number of years as a trustee of Washington Township, and one term as a member of the Board of County Commissioners, and during that term the present courthouse was constructed. He was also prominent in republican politics. He and his wife had eight children, six of whom are still living: Charles E.; William H., of Washington Township; Addie, wife of Harry Miller; George P., of Whitley County, Indiana; Dora, wife of Clarence Shew; and Della, wife of Harry Beasley.

Charles E. Piper grew up in the atmosphere of his father's large farm and early became acquainted with farm management and stock raising on an extensive scale. He contented himself with a common school education, and on January 10, 1885, established a home of his own by his marriage to Viola Breninger. She was a daughter of Daniel and Sarah Breninger, who died when she was a small girl, and she lived in the home of her sister until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Piper after their marriage lived on a place south of their present home, and since the fall of 1885 have had their home associations in one spot, and from that home and farm have radiated many influences and efforts that have been of benefit to the community. Mr. Piper is a stockholder in the Sparta State Bank, in the Kimmell State Bank and in the Ligonier Farmers and Merchants Trust Company. He is a republican, is serving as township assessor, and is a member of the Township Advisory Board. Mrs. Piper is a member of Stringtown Christian Church. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Wolf Lake and with Cromwell Lodge of Masons.

They have two children. Ray, a graduate of the common schools, married Ethel Humes and lives on the farm with his father. Jennie is the wife of Samuel H. Galloway, of Sparta Township.

**ANDREW J. RABER** is one of the quiet, unassuming citizens but thoroughly successful farmer in Noble County. He has acquired by dint of much exertion and long continued years of good management one of the good farms of Orange Township, located south of Rome City.

He was born in Portage County, Ohio, in June, 1849, son of Daniel and Mary (Dice) Raber. Both parents were born in Ohio, the mother in Trumbull County. After their marriage in that state they came to Indiana in 1854 and identified themselves with the new community of Orange Township in Noble County. Here the father after ten years of hard work in making a farm passed away in 1864 at the age of fifty. His widow survived him many years and died in Minnesota at the age of ninety-two. They had four children: Joel D., of California; Andrew J.; Saloma, widow of Carl Risch; and Amos O., of California.

Andrew J. Raber was five years old when brought to Noble County, and his memories of Orange Township go back fully fifty years. He attended the district schools of those days, and also completed a course in the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio. For a time he was a teacher, doing his first work in that line in LaGrange County and later for four terms conducted a school in Noble County. With that exception his career has been that of a practical and progressive farmer. March 29, 1877, Mr. Raber married Miss Clara M. Dyer. After their marriage they rented for several years in Orange Township, and by hard

work and careful saving then negotiated the purchase of sixty acres. Later they traded this for the farm where they now live and which contains eighty acres of well cultivated land.

Mr. and Mrs. Raber have five living children: Schuyler M., a graduate of the Huntington Business College in Indiana and now a traveling salesman with headquarters at Grand Rapids, Michigan; Henry F. is also a graduate of the Huntington Business College and is now manager of a business college at Huntington; Leona is a graduate of high school, was formerly a teacher, and is now the wife of Grant Burkett, of Rome City; Nellie and Ronald E. are both unmarried. Ronald is a graduate of high school, and served during the war in the United States Navy. He was discharged in June, 1919. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Rome City. Mr. Raber is a republican.

**CHARLES MOTSOLF.** In a period of about fifty-five years a tract of land in Salem Township has undergone great transformation and improvement under the ownership of the Motsolf family. Charles Motsolf was only an infant when his father moved there, and under his ownership he has carried forward the work which his father begun, and is now one of the prosperous and well circumstanced citizens of his locality.

Charles Motsolf was born at Ontario in LaGrange County, Indiana, September 12, 1862, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Noll) Motsolf. His mother was a native of Pennsylvania and a daughter of George and Nancy (Hall) Noll. George Noll was born in Pennsylvania in 1796 and came to Steuben County in 1839, living on a farm in section 11 of Salem Township until his death in 1862. The Nolls therefore are one of the pioneer families of Steuben County. Jacob Motsolf was born in Germany and left that country when a young man in 1844. He was a cooper by trade and found employment in a brewery at Cincinnati. Later he moved to Steuben County and after his marriage went to Ontario. His wife died there in 1864, leaving seven children: Mary, Debold, Eva Jane, Peter, Charles, George and Lennie. Of these only two are now living, Mary and Charles.

In the year of his wife's death Jacob Motsolf brought his children to Steuben County and bought the farm where his son Charles now lives. At the time of his death he owned sixty-seven and a half acres. He had begun with a log house, and had cleared up and put in cultivation a considerable part of the land.

In that locality Charles Motsolf grew to manhood and after his education went to work helping his father and eventually succeeding to the ownership of the homestead. His father a short time before his death had built the good home which now adorns the farm, and Mr. Motsolf himself has added a substantial barn to the improvements. Politically he is independent and a member of the Reformed Lutheran Church, the same faith which his father practiced.

March 20, 1883, he married Ida Zimmerman, of LaGrange County, daughter of Oliver Zimmerman, formerly of Noble County. Mr. and Mrs. Motsolf have one daughter, Effie, born February 5, 1885, and now the wife of David Ritter. Mr. and Mrs. Ritter have a daughter, Opal, born May 22, 1907. David Ritter is a son of David Ritter and grandson of Henry Ritter and member of one of the old and prominent pioneer families of Steuben County.

**CLEMENT G. ROUTSONG** is proprietor of the only dry goods store at Wolcottville, and has been a

popular and successful merchant of that town for many years. He is a thorough business man and has earned the trust and confidence of his entire community.

Mr. Routsong was born in Orange Township of Noble County September 13, 1874, a son of Benjamin and Julia (Routsong) Routzahn. His father was born in Stark County, Ohio, and his mother in Noble County, Indiana. Benjamin came to Noble County when a young man, bought a farm in Orange Township, and after selling it moved to Elkhart Township and acquired a place near Rome City. His last days were spent in Rome City, where his widow is still living. Both were active members of the German Lutheran Church. Benjamin Routzahn was a democrat and served as director of schools. Of his seven children the following brief record is given: Emory E., now retired from business and spending his summers in New Jersey and his winters in Florida; Sadie, wife of W. A. Hoke, of Hammond, Indiana; Ella, wife of Freemont Coldren, of Canton, Ohio; Clement G.; Rose, wife of W. A. Myrick, of Newport, Arkansas; Tilla, wife of Ned Jennings, of Rome City; and Oscar, of Hammond, Indiana.

Clement G. Routsong grew up at his father's home in Noble County and acquired a good preparation for his business career. He attended the common and high schools, and finished with a business course at Fort Wayne. While he has given closest attention to his business affairs Mr. Routsong has also been active in the democratic party. He received the nomination from his party for joint state senator from LaGrange, Noble and Steuben counties, but that year the democratic ticket was defeated.

Mr. Routsong married Lura De Owen, daughter of M. F. Owen, of Rome City, where she was educated, being a graduate of the high school. They have two children, Pauline De, a graduate of high school and now attending Defiance College in Ohio; and Maxine Jeannette, a high school girl.

Mr. Routsong is affiliated with Ionic Lodge No. 380, Free and Accepted Masons, is a past noble grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and his wife is a member of the Methodist Church.

**JOHN H. WILSON.** In Washington Township, Noble County, one tract of land and farm bears evidence of the labors and occupation of three generations of the Wilson family. John H. Wilson, of the third generation, is still living on a fine farm that was entered by his grandfather direct from the Government. The Wilson farm is six miles south of Cromwell.

His grandfather was Thomas H. Wilson, who came into the county in pioneer times and acquired 379 acres. He built a log cabin in the midst of the woods and for many years was busily engaged in making a home. All his efforts, however, were not confined to his farm, since he was one of the organizers and most active members of the Christian Church. He and his wife had eight children, all of whom are now deceased.

Thomas J. Wilson, father of John H., was also born on the Wilson farm in Washington Township. He grew up there, had a common school education, and spent his life as a practical farmer. He died in 1892. He was a democrat and served one term as township trustee. He married Nancy Rider, and both were very active members of the church. Mrs. Thomas J. Wilson is still living. She was the mother of three children, one of whom died in infancy. The two survivors are: John H.; and Stella, wife of John P. Beasley, and they still occupy a part of the old Wilson farm.

John H. Wilson was born at his present home



in 1862 and has spent his entire life in that one locality. He owns 239 acres, and in addition to his extensive farming interests is a stockholder in the Sparta State Bank and in the Farmers State Bank at North Webster. He is a democrat, but has never taken much part in politics. Both he and his wife are members of the Church of God, and he is one of the deacons of the church at Wilmot.

In October, 1885, Mr. Wilson married Barbara A. Huber. She was born in Washington Township March 29, 1865, daughter of Tira and Nancy E. (Black) Huber, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Ohio. They were married in Ohio and were early settlers in Washington Township of Noble County. Mrs. Wilson's parents are both now deceased. They were loyal church members, and her father was a Mason, a democrat, and for many years held the office of justice of the peace. He and his wife had six children, two of whom died in infancy. The four still living are: Lewis C., of Ohio; Nancy E., wife of John W. Bouse; Barbara A., Mrs. Wilson; and Jennie A., wife of Bert Himes. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson had two children, one of whom died in infancy, and the other, Mary E., died at the age of fourteen.

RICHARD HERRICK is a native of Otsego Township, is still living there, a prosperous and energetic farmer, and for nearly forty years has given the best of his energies and talents to his duties on the farm and in his community.

He was born June 10, 1854, son of W. C. and Lucy (Avery) Herrick. His father was born in Armenia Township of Dutchess County, New York, January 1, 1812, and died on the farm now owned by his son Richard April 7, 1872. His wife was born in Cayuga County, New York, March 18, 1813. W. C. Herrick was a son of James and Abigail (Castle) Herrick, who moved from Dutchess to Cayuga County, New York, where Abigail died. In 1833 James moved west to Sandusky County, Ohio, and spent the rest of his years there. W. C. Herrick came to Steuben County in 1840, settling in Otsego Township, on a tract of government land. Altogether he had 120 acres, and his individual labors cleared away the woods and made it productive. His first home was a log house. He and his wife spent their last years there. She died in 1882. He was a democrat in politics, but during Lincoln's time became converted to republicanism. His three children were Malinda, Rufus and Richard.

Richard Herrick lived at home with his parents to the age of twenty-four, and then went west and spent four years in different states and territories. In 1881 he returned to Steuben County and located on his present farm, where he has done much to improve the condition of the land and erect new buildings. He and his wife together have 100 acres, devoted to general farming and stock raising. He is a raiser of Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Herrick has been quite active in republican politics, though never a candidate for office himself.

In December, 1881, he married Margaret Ann Willenner. She was born in Wood County, Ohio, in 1844, daughter of John and Mary (Crumb) Willenner. Her parents came to Otsego Township about 1863, and spent their last years here. Mr. and Mrs. Herrick have two children. Cordia is the wife of Earl Allwood, of Edgerton, Ohio, and she has three children, named Zeda, Bernice and Dorothy. Rufus Grant, who lives at Morley, Michi-

gan, married Nettie Halverson, and they have three sons, named Richard M., Donaldson and Herbert.

JAMES M. SCHLABACH is a member of a prominent and rather numerous family that has been identified with Noble County for over half a century. He has spent many years of his life as a practical and progressive farmer, and is a stockman of good repute, well known as a horse buyer. His home is in Sparta Township, in section 33.

Mr. Schlabach was born in Pennsylvania, April 20, 1865, son of Henry and Mary A. (Young) Schlabach, both natives of Pennsylvania. His parents came to Noble County, Indiana, in 1866, locating in Sparta Township. His father bought forty acres of land at first and later had a farm of seventy acres. He was for two years a Union soldier in the Civil war, but was always a democrat in politics, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Church in Kimmel. Henry Schlabach and wife had a large family of ten children, seven of whom are still living, namely: Emma, wife of Henry Sparrow; John, of Goshen, Indiana; Samuel, of Kimmel; Sarah, wife of Elmer Williams, of Fort Wayne; Ella, wife of Stephenson Schlantz, of Kimmel; James M.; and George, of Sparta Township.

James M. Schlabach has lived in Noble County since early infancy, spent his early life on his father's farm and attended the district schools, and at the age of twenty started out to make his own living. For several years he worked on neighboring farms at monthly wages. January 23, 1886, he married Ida A. McFarren. She was born in Wabash County, Indiana, and had a public school education. Mr. and Mrs. Schlabach have had two children: Sylvia Schlabach, who was born October 28, 1886, died August 24, 1888, age twenty-two months. Walter E., born April 1, 1895, married Minnie Saltz and had one daughter, Alecia, who was born in March, 1916, and died March 27, 1919.

Mr. and Mrs. Schlabach are members of the Christian Church and in politics he is a republican. His home farm comprises fifty-four acres.

MONROE KEMERY, owner of one of the good farms of Salem Township, is a member of an old and well known family of Steuben Township. They came to this part of Northeast Indiana more than sixty years ago and have been participants in business and public affairs as well as in agriculture.

Monroe Kemery was born at Angola January 19, 1869, a son of Absalom and Rowena (Robbins) Kemery, and grandson of Jacob Kemery. Jacob Kemery was a native of Pennsylvania and died in 1838. His wife, Mary Loubert, was a native of Germany. Jacob and Mary had a family of six sons, two of whom died in infancy, one killed at the battle of Jonesboro in the Civil war, while all are now gone. One of them was Israel Kemery, long prominent in Angola as a landlord and also one of the county officials. He established the second harness shop at Angola in 1856.

Absalom Kemery was born at Lancaster, Ohio, and in 1855, on moving to Steuben County, settled on a farm  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Angola in Pleasant Township. About 1860 he left the farm and moved to Angola, and in 1861 enlisted in the Fourth Michigan Infantry. He was in service one year and was then discharged on account of disability. After the war he farmed until about 1872, and from that time until his death lived on a small place about a mile north of Angola. He died in January, 1919, and his wife in May, 1916. They were the parents of four children: Monroe, Carl, Lettie and Ernest D.



Absalom Kemery was affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic.

Monroe Kemery attended school at Angola and when a young man went to work in the sawmill of Croxton & Butz. He was with that firm for twelve years. Since then his activities have been directed to agriculture. In 1904 he bought forty acres of section 24, Salem Township, and in 1909 sold that and bought eighty acres in section 23. He has improved his farm with good buildings, and is making steady progress toward independence and prosperity. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of Pythias.

In 1889 Mr. Kemery married Olive Huffman, daughter of Wilson and Maggie Huffman. They have two children, Odessa and Wilson. Odessa by her marriage to Arch Parker has two children, Monroe and Ulamda. Her second husband is Noah Amyer.

EMMET W. BLACK is a member of one of the best known families of Noble County, and his own efforts and enterprise have been chiefly directed along the lines of farming and today he is proprietor of what is known as the Old Home Farm, comprising 156 acres located three miles southwest of Albion in York Township. Besides the home farm he also has a tract of sixty-two acres in the same township. This gives him all the land that he can handle, and he has kept this farm producing maximum crops for a number of years.

Mr. Black has spent most of his life in Noble County but was born in Stark County, Ohio, December 14, 1862. His father, J. W. Black, was born in Stark County, Ohio. His mother, Matilda M. Tyler, was born in Michigan. They were married in Ohio and in 1866 came to Noble County and located five miles southwest of Albion, on the land now owned by their son Emmet. J. W. Black was one of the diligent pioneers, a hard-working farmer, and spent many useful years on the farm where his son now lives. He was a republican and for six years served as assessor of York Township. In the family were eleven children, five of whom are now living: John W., of Canton, Ohio; Emmet W.; Charles, of Noble County; Calvin, of York Township; and Jennie, wife of David Young.

Emmet W. Black grew up on the home farm and was educated in the district schools. After reaching his majority he bought ninety acres and farmed that for several years, finally selling it and buying the old home farm.

April 19, 1894, he married Miss Ella Blackman, daughter of Sylvester Blackman. Mrs. Black was reared on the old Blackman farm and is a graduate of the common schools. They have three daughters: Gladys, who has taken one year in high school, and Alma and Mary, both graduates of the common schools. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church and Mr. Black is a trustee. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Albion and in politics is a republican. Besides his extensive farming interests he is a stockholder in the Albion Grist Mill.

VIRGIL S. GOODSSELL. There is no difficulty in identifying Virgil S. Goodsell as a resident of Milford Township, LaGrange County. He has been a public official, a live business man, a farmer, and altogether associated with the best interests of the community for many years. He is one of the proprietors of the Cannon & Goodsell Lumber Company at South Milford, and has recently closed a splendid term as township trustee.

He was born in Milford Township October 18,

1872, a son of William M. and Catherine (Stoehr) Goodsell. His father was born in Milford Township in December, 1840, and his mother was also a native of LaGrange County. Both are still living in Milford Township. The father is a democrat in politics. There were six children in the family, four of whom are still living: Augusta, wife of Frank Cochran; Treat M., deceased; Virgil S.; Nellie G., wife of A. E. Fraas; one that died in infancy; and Clara, wife of O. P. Newnam, of Milford Township.

Virgil S. Goodsell grew up on his father's farm, is a graduate of the district schools, and so far has been content with the status of a bachelor. He operates the old homestead, known as the Wigwam Farm, comprising 140 acres, situated five miles north and one mile east of South Milford. This farm is well known for its livestock, especially its thoroughbred Red Polled cattle. The Goodsells have produced some of the finest animals of this class, and their private sales are largely attended.

Mr. Goodsell is affiliated with South Milford Lodge No. 619, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is also a member of the Encampment. Politically he is a democrat. He is a former secretary of the Mercantile Association of Mount Pisgalia, the oldest association of its kind in the United States. This is a co-operative farmers' club or association and handles a general stock of merchandise. Mr. Goodsell was elected trustee of Milford Township in November, 1914, and closed up his term of office January 1, 1919. Many commendations have been paid his record as trustee, and all of them have been deserved. The accountants approved his books without a flaw, and he was especially successful in keeping up the schools of the township to a high standard and paid higher wages than many other townships in this part of the state.

ALVA HITE. For over fifty years Alva Hite has been numbered among the best and most useful citizens of Perry Township in Noble County. With the exception of four years he has lived all his life on one farm, which is located five and a half miles northwest of Ligonier.

He was born there January 13, 1867, son of Thomas W. and Harriet (Teaford) Hite. His father was born in Jay County, Indiana, March 31, 1839. He was a soldier in the Civil war, serving nine months. Both families moved to Noble County in early days, and Thomas and Harriet were married there and then located on the land now contained in farm of their son Alva. Thomas Hite was a man of much enterprise, good business judgment, and acquired 214 acres. He also earned a great wealth of community esteem, was an active republican, and a liberal supporter of the church. He and his wife had ten children, nine of whom are still living: Nelson, of Perry Township; Alva; Clara B., wife of Frank Baker, of Detroit; Laura M., wife of Harvey Hartzler; Luella, wife of Robert Cooper, of Albion; Bessie, wife of Harry Pincheon, of Albion; Nona, wife of John Baker, of Ligonier; J. C., of Ligonier; and Homer, a farmer in Perry Township.

Alva Hite attended the district schools during his youth and learned all the principles of good farming during the lifetime of his father. At the age of twenty-four he married Cora Crockett. She died in July, 1897, mother of one child, Faye, who was born March 28, 1897, and is now a clerk in the Stansberry store at Ligonier. Mr. Hite married for his second wife Inez A. Milner. They have five children: Anna, attending high school, Dean, Dora,

Thomas and Robert, all of whom are living except Robert. The family are members of the United Brethren Church. Mr. Hite is a republican in politics. While he had as a start toward an independent career a capital of about two thousand dollars, he has earned and made all the rest of his prosperity. He owns the old homestead of 134 acres and also thirty-nine acres in LaGrange County. He is a stockholder in the Ligonier Elevator Company and was a member of the Township Advisory Board when the township graded school was built.

JASPER B. GERKIN is a representative of one of the old and substantial families of Washington Township in Noble County, and has spent practically all his life there. He owns a good farm and is a man of most substantial citizenship. His home is in section 4 of Washington Township, five miles southeast of Cromwell.

He was born in Sparta Township of the same county in November, 1853, a son of Harmon and Mary (Beamblossom) Gerkin. His father was a native of Germany and came to the United States when a young man, locating in Ohio, where he married, his wife being a native of that state. They then came to Noble County and spent the rest of their days in Sparta Township, living in different localities there. Harmon Gerkin was an active member of the Broadway Christian Church. After the death of his first wife he married again and had five children by that union. By his first marriage there were four children, and the three still living are: Sarah, wife of George Gunder, of Albion, Indiana; William, of Texas; and Jasper B.

Jasper B. Gerkin grew up on the home farm in Sparta Township, attended district school there, and since early manhood, a period of nearly fifty years, he has been closely identified with the farming interests of that county. He is a general farmer and stock raiser, still giving active management to his farm of ninety acres.

Mr. Gerkin married Cecelia Knappe. She is a member of the old and prominent Knappe family of Washington Township and was born in Branchville, New Jersey, April 4, 1848, coming to Noble County with her parents in the spring of 1850. Mrs. Gerkin was well educated, and like her brothers taught school in this county. Mr. and Mrs. Gerkin had only one child, who died in infancy. They are prominent members of the Christian Church, and Mr. Gerkin is one of the trustees and his wife clerk of the church. He is a republican and is affiliated with Cromwell Lodge No. 408, Knights of Pythias.

CHARLES HAGERTY is the business partner and associate of his brother Emmet B. Hagerty in the mercantile firm of Hagerty Brothers at Scott. Both brothers are veteran merchants, and Charles Hagerty in early life had much practical experience as a farmer.

He was born at Scott in Van Buren Township June 28, 1858, a son of James and Amanda (Bond) Hagerty. He attended public school at Scott and in early manhood began farming in his native township. In 1887 he bought the interest of Charles Munger, then associated with his brother Emmet, and has since been an active partner in the firm of Hagerty Brothers.

Mr. Hagerty married Clara L. Moak on January 11, 1881. She is a daughter of Peter and Lovica (Satchel) Moak. Mr. and Mrs. Hagerty have a family of five children: Ethel, wife of Henry Ringler and mother of Oriel; Loa L., who was married to Fred Walton, and they have a daughter, Frances; Harold, who married Elizabeth Eash;

Dewey; and Wreta. Harold enlisted December 11, 1917, in Company Eighteen, Second Regiment, Air Service Mechanics, and left for overseas March 4, 1918. He saw service in France fourteen months, being discharged June 11, 1919. He was married after coming back from the war.

FERM BOWMAN. Of one of the most important institutions in the county, the Noble County Infirmary, FERM Bowman is by virtue of appointment from the Board of County Commissioners superintendent. He is a young man of many qualifications for the office and his administration has already been productive of many of the results which his friends predicted.

Mr. Bowman was born in York Township of Noble County September 28, 1879, son of Ream and Alvira (Saltzgaber) Bowman. His father is still living in Fort Wayne. Mr. Bowman was only eight months old when his mother died, and he grew up at the home of his maternal grandfather in York Township. He had an education in the common schools and at the age of fourteen he left home and since then has been making his own way in the world, dependent entirely upon his own efforts.

In January, 1913, he married Nora Jones, of Wayne Township, daughter of Edward Jones of Rome City. They have three children: Bulah, Karl and Merton. Mr. Bowman is a republican in politics and was appointed superintendent of the County Infirmary on January 1, 1918. He took up his duties March 1st of the same year, and holds the office for a period of four years. For a number of years before entering upon his present duties he farmed in Allen Township.

MINOR S. PERKINS is one of four brothers who are well known in the business, agricultural and civic life of LaGrange County. Minor S. has a well improved and valuable farm a mile west of Stroh.

He was born in Milford Township August 14, 1874, a son of Samuel and Emma (Mains) Perkins. Some of the interesting particulars in this old and well known family are found on other pages. Minor Perkins grew up on the home farm, located a mile south of where he now lives, attended the district schools, and in 1903 married Etta Ringler. She was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, and was educated in the common schools. Since his marriage Mr. Perkins has lived on his present farm and has cultivated and improved it so as to win a livelihood and constantly increase its value. In 1911 he built a modern home, one of the best in the township.

Mr. and Mrs. Perkins have two children: Bertha, born in 1905, and Floyd, born in 1907. Mr. Perkins is affiliated with Philo Lodge of Masons and is a republican in politics.

Like his brothers he has been prospered in business affairs. He is a member of the firm Perkins Brothers, owners of the Stroh Grain Company at Stroh. Individually he owns a half section of land and is one of the directors of the Farmers State Bank at Stroh.

JOHN M. WEIMER, whose farm home is two miles north and one mile east of Avilla in Noble County, is an example of those straight thinking, upright and hard working Americans who begin life with no special advantages, without capital, and who by an unlimited expenditure of labor, thrift and intelligence win good homes and independence.

Mr. Weimer was born in Allen Township of Noble County, July 29, 1857, and has lived in that locality





Jasper B. Gerkin  
Beulah Gerkin





practically sixty years. His parents were Adam and May (Hess) Weimer, both natives of Germany. They came with their respective families to the United States on the same vessel in 1848. Adam Weimer located at Toledo, where he worked at his trade, was also employed in the same line at Fort Wayne, and afterward married in Noble County, Indiana, and located on a farm near Avilla, where he spent his last years. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran church and he was a democrat. Of eight children six are still living: John M., Adam, Charles J. and Henry P., all farmers in Allen Township, Elizabeth, unmarried, and Paul, also in Allen Township.

John M. Weimer grew up on the home farm, attended the common schools, and as a youth started to learn the trade of carpenter. He acquired much skill in that line, and worked not only as a journeyman but also took individual contracts and followed the business for about thirty years. During that time he built a large number of barns and other structures throughout Noble County. From the age of eighteen until he reached his majority Mr. Weimer gave all his wages to his parents, and then started out even with the world to win his own fortune. He has had the coöperation of his good wife through all the years, and they have secured and developed a valuable farm of eighty acres, representing to them a good home and also an investment for their future years. Mr. Weimer has the farm well stocked.

January 1, 1887, he married Miss Susanna Diehm. She was born in Allen Township of Noble County and was educated in the common schools. One son was born to their marriage, Carl G., born March 10, 1890. He was educated in the common schools and for five years was a mail clerk in the United States Railway postoffice, having a run on the Wabash Railroad. He left that service to enter the army and remained with the colors until recently, now being at home. Mr. and Mrs. Weimer are members of the Lutheran Church and in politics he is a democrat.

THOMAS CURTIS is one of the men who are carrying some of the active burdens of farming and animal husbandry in Lima Township of LaGrange County, and he has been a factor in that community for nearly twenty years.

Mr. Curtis was born at London, England, December 19, 1871, and was only a few weeks old when his parents, Henry and Elizabeth Curtis, located in LaGrange County in February, 1872. He grew up at Howe, attended the grammar schools there and also the high school, and from early manhood has been identified with farming as his vocation. He bought his present farm in Lima Township, consisting of ninety-six acres, in 1906. It was well improved land but he has remodeled the house and barn and added a silo, and is doing a prosperous business as a general farmer and stock-raiser. Mr. Curtis is a republican and a member of the Episcopal Church.

In 1897 he married Miss Ada Abey, of Van Buren Township, daughter of Jacob Abey. She was reared in the home of her grandfather, Jacob Abey. Mr. Curtis died in 1910, at the age of thirty-three. She left one son, Leland H. J., born in October, 1898. He was educated in the public schools and high school at Howe, and is still at home with his father.

RUFUS C. FULLER is a native of Noble County, has had a busy and useful life as a farmer, and today owns one of the good farms of Washington

Township, located in section 1, three miles west of Wolf Lake.

He was born in York Township October 15, 1861, son of Cornelius and Mary (Grimes) Fuller, both natives of Ohio. After their marriage they located in York Township of Noble County and spent the rest of their days in that county. Cornelius Fuller was a carpenter and contractor, and built many houses and other structures that still stand to attest his skill. His wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Their children were named Melissa, Jacob, Samantha, Amanda and Rufus.

Rufus C. Fuller lived in York Township until he was six years old, when his parents removed to Noble Township, and since coming of age he has given his years to the pursuit of agriculture. His present farm comprises 120 acres, and it is well equipped and well stocked and represents a comfortable competence.

Mr. Fuller married May Richmond, who was born at Wolf Lake November 23, 1866, daughter of William and Letecia A. (Bethel) Richmond. Her parents were born in Ohio, were married at Wolf Lake, and her father was well known as a teacher, carpenter, contractor and farmer. Mrs. Fuller was reared on a farm, and attended school in Wolf Lake, Ligonier and Spring Hill. Mr. and Mrs. Fuller had five children: Bird, now deceased; Gertrude, wife of Roy Salmon; Letecia, wife of Don Braden; Ralph, a farmer; and Schuyler. Mr. Fuller is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Kimmell and in politics is a republican.

SHERMAN MORRIS. One of the oldest and most valued farm homes in Sparta Township is that of Sherman Morris, comprising 240 acres of rich and well cultivated soil which has been in the ownership of the Morris family since pioneer days. Sherman Morris was born on this farm July 15, 1868, has lived there all his life and has been a man of public affairs as well as a capable farmer.

His father, Andrew Morris, was born in Preble County, Ohio, November 6, 1828, and when ten years old, in 1838, the family moved to Kosciusko County, Indiana, and entered government land in Turkey Creek Township. The grandfather spent the rest of his days there. Andrew Morris married at Pleasantville, Indiana, March 17, 1859, Lavina Morrow, whose family were among the first pioneers of Noble County. She was born in Perry Township of that county in 1836, and died January 20, 1917. Andrew Morris and wife after their marriage settled in Sparta Township and spent the rest of their days there. His wife was a member of the Universalist Church, and he was a liberal supporter of that cause. He was very active and prominent as a republican and for three years was a member of the County Board of Commissioners and also assessor of Sparta Township. There were four children in the family: John C., of Sparta Township; Jennie, wife of J. F. Eagles; Sherman; and Manford, of Turkey Creek Township.

Sherman Morris received a common school education, and for thirty years applied himself to the practical business of farming the old homestead. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company at Ligonier.

On November 10, 1898, he married Rena Buchtel, who was born in Perry Township of Noble County, January 27, 1868. Mr. and Mrs. Morris have no children of their own but are rearing a daughter, Pauline Knapp, who was born March 29, 1905, and

is now attending the public schools. Mr. Morris is affiliated with Cromwell Lodge No. 729, Free and Accepted Masons, is past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias Lodge and has been a member of the Grand Lodge. In politics he is a republican. During his four years' term as trustee of Sparta Township he made a creditable record, and handled all the affairs entrusted to him, particularly the schools, in a way to satisfy the wishes and desires of a great majority of the people of the township.

WILLIAM PIEPER has for many years been one of the most industrious and capable farmer citizens of Noble County. His life has been productive in many ways, and among men in whom the people have confidence and who carry into private and public life every mark of esteem perhaps no one is better known than Mr. Pieper, who has been successful as a farmer and has held many of the offices of trust in his county.

He was born in Westphalia, Germany, November 15, 1847, son of Casper and Elizabeth (Simon) Pieper. His mother died in Germany, and his father spent his last years in the United States. William Pieper grew up in his native land and lived there to the age of twenty. His education was the result of attending the common schools to the age of sixteen. After that he spent four years selling hardware on the road during the winter seasons and helping his father on the farm in summer. He pursued this business so energetically that he was able to accumulate about \$1,000.

With this capital, which made him a rather wealthy immigrant, he started on August 5, 1868, for his future home in the United States. He was nineteen days on the ocean and landed at Baltimore October 5, 1868, and soon afterward arrived in Kendallville and from there went to Avilla, in which locality he has lived now for half a century. The first three months he was employed as a farm laborer, and then bought eighty acres three miles northeast of Avilla. There he built his first home in the county, and two years later he married Miss Rosa Vogeding. She was born at Dayton, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Pieper lived on their farm near Avilla for forty-four years, and then moved to his present place, where he has 160 acres in Allen Township and also owns a business house in Avilla.

Mrs. Pieper died September 7, 1917, after thirty-five years of married companionship. Five of her children are still living: Henry E., who graduated from Valparaiso College, taught in Noble County and for seven years was a teacher in the Philippines, and is now a teacher of Spanish at Valparaiso; Frank J., who is a hay inspector with the United States government at Toledo, Ohio; William, now living at Washburn, Wisconsin; Charles J., a graduate of high school and of Wabash College, was for four years a teacher in the University School at Chicago Heights and is now a chemist in Government service at Washington; and Lillie, a graduate of the Kendallville High School and keeping up the home for her father. Mr. and Mrs. Pieper also took into their household an adopted child, Hilda Heckman.

Mr. Pieper and family are members of the Catholic Church at Avilla. He is a democrat in politics. In 1884 he was elected trustee of Allen Township, and gave a competent direction to his official affairs for six years. He was elected a member of the County Council and served four years. For nine years, three successive terms, he was a county commissioner of the Middle District of Noble County.

AMOS C. SCHROCK is trustee of Van Buren Township in LaGrange County, and the good work he

is doing in that office is what was anticipated by his fellow citizens, who have long known him as a practical farmer and business man identified with every movement in the community for advancement and progress.

Mr. Schrock lives today on a farm where he was born December 12, 1873. He is a son of Cornelius Schrock, who was born in Holmes County, Ohio, in 1830, and a grandson of Peter and Fannie (Plank) Schrock, both natives of Ohio. Peter Schrock settled in Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1842, and lived there the rest of his life. His children were John, Abraham, Rachel, Mary, Peter, David, Joseph and Cornelius. Cornelius Schrock married Magdalena Bontrager, who was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, June 11, 1832, a daughter of John and Martha Bontrager. In 1871 Cornelius Schrock bought the farm in Van Buren Township now owned by his son, and was busy with its care and superintendence the rest of his life. He owned eighty acres. His death occurred January 27, 1913. He and his wife had a large family of children, named Peter, Cyrus, Joseph, Anna, Daniel, Isaac, John, who died at the age of sixteen, Henry, Eli, who died when two years old, Christ, David, who died at the age of two years, Amos and Andrew, who died in childhood.

Amos Schrock acquired a district school education in Van Buren Township and when sixteen left home and began earning his living as a monthly laborer. He followed this line of employment until he was twenty-three years of age. In 1893 Mr. Schrock left Indiana, spent one year in Nebraska, and after that lived in Kansas until 1900. He then returned to Van Buren Township and in 1902 bought the homestead of eighty acres in section 33. He also owns thirty-one acres in Newbury Township.

Mr. Schrock married Laura Marhofer April 4, 1898. She is a daughter of Valentine Marhofer, of Greenwood County, Kansas. To their marriage have been born three children: Marion V., a student in the Indiana State University; Jesse E., and Glendon L. Mr. Schrock was elected and began his duties as township trustee in January, 1919. During the four preceding years from January, 1915, he held the office of township assessor.

ALVIN R. ROUSH. This is a family name that has been identified with the good citizenship and agricultural activities of Washington Township in Noble County for a great many years. Alvin R. Roush is one of the younger members of the family and has had a successful career as a general farmer and stock raiser.

His farm of eighty acres is in section 19, and is the same farm where he was born in August, 1882. His parents were Alfred and Elizabeth (Rider) Roush. His father was a native of Ohio. His mother was born in October, 1849, on the same farm where she now lives with her children. Her father, Jacob Rider, was a pioneer in this section of Indiana, entered government land, and was long known for his upright and honest character. He had learned the miller's trade in Pennsylvania, beginning when he was sixteen years old and after he came to Indiana he built and for many years operated what was known as Rider's Mills. He was a democrat in politics. Jacob Rider lived to the age of ninety-four. Of his seven children only two are now living: Mrs. James Wilson and Mrs. Alfred Roush. Alfred Roush during the high tide of his activity as a farmer conducted and operated 250 acres of land. He was an active member of the Lutheran Church. He and his wife had nine children, and the four now living are: Harry, who is unmarried and lives with his mother; Alvin R.;



Nettie, a high school graduate and a former teacher, now the wife of A. D. Wilkinson of Whitley County, Indiana; and R. W., a resident of North Webster, Indiana.

Alvin R. Roush spent his entire life on the old farm. He was well educated, first in the district schools, later in high school for one year, and he also attended college at Hillsdale, Michigan, and at Angola, Indiana. On May 9, 1903, he married Orra Seymour, who was born in Noble Township and County June 7, 1881, and is a graduate of the Wolf Lake High School, after which she taught for five years, until her marriage. She is a daughter of George and Lydia (Howenstine) Seymour, of Wolf Lake. Mr. and Mrs. Roush have lived on their present farm since their marriage and have been steadily prospered, and already have surrounded themselves with all the circumstances of prosperous people, including a family of four bright young children. These children are: Francis, born October 19, 1904, now a student in high school; Alfreda, born in September, 1907; Thomas, born in January, 1909; and Georgie E., born in December, 1910. Mr. Roush is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Cromwell and is a democrat.

**KEEP LEMMON.** Several pages of this publication are given over to tracing the conspicuous facts in the record of the Lemmon family in Steuben County. In all their varied relations and long residence here they have proved themselves stalwart and worthy citizens, good farmers, good neighbors, and people of the utmost worth and value. They are one of the oldest families, and many of them have intermarried with other old families.

One of the younger generation is Keep Lemmon, a prominent farmer of Otsego Township. He was born in that township, May 19, 1869, a son of Brace and Dill (Crain) Lemmon and a grandson of Morris and Lucinda (Rathburn) Lemmon, who were the founders of the family in Northeast Indiana. Brace Lemmon was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, in 1845, had a common school education and after his marriage, which was celebrated in DeKalb County, settled on a farm now owned by Earl Lemmon. He cleared up much of that land and repeated that process with two other tracts of land. About 1889 he moved to the place now owned by his son Keep Lemmon, and lived there until his death in January, 1918. His first wife died in 1875, leaving two children, Lucinda and Keep. Brace Lemmon married for his second wife Diana Quick. They had four children: Lee, wife of Lewis Wallberry, a son of George H. Wallberry, the old soldier and well known citizen of Otsego Township; Bell, wife of Joseph Sewell; Phena, wife of Lafayette Wells; and Edna, wife of Glenn Greenwood. Grace Lemmon was a republican and a member of the Methodist Church.

Keep Lemmon grew up on the farm of his father in Otsego Township, acquired a good education in the district schools, and during his life has actively prosecuted his business as a farmer. He owns 179 acres, including the ninety-two acres last owned by his father. He gives his attention to general farming and stock raising. He is, like his father, a republican and a member of the Grange.

September 19, 1893, he married Miss Clarissa Fee, a daughter of Calvin Fee and a granddaughter of John Fee, who is recorded in history as the first settler of Otsego Township. Mr. and Mrs. Lemmon have two daughters, Myrtie and Marie. Myrtie is the wife of Basil Oberlin, a son of James Oberlin of Steuben County. Marie is the wife of Ford

Keppler, of Otsego Township. Both daughters are graduates of the high school at Hamilton, attended the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, and prior to their marriage were teachers.

**JOHN OTT** is a native son of Noble County, a man who has distinguished himself by enterprise and thrift and good judgment in all his relations with his community, and is one of the leading farmers of Noble Township. His home is in section 13.

He was born in Green Township of that county, March 31, 1852, son of Jesse and Docia (Brown) Ott. His parents were both natives of Preble County, Ohio, his father born December 1, 1822, and his mother in January, 1830. They were reared in Preble County, and after their marriage moved to Indiana in 1850, settling in the southern part of Green Township, where after clearing and improving their land they lived until their death. They were active members of the Christian Church, Jesse Ott serving as a trustee, and was a republican in politics. They were the parents of eight children: Cornelius; Amanda, wife of William Cucas; John; George, who is deceased; Fred; Abraham; Eli; and Alpha.

John Ott grew up on his father's farm in Green Township, and had only the advantages of the common schools, but has wisely improved his opportunities and is a man of wide inclination as well as much practical ability. For four years he worked out by the month, later rented, and since his marriage has acquired his present farm of seventy-four acres. Besides farming he follows the carpenter trade.

In November, 1879, Mr. Ott married Martha Manning. She was born in Allen County, Indiana, and received a common school education. Mr. and Mrs. Ott have a fine family of eight children, fourteen grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Their children are: Emmaretta, wife of William H. Huntsman; Mary, wife of George Edwards; Jesse, a farmer in Noble Township; Orvin, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; Nevada, wife of Leo Gaff; Clinton, of Noble County; Clara, wife of Archie Friskney; and William, still at home. The parents are members of the Baptist Church and Mr. Ott is a republican.

**OLIVER F. SCHUTT.** A substantial farmer of Clay Township, LaGrange County, is found in Oliver F. Schutt, who owns a well improved farm of eighty acres, which he devotes to grain and general produce and to the raising of standard stock. He was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana, March 20, 1863, and is a son of Christian and Mary (Seybert) Schutt.

The parents of Mr. Schutt lived at Erie, Pennsylvania, before coming to Warsaw, Kosciusko County, Indiana. The father died in this county in 1871, when aged forty-nine years. His children were as follows: Julia, Maria, Susan, Hannah, Martha, Henry, Aaron, Maggie, John and Oliver F. The mother was first married to Mr. Shue, who died during the war. One son, Jacob, was born to that union. The mother died in 1879.

Oliver F. Schutt was nine years old when he came to live in LaGrange County with his sister Susan, who was the wife of Davis Wolfe, a farmer in Van Buren Township, on the bank of Buck Lake. He was well taken care of, was sent to school and was taught to be a practical farmer. Later he bought his first farm, a tract of fifty-eight acres in Clay Township, but he soon sold that property and bought eighty acres six miles from LaGrange, in Newbury Township, and this he also sold and in 1912 came to his present farm of eighty acres in

Clay Township. Mr. Schutt may feel that he has done well, considering that he has had his own way to make in the world ever since boyhood.

In 1885 Mr. Schutt was married to Miss Emma Newman, a daughter of Rozaine H. and Almada Catherine (Laughlin) Newman. Formerly they were farming people in Van Buren Township but now live comfortably retired at LaGrange. Mrs. Schutt has one brother, Burr. Mr. and Mrs. Schutt have two children: Floyd, who was born July 24, 1886, is a farmer east of White Pigeon, Michigan, married Bessie Bollinger, and they have a daughter, Myrtle; and Verne, born May 10, 1888, who is a farmer in Bloomfield Township, married Nora Miller, and they have two children, Pauline and Virgil. The family belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. In politics Mr. Schutt is a republican.

SYLVESTER BLACKMAN is one of the oldest native sons still living in Noble County, and has spent more than three-quarters of a century there, during which time he has witnessed the upholding of nearly every condition which has important bearing upon the material prosperity and civilization of the present generation. Mr. Blackman was a veteran of the Civil war, and for half a century or more has been a practical farmer. He still lives on his fine farm in section 20 of York Township.

He was born in that township, October 6, 1842, the son of Elisha and Amy (Rollins) Blackman. Elisha Blackman was born in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, August 1, 1801. He went to Ohio in early life and at Troy in Miami County of that state married Amy Rollins on October 23, 1824. She was born in Miami County, Ohio, September 2, 1808. Elisha Blackman and wife were among the earliest settlers of Noble County, locating in the year 1836 at Roudy Ridge, where he entered a tract of land comprising eighty acres. He was a blacksmith by trade, and set up a shop in the woods and did more mechanical work than he did farming. After several years he sold his first place and bought eighty acres near where his son Sylvester now lives. There he divided his time between his blacksmith shop and his fields. In religious faith he was a Swedenborgian, and in politics was formerly a whig and later a republican. He died February 29, 1872, and his wife died May 16, 1860. They were the parents of thirteen children.

Sylvester Blackman grew up in a pioneer community and attended school in a log schoolhouse. Altogether he received only a few months of schooling. A few weeks after his twenty-first birthday, on December 23, 1863, he enlisted in Company B of the Twelfth Indiana Infantry, and fought in active service from that time until the close of the war. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea and was honorably discharged from the service at Louisville, Kentucky, July 15, 1865. He returned home and during all the years since then has been busily engaged in farming.

On October 29, 1867, he married Mary Jane Burns, who died forty-five years later, on April 4, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Blackman are the parents of seven children. All are living except Frank, who died March 10, 1904. He was a graduate of the Ligonier High School. Ella, the oldest, is the wife of Emmet Black of York Township; Joseph E. married Lillian Dennison and William married Olive Smith. Gertrude, Thaddeus and Anna are all unmarried. Thaddeus is a graduate of the University of Chicago, with a degree Bachelor of Philosophy.

Mr. Blackman is a member of the Sparta Christian Church, and served twelve years as a trustee of the Eel River Christian Conference. He was

made a Mason January 4, 1864, at Albion, Indiana. He is also a member of the Royal Arch Chapter and Council at Ligonier, and is a Knight of Pythias. In politics he is a sterling republican. Mr. Blackman is a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company at Ligonier. He lives on his fine farm of 277 acres and enjoys the comforts of a fine modern home.

MANASSAS M. BORINTRAGER is one of the well known residents of LaGrange County, and occupies a fine farm which he bought and paid for out of his earnings as a practical agriculturist, and which is situated three miles west and four miles north of Topeka.

He was born in section 4 of Eden Township, November 24, 1879, a son of Manassas J. and Lydia (Yoder) Borntrager. This is an old and well known family of LaGrange County, and his paternal ancestors make a long line of Americans who have been in this country for more than a century and a half.

Mr. Borntrager grew up on his father's farm, attended district school to the age of seventeen, and then worked at home until reaching his majority. On January 19, 1905, he married Elizabeth Miller, who was born in Clear Spring Township, April 23, 1887, a daughter of Emanuel and Anna (Slabaugh) Miller. Mrs. Borntrager grew up on her father's farm in Clear Spring Township and attended the common schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Borntrager lived for one year on her father's farm, then bought eighty acres in Clear Spring Township, but after four years sold that place, rented one summer and in 1912 bought the 120 acres comprising their present well managed and valuable farm, which is devoted to general crops and livestock.

Mr. and Mrs. Borntrager have seven children, named Emanuel, Urias, Sylvia, Anna, Amos, Noah and Manassas. The family are members of the Amish Mennonite Church.

GEORGE M. BROWN. There is a dignity connected with work well done, and a satisfaction that comes of industry and thrift in living. The man who early realizes that whatever is worth attempting is worth executing to the best of his ability is the man who wins out in life's contest. The measure of a man's ability is found in the esteem in which he is held by his associates. Those who meet him in the everyday vocations know just what he can and will do, and how he handles the problems presented to them all. Some fall far below the average, but there are others who set the pace, and in no line of endeavor is this truer than in farming. In reviewing the work of Steuben County agriculturalists the biographer is struck by the fact that certain ones are deserving of special mention, and it may be truthfully said that if ever there was a leader in a farming community in whom the people for a wide radius placed implicit trust it is George M. Brown of Otsego Township, who is now serving his county as commissioner.

George M. Brown was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, November 24, 1863, a son of Moseley and Eliza (Abbot) Brown. Moseley Brown was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, and died at Angola, Indiana, in January, 1873, while his wife, who was born in the same county as her husband, died in 1868. In 1869 Moseley Brown moved to Michigan, but after a year in that state came to Angola, where he worked as a teamster until his death. He and his wife had the following children: Mary, who married George Sage; Martha,





Geo. M. Brown





who married Henry Kankamp; Cella, who married George Elliot; George M., whose name heads this review; and Leland, who was the youngest.

After the death of his father George M. Brown went to live with his uncle at Ray, Steuben County, remaining with him until he was eighteen years old, and during that period attended the district school. He then became a student of the Fremont High School, and still later of the Tri-State College at Angola, earning the money for the latter courses by selling books through Ohio and Virginia during the winter of 1881-2. Having thus prepared himself, Mr. Brown began teaching school, his first appointment being to the Farnham School in Fremont Township, Steuben County, where he remained two years, and then for an equal length of time he taught in Otsego Township.

In 1888 Mr. Brown entered upon the line of work for which he was so pre-eminently fitted, commencing his operations on a hundred-acre tract bought for Mr. and Mrs. Brown by Mrs. Brown's father. From the start he succeeded, and he has kept on adding to his farm until he now owns 400 acres of as fine land as there is in the township, and on it he carries on general farming and stock raising. In addition to his farming Mr. Brown is at present manager of the Co-operative Shipping Association of Hamilton, Indiana, and he has handled considerable livestock during the past ten years. In 1908 Mr. Brown's fellow citizens elected him trustee of Otsego Township, and he served in that office until January 1, 1915. They further testified to their appreciation of his abilities by electing him commissioner of Steuben County in 1917, he assuming the duties of that office in 1918.

From boyhood it was Mr. Brown's ambition to become the owner of a farm of considerable size, but never did his fondest hopes attain to the reality of today. He is essentially a self-made man, is proud of the fact, and has every reason to look with pride on what he has accomplished. Not only is he a man of wealth, he is much more, a man of the highest character, whose stability and power of concentration have placed him among the worthwhile men of his state. His present prosperity has been attained after almost incredible persistence and determination, and while he has made such a material advance, he is still the incarnation of probity and kindness, of steadfast devotion to his duty as he sees it, and the needs of the whole community. He is living a life full of inspiration to his neighbors, and it is but natural that he should receive popular recognition in the future as he has in the past.

On March 1, 1888, Mr. Brown was united in marriage with Alma M. Williams, a daughter of Ephraim B. and Martha (Cooper) Williams, and they have one son, Harold F., who is engaged in farming with his father. This son married Pearl Lautzenheiser, and they have a daughter, Zelda Ruth.

Ephraim B. Williams was born in Orleans County, New York, January 10, 1833, the fifth child of Henry R. and Mary Ann (Case) Williams, who brought their family to Jackson Township, Steuben County, Indiana, in 1836, their arrival in the county being saddened by the death of the good mother December 2d of that same year, of tuberculosis. She had borne her husband the following children: Hamilton, Maria, Wallace, Ephraim B. and one who died in infancy. Two years later Henry R. Williams was married to Philma Town, and in 1842 removal was made to Otsego Township, where he bought 100 acres in section 9, and there he died October 9,

1879, when in the eighty-fourth year of his life. His widow survived him until 1882. There were no children of the second marriage.

The boyhood and youth of Ephraim B. Williams was spent in Steuben County, he alternating attendance in the district schools with hard work on the farm of his father, and he grew up strong and self-reliant, so that when he began farming on his own account he had a practical knowledge of the work and was able to carry it on successfully. He bought a farm in section 17, Otsego Township, and was engaged in agricultural work all his active life, becoming one of the wealthy men of his neighborhood, and the owner of 280 acres of valuable land. In 1893 he moved to Angola, where he lived in retirement until his death, September 28, 1905.

In 1857 Ephraim B. Williams was united in marriage with Susan Pearce, and she died June 15, 1863. On February 18, 1864, Mr. Williams was married to Martha Cooper, and they had three children, namely: Alma, Lucy and Susan. In his political views Mr. Williams was a republican, and always supported the candidates of his party.

Martha (Cooper) Williams was born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, August 27, 1833, a daughter of William and Lucy (Thomas) Cooper, both of whom were natives of Pennsylvania. In 1844 William Cooper came from Pennsylvania to Steuben County, Indiana, locating in Richland Township, where he spent the remainder of his life, dying in 1868. He and his wife had the following children: Elizabeth, Mary, Martha, Sarah and Anna.

ELLIS SMITH is counted among the progressive farmers who have done most for the agricultural uplift in Perry Township of Noble County. Mr. Smith has for thirty years or more been a farmer, and owns a fine farm and corresponding improvements in section 32 of Perry Township.

He was born on an adjoining farm in the same township February 7, 1864, a son of Benjamin F. and Charity (Lane) Smith. His father was twelve years old when brought to Noble County and was a son of Jacob and Abigail (Bloomer) Smith. Benjamin Smith's early education was largely neglected, and he was put on his own responsibility at an early age. How well he made use of his opportunity in his struggle with adversity is indicated by his accumulation of 230 acres of land. He was a republican in politics. He and his wife had ten children. Those still living are: Emma, wife of Emmett Caldwell; Ellis; Hattie, wife of Andrew Umbenhower; Howard, of Kentucky; William H., of Whitley County; Elizabeth, wife of Thomas Cass, of Perry Township, on the old homestead of her father; and Clara, wife of Thomas Kensler, of Panama.

Ellis Smith grew up on his father's farm and acquired a common school education. He lived at home to the age of twenty-four. On October 3, 1888, Miss Anna Earll became his wife. She was born in Noble County in August, 1865. Six children have been born to their marriage: Ralph, the oldest, married Ruth Harper. Emmett is a graduate of the Ligonier High School, attended the Tri-State Normal at Angola, and has been a teacher. He married Henrietta Murry and is now a farmer. Ruth, the youngest of the family is a graduate of the common schools, attended the State College at Angola, and is a successful teacher in Sparta Township. Three are deceased, Ben E., Frank L., and Albert.

Mr. Smith as a farmer specializes in registered Hereford cattle. He owns 285 acres, all joining and in one farm. He is a stockholder in the Farm-

ers Elevator at Ligonier and also of the Citizens Bank of that city. Politically he is affiliated with the republican party.

CHARLES J. WALKER, whose home and farm are in Union Township  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles east of Auburn, is a member of an old and prominent family in DeKalb County.

His grandfather, John R. Walker, was born in Yorktown, Pennsylvania, in 1808, and married Catherine Frumrine. In 1835 he moved to Columbiana County, Ohio, and in 1844 came to DeKalb County and bought 160 acres in section 35 of Smithfield Township. He cleared most of the timber from the land and in 1860 bought another quarter section.

George K. Walker, a son of this pioneer, was born in Indiana, in Smithfield Township, and married Anna Ashelman. She was a daughter of John W. Ashelman, who became one of the largest land owners in DeKalb County. George K. Walker and wife were married in DeKalb County and are now living at Waterloo, Indiana. They are members of the United Brethren Church and the father is a democrat in politics. There are four children: John, of Grant Township; Alice, wife of Charles O. Spear; William, of Smithfield Township; and Charles J.

Charles J. Walker, who was born on a farm in Smithfield Township December 3, 1880, was educated there in the district schools and is a graduate of the Waterloo High School. For ten years he has been a prosperous farmer and a breeder of Holstein cattle. He is a democrat and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. December 24, 1912, he married Mary Funk. She was born in Allen County, Indiana.

THEO WRIGHT is a citizen who has been identified with the affairs of Sparta Township for thirty years or more, and always in some useful and public-spirited way. He is a practical farmer and his home is three miles southeast of Cromwell, in section 27.

He was born in the same township February 15, 1868, son of Alexander and Margaret (Hull) Wright. His parents were natives of Ohio, but were married after they came to Noble County, and then lived on a farm in Sparta Township. Alexander Wright had a record as a Union soldier during the Civil war. He was for two years a private in Company A of the Ninth Ohio Cavalry. After the war he joined the Grand Army of the Republic and was a republican in politics and served as road supervisor for Sparta Township. He and his wife had five children: Theo; W. R., a hardware merchant at Cromwell; Rosa, wife of William Crow; Melvin, a farmer in Whitley County; and Arthur, also of Whitley County, Indiana.

Theo Wright grew up on his father's farm, had a district school education, and when fourteen started out to make his own way in the world and his experiences and achievements since then have indicated his self-reliance, his initiative and energy in making the best of his opportunities. He has always been a hard worker, but reached the age of twenty-one with very little capital.

February 11, 1891, he married Clara A. Galloway, a daughter of Anderson Galloway, a well-known citizen of Noble County elsewhere referred to. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wright rented the Scott Galloway farm for several years. They are the parents of three children. Ercell is a farmer in Kosciusko County; Clarence served with Remount Squadron No. 323 with the Expeditionary Forces in France; Elma is a graduate of the common schools and now a student in high school.

Mr. Wright is the present assessor of Sparta Township. He is also a director in the Farmers Mutual Aid Association, and is a leading republican. He is now in his second term as township assessor, serving one term of four years and being re-elected for a consecutive term. He is a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, past grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and also a member of Cromwell Lodge No. 705, Free and Accepted Masons. Mr. Wright and family reside on a farm of twenty-three acres.

ARCHIE L. CARPENTER, who has spent all his life in Northeast Indiana, is a capable young farmer, a resident of Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County, in which locality he has had his home since about the time he received his first instruction in the common schools. He was born in Noble County, December 9, 1876, a son of John and Lucelia (Hervey) Carpenter. His mother was born in Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County, in 1840. His father was born in May, 1837, in Cass County, Michigan. After his parents married they settled in Noble County and later moved to LaGrange County. The father was a republican and the mother a member of the Methodist Church. Of their three children two are still living: Warren W., deceased; Ella, widow of Abe Gipson; and Archie L.

Archie L. Carpenter was six years old when his parents moved to LaGrange County, and he grew up on the farm which he owns today. He has fifty acres of land, well cultivated and improved, and constituting one of the good homes of that part of the county. He received his early education in the district schools.

In 1896 he married Miss Esta Bowman. She is a native of Elkhart County, Indiana, and received a common school education. To their marriage have been born eight children: Adren, a farmer, married and living on the home farm; Lee, who is married and is a farmer; Elsie, wife of Mr. Poiser; Miles, Retha, Kenneth, Fern and Ruby, who are the younger children still at home. Mr. Carpenter is a republican and a member of the Church of the Brethren.

DANIEL J. YODER. While he has reached that enviable period in life when he might be classified as retired, Mr. Yoder is still living on his farm a mile west and half a mile south of Topeka. He has turned over the burdens of management of this farm to his son, and has lived in that same place since his marriage.

Mr. Yoder was born in LaGrange County October 12, 1857, a son of John S. and Catherine (Stahley) Yoder, the former a native of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Stark County, Ohio. His parents were married in Indiana, and spent the rest of their days in LaGrange County. They were active members of the Maple Grove Mennonite Church, and the father was a republican voter. Their five children were: Samuel W., of Eden Township; Daniel J.; Emanuel C., of Goshen; Melvin A., of Eden Township; and Alvin E., of Goshen.

Daniel J. Yoder attended district school and lived at home to the age of twenty-one, and helped his father run the homestead for several years. On February 18, 1886, he married Emma C. Burkholder. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, February 29, 1860, grew up in that county and attended the common schools there. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Yoder began farming on the place which they still own and where they still reside. They are



members of the Maple Grove Mennonite Church. Mr. Yoder is a republican and a stockholder in the State Bank of Topeka. His farm is well stocked with grade Holstein cattle and a specialty of the farming is the raising of pure blood White Leghorn chickens.

Their only son, Edwin J. Yoder, was born December 2, 1889. He is a high class young farmer with an interest in the scientific as well as the practical side of agriculture. He graduated from the Topeka High School, attended Goshen College and also took a course in Purdue University. He married Mollie Stoltzfus, and their three children are Geneva, born January 7, 1914; Gerald, born December 6, 1915; and Gladys Louise, born June 5, 1919.

**SHERMAN STRAWSER.** Though a resident of the village of Salem Center, Sherman Strawser is still active in the management of his extensive farming interests in Salem Township. He has worked the lands and raised crops in that vicinity for thirty years or more, and to some extent still specializes as an onion grower.

Mr. Strawser was born in Defiance County, Ohio, November 8, 1864, a son of George W. and Rhoda J. (Rose) Strawser. His father, who died May 26, 1914, at Hudson, where he had lived for several years, was a native of Ross County, Ohio, but from 1843 grew up in Defiance County. On August 15, 1861, he enlisted in Company D of the Thirty-Eighth Ohio Infantry, and served until July, 1865, nearly four years. He was color bearer of his regiment in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River, Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and Jonesboro. The Thirty-Eighth Ohio was one of the hardest fighting regiments in the war. George W. Strawser was wounded at Jonesboro, where his regiment lost heavily. After the war he returned to Ohio and married Rhoda J. Rose, who was then the widow Higbee, her first husband having died while a Union soldier in 1863. In 1872 George W. Strawser moved to Steuben County and in 1881 bought a farm of 170 acres in section 21 of Salem Township. He and his wife had five children: W. T. Sherman, Amanda J., George D., Mary C. and John W.

Sherman Strawser attended his first school in Defiance County and from the age of eight has lived in Steuben County, where he attended school in Otsego Township. He also for a time was a student in the schools of Salem Center. He began working on his father's home farm two miles south of Salem Center and later became independent manager of that place, which he farmed continuously until 1916. He has since rented the farm to his son, Earl, and in the spring of 1919 moved to a comfortable home in the village of Salem Center. He owns 170 acres formerly owned by his father, and during his proprietorship has rebuilt the barn and put on several other buildings. Mr. Strawser is affiliated with the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America, belonging to the Masonic Lodge at Hudson and the Odd Fellows at Salem Center.

In 1890 he married Miss Della M. Anstett, a daughter of George W. and Mary Jane (Wilsey) Anstett. Mr. and Mrs. Strawser have seven children, named George Earl, Verna May, Verda J., Carl, Wayne, Wade and Ruby. The first four are married. George L. married Emma Wilcox; Verna is the wife of Daniel Tritch and has two children, Philus and Fay, Verda is the wife of Ralph Daily; while Carl married Imo J. Bassett and has a daughter, Mildred.

**FINLEY C. FULLER** is known to a majority of citizens all over Noble County, and every one in

York Township knows and esteems him for his success in life and the high stand he has taken as a citizen and neighbor and friend.

The farm that he now owns was the scene of his birth on May 1, 1856. He is a son of Robert L. and Margaret J. (Coleman) Fuller, his father having been born in New Jersey July 10, 1822, and his mother in Guernsey County, Ohio. Robert L. Fuller went to Ohio and married in Guernsey County, and after four or five years there moved to Noble County, Indiana, in 1854. At that time he acquired the land contained in the present farm of his son Finley, and altogether owned 200 acres. He was one of the prosperous farmers of his generation, and a man active in other lines, prominent in the Methodist Church and a staunch republican. There were five children in the family and the three still living are: Basil, a retired farmer in York Township; Finley C.; and Alice, wife of Frank Bennett, of Warsaw, Indiana.

Finley C. Fuller grew up on the home farm and had a district school education. At the age of eighteen he began learning the carpenter's trade, and for forty-four years of his life he followed contracting, and he still takes contracts. He owns and lives on his farm of 184 acres in sections 24 and 32 of York Township.

November 21, 1877, Mr. Fuller married Samantha Ann Waltman. She was born in Noble County. Mr. and Mrs. Fuller have four living children: Bessie, a graduate of the common schools, is the wife of Orpheus Earnhart and lives in Elkhart County, Indiana; Mabel is a graduate of the common schools and was also well trained in music, and is the wife of Marion C. Hursey of South Borman, Michigan; Bertha is a graduate of the common schools and the wife of James Dazey, and they live on the farm with her father; and Harry B. is engaged in contracting with his father. Mr. and Mrs. Fuller are members of the Presbyterian Church and he is one of the elders in the York Church. He is affiliated with Albion Lodge No. 97, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with Kendallville Chapter No. 64, Royal Arch Masons, and both he and his wife are members of Prentiss Chapter of the Eastern Star at Albion. In politics Mr. Fuller has given staunch allegiance to the republican party since he cast his first vote. The people of York Township still have grateful appreciation of the service he rendered as trustee from 1891 to 1895. He was also for two years a member of the County Council.

**HENRY P. WEIMER.** The best years of his life Henry P. Weimer has given to the business of farming, and the results of his efforts stand out conspicuously to the traveler through Allen Township of Noble County. Mr. Weimer's farm is four miles southwest of Kendallville.

He was born in Allen Township, September 23, 1866, a son of Adam and Mary (Hess) Weimer. His father was born in Germany, July 29, 1819, and there learned the trade of shoemaker. On coming to the United States he located in Toledo, Ohio, and married there Mary Hess. She was born in Germany in 1832 and came to the United States on the same vessel with her future husband. Adam Weimer worked steadily at his trade as a shoemaker in Toledo two years, and one of his children was born there. Later he moved to Fort Wayne, worked at his trade there several years, and in the meantime invested in forty acres of raw land in Allen Township, Noble County. About 1851 he moved his family to this land, and he was steadily identified with the farm and with the local citizenship the rest of his days. He died honored

and respected July 27, 1903, and his wife died July 27, 1890. In their family were eleven children, and the six still living are John, Adam, Charles, Henry P., Lizzie and Paul.

Henry P. Weimer grew up on the old farm in Allen Township, and since reaching manhood has made his own way in the world. He had a common school education, and at the age of twenty-one left home to become a farm laborer. Since then he has graduated into the role of an independent farmer, and now has eighty acres, of good soil, well cultivated, and constituting one of the best farms of Allen Township.

November 18, 1897, he married Miss Dora Diehm. She was born in Allen Township, February 16, 1872, a daughter of George and Johanna (Wehmeyer) Diehm. Her father was born in Noble County, Indiana. Her mother was born in Germany and was brought to the United States at the age of twenty-one. Mr. and Mrs. Weimer have one daughter, Elsie H., born September 13, 1899. She graduated from the common schools in 1915 and is still at home. The family are all members of the Lutheran Church. In politics Mr. Weimer is an independent voter.

GEORGE STRAW is the present assessor of Clear Lake Township, beginning the duties of that office when his term as township trustee left off. That is evidence of his high standing as a citizen, and he is also one of the capable farmers of that locality and has spent the greater part of his life as an agriculturist in Steuben County.

The history of Steuben County has frequent records concerning the Straw family. His grandfather, Frederick Straw, was born in Pennsylvania, June 9, 1811, a son of George and Elizabeth (Gearhart) Straw. Frederick Straw came from Pennsylvania to Steuben County in the spring of 1856, buying land just west of Fremont. He became owner of 180 acres, constituting one of the best farms in the township. Frederick Straw was a democrat until the republican party came into existence, and after that affiliated with the new organization. In 1832 he married Catherine Wagner, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1813. She died in 1871, the mother of eight children: Elias, Anna, Elizabeth, George W., Frederick, Amanda, Benjamin and Philip A.

Elias Straw, father of George Straw, was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, November 9, 1834, and died in 1892. In 1855 he married Catherine Baker, a native of the same county, born in 1839, a daughter of Frederick Baker. The year after their marriage they came to Steuben County, locating at Fremont when it contained only two general stores. Elias Straw soon bought land in section 28 of Fremont Township, and in 1864 acquired another farm of 120 acres, where he spent the rest of his active life. He was a republican, and he and his wife were members of the Evangelical Association. They had eight children: William, John, Albert, Granville, George, Harvey, Augusta Jane and Hermie.

George Straw who was born in Fremont Township, August 2, 1868, acquired his education in the district schools there and the high school at the Village of Fremont. Along with farming he has had much business experience. As a young man he clerked a year in a dry goods store at the Village of Ray. In 1890 he went to Iowa and was a salesman of agricultural machinery, with headquarters at Columbus Junction, for one year. On his return from Iowa he began farming in Fremont Township, lived there until 1909, and then sold his property and

bought his present place in Clear Lake Township. He has 112 acres in section 18, and during his ownership all the buildings have been remodeled and improved. He handles much good stock, being a breeder of Holstein cattle.

Mr. Straw served as township trustee from 1914 to 1919, and in the fall of 1918 was elected assessor.

In 1891 he married Miss Lulie Young, a daughter of L. I. C. and Elizabeth (Potter) Young. Her father was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, in 1837, a son of Charles and Nancy (Scothorn) Young, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. His parents were married in Ohio in 1818, and his father spent most of his active life as a farmer in Sandusky County. L. I. C. Young grew up on the home farm with his widowed mother, and in 1858 came to Steuben Township and settled in section 18 of Clear Lake Township. He taught school and worked his farm alternately, and in 1862 enlisted in Company A of the Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry. Though sick part of the time, he was with his command until October, 1865. After the war he resumed farming and also became prominent in local affairs. L. I. C. Young married Elizabeth S. Potter in 1862. They had eight children: Theresa M., J. Orville, Lulie E., who was born September 26, 1868, Armina V., Ozra V., Eda Z., Amie P. and Mattie E.

Mr. and Mrs. Straw are the parents of five children, Walter, Clayton, Hubert, Edith and Lewis. Walter married Bessie McTaggart and Clayton married Beulah Duguid. The son, Walter, saw some of the heaviest fighting in the great war. He went overseas with the Eighty-Fifth Division, landing in France August 2, 1918. He was soon transferred to the 139th Infantry in the Thirty-Fifth Division, and before the signing of the armistice was under fire for twenty-one days. The heaviest fighting seen by any American division was in the Argonne Forest, and he was a participant there. During 1919 he has been a student in the university maintained for the "Men in Khaki" at Lyons, France. The son, Hubert Straw, was also in training for military duty, being a student of electricity at Washington, D. C. He was taken ill with the influenza there and in the spring of 1919 was still in a military hospital.

ORLANDO C. BASSETT has spent his life in LaGrange County almost entirely as a farmer, though he is now associated as a partner with his son in a successful merchandise business at Applemanburg.

He was born in Milford Township May 19, 1867. His grandparents were George W. and Samantha Bassett, both natives of New York, the former born August 6, 1805, and the latter September 16, 1806. They were married September 28, 1826, and in the fall of 1833 moved to Brockport, New York. Some years later they came to LaGrange County and settled four miles east of LaGrange and subsequently moved to Milford Township, where they lived on a farm. George W. Bassett and his son Lucas Bassett, who was a native of New York, bought eighty acres in Milford Township, cleared and improved a good farm there and put up some excellent buildings for the time, including a good home, a bank barn, and other structures. On August 23, 1866, Lucas Bassett married Christina Wycuff. They were married by Squire Starkey. She was born in Pennsylvania July 22, 1850, a daughter of Jesse and Katherine Wycuff, who subsequently moved to Ashland County, Ohio, where her father died in 1862. She and her widowed mother then moved to Noble County, Indiana, where her mother died soon afterward. Lucas Bassett was a demo-



crat in politics, casting his first vote for Buchanan. He died December 8, 1912. His children were Orlando, Cora Adele, Franklin, Emma J., George, Christina and Mabel.

Orlando C. Bassett was educated in the public schools of LaGrange County and after leaving the home place he bought forty-seven acres of the old Daniel Wert farm. He sold that and in 1901 bought 120 acres in Springfield Township from the John M. Wade estate. Another forty acres he acquired in 1902 and now has a 160 acre farm well developed for general crops and stock. In 1914 he bought his father's old place and occupied it a year and a half, when he sold and returned to his farm in Springfield Township where he now resides. Mr. Bassett on January 4, 1919, bought the mercantile business at Applemansburg, and his son Lloyd is now a manager of the store. Mr. Bassett has been an influential man in local affairs, and though a democrat he was elected township trustee, being the only trustee of that political faith in the township. He also served as assessor of Springfield Township for six years in succession.

March 19, 1889, he married Rosa Gross. She was born in Milford Township October 8, 1868, a daughter of William and Isabel (Francis) Gross. Her father was born in Pennsylvania in 1844 and her mother in Noble County, Indiana, October 1, 1848. The Gross family moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio where the father of William Gross was in the hotel business and subsequently came to Milford Township and bought the farm known as the John Forst farm. After a few years the grandparents moved to Tennessee, and acquired about 400 acres near Spring City, where both of them spent the rest of their days. William Gross remained in Milford Township, married there, and acquired a farm of eighty acres on which he lived until his death in 1884. His widow is still living, a resident of South Milford, where she bought the Wonders property. William Gross was a democrat and his parents were members of the Lutheran Church. Mrs. Rose Bassett is the oldest of her father's children. Her sister Mattie I. was born April 21, 1870, and is the wife of Herbert Newnam of Milford Township and has one child, Grossie. Her other sister Nettie L. is the wife of George W. Lovett and has two sons, Jesse and Lester.

Mrs. Bassett's maternal grandfather Samuel Francis was born in Bradford, Connecticut, June 14, 1811, and as a youth moved to Genessee County, New York, and from there in 1836, soon after his marriage to Sarah Combes, came to Indiana and settled in Swan Township of Noble County. He entered land from the Government, cleared and made a home there, and in 1853 bought about 200 acres of the old Colonel Cochran farm in Milford Township of LaGrange County. He lived there until 1874 when he moved to Kendallville where his wife died, and in 1879 he went to Fort Wayne and married Mary Miller. He died at Kendallville February 15, 1901. In the Francis family were seven children, Welton, Sylvester, Isabel, Elbridge, Eliza, Mattie and one son that died in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Bassett have two children, Lloyd and Velma Luella. Lloyd was born October 23, 1893, had a good education, being a graduate of the Springfield Township and the LaGrange High Schools. He was formerly manager of the Mount Pisgah Mercantile Association for two years, and then removed to Applemansburg to take charge of his father's business. On December 23, 1914, he married Miss Lucile Faust of Springfield Township. They have a daughter, Eileen, born December 2, 1916.

Velma Luella Bassett was born May 23, 1900, is a graduate of the Springfield Township and LaGrange High Schools, also attended the Tri-State College at Angola, and is now assistant cashier of the Farmers State Bank at Stroh.

JOHN A. THUNANDER is a resident of Noble County who appreciates the value and opportunity of American citizenship, and in turn his own substantial character, his enviable work and enterprise are thoroughly appreciated in the community where he has lived and worked out his destiny and success during a period of thirty years. He is a farmer in section 36 of Sparta Township.

Mr. Thunander was born in Sweden, November 26, 1856, son of Erickson and Christina (Lyon) Thunander. His parents spent all their lives in Sweden, and his father was a contractor and builder by profession. Both parents were very active members of the Lutheran Church. Erickson was chorister in the church for forty years, and that was his chief interest outside of his business and home. Of eight children six are still living: Carl, a farmer in Sweden; John A.; Claus, of Elkhart, Indiana; Anna, unmarried, and still living in Sweden; Alfred, a Swedish farmer; and Oscar, also farming in Sweden.

John A. Thunander grew up on a farm in his native land, attended the common schools, and at the age of eight started out to make his own living. He remained in Sweden until he was twenty-seven years of age. In April, 1884, he landed in New York City and came direct to Ligonier, Indiana, to join his brother. During the next two years he was a laborer at monthly wages in Elkhart County.

On December 4, 1888, he married Matilda Walter. She was born in Sweden July 12, 1862, attended school there, and came to the United States in September, 1887, from the same locality as her husband. She lived near Ligonier until her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Thunander rented a house and during the following three years he supported his little family chiefly by day work. He was a ditch digger and accepted any other employment which would earn him an honest living. He then moved to York Township and rented a farm, and they remained on one place for nine years. For four years he rented the Orlando Kimmell farm, and then with the savings of fifteen years or more bought eighty acres in Sparta Township. He has since increased this to 100 acres, and is now the fortunate possessor of a good farm and has a home with all the improvements. His farm is well stocked.

Mr. and Mrs. Thunander had one child, who died when a week old. They took into their home Wayne Scott Breece when five years old, and carefully reared him and gave him a good education. He graduated from the common schools at the age of fourteen, later from the Wolf Lake High School, and also attended South Bend Business College. This adopted son married Lena LeCount, and they have one daughter, Bertie May.

Mr. and Mrs. Thunander are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Kimmell, and he gives as much time to church duties as did his father. Mr. Thunander is treasurer, steward, trustee and class leader of the church. He has also served as township supervisor, is a republican in politics, and is a past grand of Sparta Lodge No. 773 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

JOHN L. CROTHERS. For over fifty years the name Crothers has been spoken in Noble County with the respect due a family of more than ordinary



intelligence, business ability, energy and resourcefulness. Representing the third generation of the name John L. Crothers learned a mechanical trade as a youth, still continues it, but is also a farmer and one of the leading onion growers of Allen Township.

Mr. Crothers was born in Green Township of that county, December 30, 1882, a son of Cyrus and Mary (McCoy) Crothers. His parents were both born in Green Township of Noble County. The grandfather, Lafayette Crothers, was a native of Ohio, married Martha Beard, and they arrived in Noble County about 1855, settling on a farm in Green Township, where they spent the rest of their days. Their four children were Viana Parker, Cyrus, W. C. and Leslie, all of whom are still living. After his marriage Cyrus Crothers settled on a farm and lived there until 1906, when he moved to another farm in the county. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Protestant Church, and he was a republican. Cyrus Crothers and wife had four children: John L.; Lettisha, wife of Ernest Rawson, of Kendallville; Lafayette, a farmer in York Township; and Arthur, of Kendallville.

John L. Crothers grew up on a farm in Green Township and received his education in the local schools. When only fifteen years of age he began learning the trade of plasterer, and has followed that occupation in the intervals of his other business affairs to the present time. He now owns a good farm of eighty acres in Allen Township, and has nineteen acres of good muck soil devoted to onion culture. His average crop is about 8,000 bushels a year. He also raises the other crops suitable to a general farm.

April 14, 1901, he married Miss Mina Hetzel, who was born in York Township of Noble County and was educated in the public schools. They have four children: Floyd, Coy, Martha and Kenneth. Mr. Crothers is a republican.

MAURICE McCLEW, a former member of the Legislature from Steuben County, a farmer and a lawyer by profession, represents some of the oldest names identified with the early history of Steuben County.

He was born at Fremont in that county, May 5, 1879, a son of Charles and Mary (Farnham) McClew. His great-grandfather, David McClew, was a native of Scotland, and on coming to this country prior to the Revolutionary war settled in New York and passed his last years in Niagara County of that state.

The founder of the family in Steuben County was grandfather John McClew, a native of New York, who came to Steuben County in 1836 and brought his family here the following year. He was one of the first settlers of Fremont Township, taking up eighty acres of Government land. Eventually he owned several farms, followed the carpenter's trade, was a man of great influence and substantial character. For eleven years he served as a county commissioner. In early life he was a Presbyterian and later a Methodist, and in politics he was allied with the whigs and later the republicans. He died at Fremont in February, 1891.

Charles McClew, son of this pioneer, was born in Steuben County, December 27, 1842. His wife, Mary Farnham, was born in the same county, April 3, 1846, a daughter of Erastus and Lucinda (Bradley) Farnham, the former a native of Delaware County, New York, and the latter of Connecticut. Erastus Farnham came to Fremont Township in 1836. Prior to coming here he had taught school in twelve different states. He was a surveyor by

profession, and at one time held the offices of county surveyor and county treasurer in Steuben County. He died in 1873, at the age of seventy-one.

Charles McClew was educated in public schools and the Orland Academy, was a teacher for about two years, and otherwise a farmer, owning farms in Pleasant and Jamestown townships. He was a republican in politics. He and his wife had three children: Maurice; Bell, wife of Claud Neer, a mining engineer at Denver, Colorado; and John J., an engineer at San Jose, California. Charles McClew's wife by a previous marriage to Henry M. Willis had two children, Estella, who died in September, 1914, the wife of Lorenzo D. Creel, of Angola, and Elizabeth, wife of John J. Gavin, of Washington, D. C.

Maurice McClew grew up on his father's farm in Pleasant Township, attended public schools there, the Normal School at Angola, and like several of his ancestors, was a teacher in early life. He studied law with Brown & Carlin for a year and a half, was admitted to the bar in 1905, and spent about a year in the West. He has been successfully engaged in farming in addition to his law work. Mr. McClew was elected a member of the Legislature in 1910, on the republican ticket. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Angola and at the age of twenty-three was elected master of the Grange in Fremont Township.

June 10, 1917, in Chicago, he married Nora Hurd. She is a member of the Christian Church and the Eastern Star.

DANIEL J. BONTRAGER. This family name is practically synonymous with good farming, good citizenship and individual prosperity in many localities of Northeast Indiana. Daniel J. Bontrager, whose efforts have brought him the ownership of a large and well managed farm in Van Buren Township of LaGrange County, is a son of John J. and Fannie (Kauffman) Bontrager. Much of the information concerning other members of the family will be found on other pages of this publication.

Daniel J. Bontrager was born in Eden Township December 25, 1860. He was reared and attended district schools in Van Buren, and has applied his chief efforts and experience as a farmer in that locality. He bought his first land, about seventy-eight acres, in section 31, in 1887, and during the thirty odd years since then has seen his possessions expand until they now include 400 acres in sections 31 and 30 of Van Buren and forty-six acres in Newbury townships. All of this land is under general cultivation and he has always made live stock a feature of his business.

December 23, 1886, he married Lovina Mast. She was born in Newbury Township November 14, 1866, a daughter of Jacob and Susie (Bontrager) Mast. Mr. and Mrs. Bontrager and family are members of the Amish Old Order Mennonite Church. Since its organization he has been secretary and treasurer of the Farmers Threshing Association.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Bontrager comprise nine children, named in order of birth: Jacob, John, Levi, Susie, Moses, Gideon, Fannie, Daniel and Katie. Jacob married Fannie Schrock, and they have six children, named Simon, Clara, Laura, Daniel, Viola and Ida. Levi married Lizzie Graber and has two daughters, C'adys and Viola. Susie is the wife of Milo Miller, and her children are Erwin and Mahlon.

HARRY C. KANKAMP. Among the younger men who have already won recognition as capable farmers in Steuben County, one of the most conspicuous





*David H Remner*



is Harry C. Kankamp, who only recently turned his majority, but has the responsibility and is successfully looking after all departments of a large farm in Steuben Township.

Mr. Kankamp is a son of Fred and Etta (Hayden) Kankamp, more particularly referred to on other pages of this publication. He was born on the home farm in Pleasant Township October 6, 1896, grew up in a good home, acquired a good education in local schools and in the Angola High School, supplemented by a course in the Tri-State Normal College. The farm he operates comprises 251 acres two miles southeast of Angola. It is one of the good and well improved farms of the township, and Mr. Kankamp is using it for general farming and stock raising purposes, specializing in pure bred Shropshire sheep and Duroc Jersey hogs.

In politics he is a republican. July 23, 1916, he married Miss Ida Mae Kain. She was born in Union Township of Wells County, Indiana, February 15, 1898, a daughter of William Henry and Mary Mandilla (Fryback) Kain. Her parents are now living near Youngstown, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Kankamp have one daughter, Mary Ellen, born June 2, 1917.

DAVID H. RENNER. While so much of his life has been passed in the quiet environment of the farm in Steuben Township, his intimate friends know that David H. Renner has always been ready for duty when duty's call was heard. Those duties have been none the less important because they have been performed as part of the day's routine, and the same spirit has characterized his performance of simple and homely toils as urged him on when a young man in following the flag of the Union during the Civil war.

Mr. Renner was born in Union County, Pennsylvania, December 21, 1837, a son of John and Julia Renner. His parents came to Steuben County and settled in section 31 of Otsego Township in 1844. They had six children, four of whom were born in Pennsylvania and two in Steuben County. David H. Renner grew up from the age of seven on the old home place, acquired such education as was possible in the limited district schools of his youth, his school days being spent chiefly in District No. 7 of Otsego Township. He worked out as a farm hand, and in August, 1861, enlisted in Company A of the Twenty-Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. In September he was transferred to Company E of the Ninth Indiana Infantry at LaPorte. The regiment to which he was transferred left at once for the West Virginia campaign, and except for a short time in a hospital at Louisville Mr. Renner was with his command in all its engagements. While in Louisville and while convalescent he was assigned to duty as a cook. Several times he urged his officers to let him return to his old organization at the front, but he was told some one must cook and he had to stay. One day he and his comrades were paid off. It was the first money he had received since entering the army. His pay amounted to over \$100. Most of it he sent to his wife, and then packed up his belongings. A company was leaving the next day for the front, going to the same locality where his old company was stationed. When this organization left the barracks Mr. Renner went A. W. O. L. and traveled with them. The first day's journey was by train. On leaving the train the company was lined up at a mess shack, and the men counted before going in. The extra member was then discovered and the captain asked: "Have one of you men deserted from Louisville and come along with this company?" Mr. Renner stepped

out and replied, "Yes, sir, I did." He then explained to the captain why he had come. "Well, I'll be damned," said the captain, "hundreds of men have deserted to get away from the firing line, but you are the first to desert to get back to it." Mr. Renner was then issued a pass back to his old company. That was not the first instance of his good soldierly qualities and his eagerness to be on the fighting line. While he was a recruit of Company A, Twenty-Ninth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, the Ninth Regiment was ordered to the front. Company E lacked about twenty men. The organization of Mr. Renner were then lined up and the captain explained the situation and asked for volunteers to fill out the quota of Company E. Mr. Renner and a number of his comrades at once stepped out and volunteered. He was in the army until receiving his honorable discharge in September, 1865, more than four years after his enlistment. He left a wife and two children to go into the army, having married in 1857 Miss Ellen Ruthrauff. After the war he returned to his father's farm and then bought his present place of forty acres in section 25 of Steuben Township, and has lived there quietly and uneventfully for over half a century. He now makes his home with his daughter Nora, and her husband is running the farm. Mr. Renner lost his wife by death May 28, 1912, after they had been married over half a century. Their children were: James; Frank, deceased; Edward, Henry, Nora, Jacob and Isaac. Nora is the wife of Joseph Metzler. She has six children, named Lillie, Roy, Ralph, Addie, Della and Clarence. Mr. Renner is proud of the fact that two of his grandsons, Roy and Ralph Metzler, were American soldiers in the great war. They are members of Company M, Thirty-Sixth Infantry, having enlisted May 21, 1918, and in the spring of 1919 were in camp in Massachusetts.

JAMES E. YEISER is one of the influential citizens of Allen Township in Noble County. He is a practical farmer, and farming has been his regular vocation all his active years. His home is two and a half miles west of Avilla.

Mr. Yeiser is all but a native of Noble County, having been brought there when less than a year old. He was born in Richland County, Ohio, September 25, 1854, a son of John and Margaret (Shambaugh) Yeiser, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. They were married in Ohio and in April, 1855, moved to Noble County, Indiana, locating in Allen Township, three and a half miles west of Avilla. The parents spent the rest of their useful lives in that community. The father was a republican. Of five children four are still living: Elizabeth, widow of Jacob Myers and now living with her brother, James E.; James E.; Mary, widow of P. Brooks and a resident of Oklahoma; and Frank C., also living in Allen Township.

James E. Yeiser grew up on the old farm, was educated in the district schools and lived at home until past twenty-one. He sold his interest in the old estate and homestead, and later he and his sister Elizabeth bought the eighty-acre farm where they now reside. Elizabeth's husband, Jacob Myers, had died in the meantime, and she and her brother have since had a congenial home and an effective arrangement for handling the farm and the household to their mutual satisfaction and profit. Mr. Yeiser is a republican in politics.

FRED B. KIMBALL. Orland is a substantial community that still reflects the spirit and qualities of its pioneers. It was originally known as the Ver-

mont settlement, most of the pioneers having come from that state. They brought with them many of the outstanding characteristics of the New Englanders, and probably no community in Steuben County had at an earlier time churches, free schools and other evidences of culture and enlightenment of New England people.

One of the early families to settle there was that of Kimball. Deacon Timothy Kimball reached the Vermont settlement in 1836, and soon afterward built the first grist mill on the river just north of the settlement. The building of this mill proved a boon to the community, and was patronized by farmers for miles around. Deacon Kimball was also prominent in founding the First Presbyterian Church at Orland, and in many other ways lent a helpful hand. He married Abbie Baldwin, and they came with their seven children to Steuben County. They had left New York State in 1830, going to Detroit, and thence by wagon to Tekonsha in Calhoun County, Michigan. Deacon Timothy Kimball bought about 160 acres around Orland, and lived there the rest of his life. He was a local judge at one time. His children were: Augustus, William, Miles, Betsey, Julia, Abbie and Jerusha.

Miles B. Kimball was born at Whitehall, New York, August 29, 1826. He married Elizabeth Persis Birce on January 9, 1862. She was a native of Syracuse, New York. Miles B. Kimball attended the first public schools taught in Orland. In 1850 his spirit of enterprise impelled him to go to the California gold fields, and he stayed in the Far West until 1861. He was prospered in California, and after returning to the East he invested heavily in lands and bought and improved and sold a number of farms. He also conducted a hardware store at Orland, and at one time was owner of the flour mill known as the Greenfield Mill. He also did a large business in raising and dealing in sheep and cattle. He died September 1, 1895. He and his wife had four children: Martha B., who married James Canse, a member of the Eccles Wholesale Lumber Company of Ogden, Utah; Fred B.; William, who was assistant law librarian and a member of the bar at Indianapolis at the time of his death; and Harry M., a resident and practising lawyer of Vicksburg, Michigan.

Fred B. Kimball was born at Orland, August 12, 1866, attended the public schools there, also Oberlin College at Oberlin, Ohio, and the Tri-State Normal College at Angola. He graduated in the commercial course at Angola. As a boy he had received some commercial training while helping his father in the hardware store. He engaged independently in business as a dealer in carriages and implements in Kansas City, and remained in that city for about twenty years. In 1904 he returned to Orland, bought a farm adjoining that town, where he has since lived, and has carried on extensive operations as a farmer, as a breeder of blooded Holstein dairy cattle and is, like his father, a stock dealer.

On June 14, 1905, Mr. Kimball married Mary A. Wilder, daughter of Charles H. and Jennie (Scott) Wilder. Mrs. Kimball is a graduate of the Orland High School, then taught two years in the Orland primary grade, after which she entered Hillsdale College in Michigan, and for two years after her course there was instructor in the Orland High School. In the fall of 1892 she went to California and became a teacher, and for ten years was connected with the high school at Tulare. In 1903 she accepted the post of librarian at Orland, being the first librarian. She is active in the Congregational Church and a member of the Eastern Star. Mr. and Mrs. Kimball have two children: Miles W.,

born June 3, 1906, and Charles Scott, born July 18, 1910.

**SAMUEL STINE.** Out of eighty odd years of his long and useful life Samuel Stine has spent more than sixty-five of them in LaGrange County, and the greater part of this time has been a resident on one farm in Lima Township. As a farmer he has achieved much success, represented in a large farm, and in every way has been substantially identified with the welfare and progress of the community.

He was born September 19, 1836, son of Samuel and Catherine (Myers) Stine. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Maryland. The Stine family came to LaGrange County in 1852 and settled in Lima Township, on part of the land where Mr. Samuel Stine now lives. His father took up eighty acres in the midst of the woods, and the chief improvement was an old log house. He made better living arrangements by the addition of a wing to this house, and he lived there until his death six years later, February 10, 1860, at the age of fifty-eight years, eight months and twenty-five days. The widowed mother survived until July 5, 1877, dying at the age of seventy-two years, five months and two days. They had a family of eight children: Mary, wife of John Northway; Catherine, wife of Owen Holmes; Rebecca, wife of Hiram Mashon; Jane, wife of Abe Harding; Amanda, wife of Henry Wentworth; Jacob; Samuel; and Daniel, who died in infancy.

Samuel Stine was reared partly in Pennsylvania and partly in Ohio, and was sixteen years of age when he came to LaGrange County. Several years later he acquired forty acres of land in Clay Township, and was busily engaged in its improvement and cultivation. About three years after his father's death he traded that land for 147 acres in Lima Township and still later he acquired the old homestead. His possessions steadily grew for a number of years until he had 365 acres, improved with three complete sets of buildings. The house in which he now lives was erected in 1877. He has followed general farming and stockraising. Mr. Stine is a democrat. His wife is a member of the Methodist Church.

On February 4, 1874, he married Mary Jane Moulton. She was born in Ohio April 10, 1839, and died April 9, 1915, at the age of seventy-five. Mr. and Mrs. Stine had one daughter, Bertha Jane. She was born at the old farm on July 2, 1878, was educated in the public schools and on June 5, 1912, became the wife of Victor Camp. Mr. Camp, a widely known and prominent citizen of LaGrange Township, was born in Ohio in 1865, son of Jacob and Jane Camp, who came to LaGrange County and settled in Clay Township, where both of them spent their last years. Victor Camp attended public school in this county, also the LaGrange High School, and took a business course in Valparaiso. He was a teacher in LaGrange County for several years. In 1913 he was called from his farm to the duties of the office of county treasurer, and served one term. He has also been assessor of Clay Township and in other minor offices. Mr. Camp owns the old Camp homestead and is one of the directors of the elevator at Howe. Mr. and Mrs. Camp have one child, Stine J., born at LaGrange January 4, 1915.

Mr. and Mrs. Stine also reared two children, Eva McManus, a niece of Mrs. Stine, and Alton Wentworth, a nephew of Mr. Stine. Eva McManus is the deceased wife of Charles Eaton. Alta Wentworth is a machinist living at Mishawaka, Indiana.



MORTON HANSELMAN, one of the men who have done most to promote and stimulate good farming in Steuben County, and owner of two valuable places in Otsego Township, is member of a family that has been identified with this part of northeast Indiana for several generations.

Mr. Hanselman was born on the old homestead in Otsego Township, a son of John Quincy and Margaret (Kankamp) Hanselman, and grandson of Aaron Hanselman, who brought his family to Steuben Township in pioneer times. Morton Hanselman grew up on the home farm and was well educated in the local schools. During his mature career he has acquired a good farm of eighty acres, which with valuable buildings constitutes a splendid place for general farming and stock raising. He also has another farm of 136 acres in Otsego Township adjoining his home place, and with 216 acres in the aggregate he is able to direct his affairs somewhat leisurely, and spends much of his time on the farm.

August 29, 1900, he married Miss Etta Van Auken. She was born in Steuben Township November 10, 1874, a daughter of Horace M. and Elizabeth (McMillen) Van Auken, both natives of Ohio. Her father came to Steuben County when a young man with his parents, Jacob and Nancy (Straway) Van Auken, who were early settlers in Steuben Township. Mrs. Hanselman's mother was the third white child born in Steuben County. Her parents had a family of eight children, three of whom died in infancy and the others were Ernest, Mary, Amy, Etta and Horace.

V. CLARE SIMON is the present trustee of Swan Township, Noble County, and his official position is only a sign and symbol of his general business and social standing in that community, where he has spent most of his life as a very successful and progressive farmer.

Mr. Simon was born at Goshen, Indiana, February 25, 1868, a son of Charles and Caroline (Perry) Simon. His family, especially on his mother's side, is identified with the earliest pioneer period of Noble County. Caroline Perry was born in section 36 of Swan Township when all that district was a wilderness. Charles Simon was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1838 and was ten years of age when his parents moved to Indiana and settled in Swan Township. V. Clare Simon was six weeks old when his grandmother brought him to Noble County. He was educated in the district schools and began farming as soon as he reached his majority. On February 25, 1895, he married Mary E. Jarrett. They then settled on their present place in Swan Township. Mr. and Mrs. Simon have three living children. One son, Raymond P., is deceased. Ina is the wife of Don Brown; Walter is a high school student and Grace is also in the local high school. The family are members of the Lutheran Church and Mr. Simon was for twenty-two years on the church council.

Since early manhood he has always taken an interest in the republican party. He served as a member of the Advisory Board and was elected trustee of Swan Township in 1914. He entered upon his official duties in January, 1915, and his first term was of such constructive value and meant so much to the welfare of the local schools and other interests entrusted to his charge he had the satisfaction of being returned to the office for another four year term on November 5, 1918. Mr. Simon looks after a good farm of 149 acres, is also a stockholder in the Mutual Telephone Company, and is

agent for the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of Noble County.

WILLIAM A. COCHRAN. While his interests first and last have been chiefly identified with the great business of farming and stock raising, William A. Cochran's influence has gradually spread from his farm to include many important affairs in Ligonier and elsewhere, and in every sense he has been one of Noble county's foremost citizens in progressiveness and public spirit. He is owner of one of the noted farms of the county, known as the Maple Row Stock and Dairy Farm, comprising 290 acres located on the Haw Patch and White Pigeon road two miles northeast of Ligonier.

That farm is of the more interest to him because he was born there, August 9, 1857, son of Alfred and Cynthia (Hays) Cochran. His parents were both born in Perry County, Ohio, his mother being a daughter of John Hays. They were married in their native county, and soon afterward, in 1849, came to Indiana and located on the farm where their son now lives. Alfred Cochran at that time built a cabin and his industry gradually effected a number of improvements, some of which are in evidence today. He died on the old farm in 1883. He and his wife were active members of the Methodist Church and in politics he was a republican. Of their family of eight children four are still living: Mary E., widow of George W. Vedder; Mahala, wife of A. J. Ramsbey; Melissa, widow of John Denney; and William A.

William A. Cochran grew up on the home farm and had a common school education, being a graduate of the district schools. On March 7, 1878, he married Luella Hays, daughter of William D. and Harriett E. (Smith) Hays. Her father was a native of Ohio and her mother of Indiana. Her father at one time owned about 500 acres near Ligonier. Mr. and Mrs. Cochran ever since their marriage have lived on the Maple Row Stock and Dairy Farm. Mr. Cochran altogether owns about 800 acres around Ligonier and vicinity, his property being in three different farms, and he has 260 acres in Oklahoma near one of the most productive oil belts. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers Co-operative Elevator at Ligonier, was one of the stockholders in the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company of Ligonier and is its vice president, and has been active in many community affairs. He gave much of his time to war auxiliary movements, serving as a member of the County Council of Defense, and was the first county chairman of the Y. M. C. A. in the state organization. He has served as township chairman of Perry Township and is a republican. He and his family are members of the United Brethren Church at Ligonier, and he is one of the trustees and has been director of the choir of the church for the past forty years.

Mr. and Mrs. Cochran have three children. Edith, a graduate of the common schools, is the wife of C. R. Stage, of Perry Township. C. Deane, who attended school at Big Rapids, Michigan, married Eva Lance and lives at Ligonier. Florence Jessie is a graduate of the common schools, attended high school and is the wife of George Goshorn, living on the Maple Row Stock Farm with her father.

EMMET B. HAGERTY has spent his life in one of the best rural communities of LaGrange County, Van Buren Township, and for over thirty years he has served that community ably and well as a merchant. The firm Hagerty Brothers has been in business at Scott as general merchants since 1887.

Mr. Hagerty, who was born in Van Buren Town-



ship July 3, 1862, represents a pioneer family in Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana. His grandfather, Patrick H. Hagerty, was a native of Ireland and brought his family to America in 1819. He lived for a time in New York and later at New Brunswick, New Jersey, where he spent the rest of his life. For many years he was a faithful employe of old Commodore Vanderbilt, founder of the great Vanderbilt fortunes. Patrick H. Hagerty by his first wife had four children, James, Michael, Mary and Sarah, and by a second marriage had a son, George.

James Hagerty, father of the Van Buren Township merchant, was born in Donegal, Ireland, August 1, 1816, and was three years old when brought to this country. He spent his boyhood days in New Brunswick, New Jersey, and when General Lafayette was on his last tour of America this boy had the honor of handing the great Frenchman a drink of water at New Brunswick. In 1834 he sought new opportunities in the new country of the middle west and settled in White Pigeon Township of St. Joseph County, Michigan. White Pigeon was then one of the principal towns in Southern Michigan. He acquired 160 acres of Government land, but after three years traded his land for a half interest in a grist mill at Scott, Indiana. He lived there the rest of his life, devoting much of his time to farming. For twelve years he was a justice of the peace. James Hagerty died in October, 1890. He married for his first wife Clarissa Munger, who died leaving one child, James E. For his second wife he married Amanda Bond, a native of Montour County, Pennsylvania. She was the mother of Charles B., I. Adella, who married Chauncey Troyer and lives in Duluth, Minnesota; and Emmet B.

Emmet B. Hagerty attended the Scott schools in Van Buren Township, and had a thorough business training, at first for eight years in a general store at Scott. In 1884 he and Charles Munger bought the business, and in 1887 Munger sold his interest to Charles Hagerty, thus establishing the firm of Hagerty Brothers. The brothers rebuilt their store building in 1894, and conduct one of the best general merchandise establishments in the county. In 1902 the brothers also acquired the Junod farm in section 26 of Van Buren Township, and its management is another of their responsibilities. Emmet Hagerty is also vice president of the Farmers State Bank of Shipshewana and has been a director of that institution since it was organized. He is a charter member of the Odd Fellows Lodge at Shipshewana, and he and his wife are active members of the Scott Methodist Church, which he serves as trustee and steward. Mr. Hagerty married Ida J. Walter January 1, 1892. She is a daughter of George and Catherine (Bickel) Walter.

**SHERMAN C. BAKER.** One of the oldest and best known families of Washington Township of Noble County is that of Baker, and one of its representatives is Sherman C., a progressive and successful farmer who has devoted the best part of his life to agriculture and has realized all the profits of experience and enterprise in that field.

He was born at Cromwell, Indiana, June 30, 1871, son of Jacob and Mary A. (Smith) Baker, both natives of Ohio. His mother came to Cromwell when she was a girl, grew up and married Jacob Baker, who owned a farm comprising a portion of the land on which the Village of Cromwell stands. Later he sold that property and bought 160 acres in Washington Township, where he continued the pursuit of agriculture until his death. His widow

is still living. Jacob Baker was quite prominent in local affairs, served three terms as trustee of Sparta Township, and was active in republican politics. Of seven children five are still living: George W., a farmer in Kosciusko County; Henry, of Denver, Colorado; Lewis, of Washington Township; Julia, wife of Rev. W. H. Budelmyre, of Indianapolis; and Sherman C.

Sherman C. Baker was about four years old when his parents came to Washington Township, and during his boyhood he attended the local schools and acquired a practical knowledge of the business which he has followed since early manhood. Mr. Baker owns a farm of sixty acres, devoted to general crops and livestock.

January 21, 1892, he married Lusina Burnheimer, who was born in Whitley County, Indiana, December 1, 1869, daughter of Aaron and Julia (Welker) Burnheimer. Her father was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1842 and died in 1917. Her mother was born in 1847. Mrs. Baker spent her early girlhood in Whitley County, and was educated in the common schools. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have two daughters: Bernice M., a high school graduate and wife of Leonard Van Vorest, of Kimmell; and Mildred L., who besides completing the high school course attended the Tri-State Normal at Angola and is now one of the successful teachers of the schools of Washington Township. Mr. Baker is a republican and is affiliated with the Fraternal Order of Eagles in Columbia City.

**JESSE WARNER** is one of the enviable citizens of Noble County, possessor of an ample farm, and has regulated his life and affairs in conformity with the best standards of citizenship.

The farm where he now lives was the scene of his birth on October 8, 1856. It is one of the oldest farms in one continuous ownership in Noble County. The Warner family in pioneer times moved West from New York State to Michigan, and later came to Indiana. They journeyed up the Maumee River on a boat which was urged against the sluggish current by poles, and after landing they made their way to Fort Wayne on horseback. They reached Fort Wayne in 1836, when there were only a few buildings in the city. The grandfather for a time worked in an old tavern at Fort Wayne and later moved to Noble County, locating near where Jesse Warner now lives. He built a little shack in the woods, and the grandparents spent the rest of their days in Swan Township.

Jesse Warner is a son of Corodon and Lydia (Simon) Warner. His father was a native of Genesee County, New York, and his mother of Ohio. His father spent all his life on the old farm in Noble County. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church and he was a republican. Of eight children only two are now living, Jesse and Losina. The latter is the wife of Dr. William Adair, of Idaho.

Jesse Warner grew up on the old farm, attended the common schools, and for thirty-five years or more has industriously cultivated and managed the land which was his father's before him. He has 130 acres in one body and strictly as a farmer he has provided liberally for all the needs of his family.

April 4, 1881, he married Sarah Gillet. They are the parents of the following children: Floyd, a graduate of the high school and of the Huntington Business College, formerly an employe of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad and now at home; Odeyne, a graduate of Ferris Institute and a teacher; Jessie, a graduate of the Laotto High School and also a teacher; and Fern, who is a teacher. Mrs. Warner

was also engaged in educational work before her marriage. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and in politics Mr. Warner is a republican.

**J. HOWARD MOORE.** For over half a century J. Howard Moore has lived in Swan Township and Noble County, and his record throughout has been that of a trustworthy and efficient citizen, a good farmer, and a man whose life is open to inspection on every page.

He was born in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1853, son of Joseph P. and Mary (Bigger) Moore, the former a native of Washington County, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Beaver County in the same state. Joseph P. Moore was a highly educated man and a minister and teacher for many years. He graduated from old Washington College in Pennsylvania, taught in private schools and later founded the East Liberty Collegiate Institute, of which he was the head for about twenty-five years. He brought his family to Indiana in the spring of 1865 and settled in Swan Township of Noble County. The journey was made by wagons from Fort Wayne. Joseph P. Moore was an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church, and preached at Albion and Avilla among other charges in Northeast Indiana. He was a republican in politics. Of their six children three are still living: Mary E., wife of Thomas Anderson; J. Howard; and William C., whose home is in Missouri.

J. Howard Moore was twelve years old when his parents came to Indiana, and besides a common school education he acquired much knowledge under the immediate direction of his father. On October 12, 1876, Mr. Moore married Osie May Mendenhall. She was born in Swan Township of Noble County and from the common schools entered the Methodist College at Fort Wayne, where she took the literary and musical course. Being gifted musically she taught that art for some years. Mr. and Mrs. Moore had three children. Lillian is a graduate of high school and the wife of Charles Hosler, living near Laotto. John P., also a graduate of the common schools, married Grace Bradley and has four children, Arthur R., born in 1905; Reuel and Ruth, twins, born October 25, 1910; and Leah May, born October 25, 1918. The youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Moore was Fiannai, or Fannie, who died aged twenty-one years. Mr. Moore lost his noble wife November 30, 1899.

Mr. Moore is an elder in the Presbyterian Church, is an active republican, and has served as party committeeman. For one term he was trustee of Swan Township, and gave a faithful administration of the affairs of that office. As a farmer he occupies the old home estate of his father, containing ninety-four acres, and through agriculture has made ample provision for his family and home.

**CHARLES A. CAMPBELL.** With the exception of seven years when he kept a lonely bachelor's cabin on the prairies of North Dakota, Charles A. Campbell has lived in Smithfield Township of DeKalb County all his life. He has been an industrious farmer, has made his work practical, and while looking after his own affairs he has not neglected the interests of the community. In every sense he has been a useful citizen. He was born on the farm that he now owns September 3, 1866, a son of John and Cornelia (Hemstreet) Campbell. These were pioneer families, the Hemstreets coming to DeKalb County in 1843 and the Campbells in 1847, both settling in Smithfield Township. John Campbell was born in Summit County, Ohio, November 14, 1835, and his

wife in Huron County, that state, October 21, 1838. They were married in Smithfield Township in 1859, and then settled on the farm where their son Charles lives, and spent the rest of their days there. The father died March 2, 1904. John Campbell was a republican, but subsequently became affiliated with the democratic party. He served a term as trustee of Smithfield Township. He and his wife had four children: Jennie, wife of Carey Duncan, of Eastern Ohio; Sarah, wife of George Parnell, of North Carolina; Scott, of Montpelier, Ohio; and Charles A.

Charles A. Campbell grew up on the home farm and attended common schools. At the age of twenty-one he went west and homesteaded 160 acres in North Dakota, proving up on his claim and cultivating it for seven years. In 1895 he returned to DeKalb County and in 1898 married Sophia Schweitzer, who was born in Smithfield Township October 1, 1876, and had a common school education. Since their marriage, for over twenty years, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell have occupied the old Campbell homestead, where he owns 102 acres devoted to general farming and stock raising. He is active in democratic politics, a member of the township advisory board, a member of the Ashley Co-operative Association and a stockholder in the Gleaner Clearance House. He and his wife are both members of the Ancient Order of Gleaners. During the World war Mr. Campbell served as township chairman for the Council of Defense and was active in all patriotic campaigns.

To his marriage were born six children: Josh J., Herman, Ruth, John, June and Helen. Herman and John are deceased. The others are all at home, and Josh and Ruth are graduates of the common schools.

**C. P. BAKER,** whose home is in section 21 of Sparta Township, Noble County, presents a good example of the man who has made a striking success from humble beginnings and against heavy odds. He was very young when his father died, was the only son in the family, and at a time when most boys are in school had to assume the burdens and heavy work of the farm. He started life after reaching his majority and after his marriage with very limited capital, and yet today he is one of the largest land owners, one of the most successful stock breeders, and one of the most liberal and public-spirited citizens in the county.

He was born in Champaign County, Ohio, August 1, 1847, a son of Samuel and Nancy (Woods) Baker, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Virginia. They were married in Ohio, and in 1850 settled in Turkey Creek Township of Kosciusko County, Indiana, where they spent the rest of their lives. The parents were zealous members of the Church of God. Samuel Baker was a republican in politics. They had six children, and all five of the daughters at one time or another taught school. The four children still living are: Anna, wife of Newton Rerrick, of Sparta Township; Josephine, wife of Milton Woods, of Kosciusko County; Paulina, wife of Augusta Roach, of Burton Township; and C. P. Baker.

C. P. Baker was only three years old when his parents moved to Kosciusko County, and he received all his schooling in that locality. He was still a small boy when his father died, and he then took charge of the farm and lived there until he was about twenty-six years of age.

In February, 1872, he married Catherine Cole, of Noble County, Indiana. After their marriage they lived for a couple of years on the old farm, and then came to Noble County and bought sixty acres, which is included in the present extensive estate



of Mr. Baker. He added other lands from time to time and now owns 310 acres, which of itself is a good indication of what he has done with his time and opportunities. Much of his success has come from his ability in raising and handling livestock. He has always kept good horses, and has been an extensive breeder of Shorthorn cattle. His herd was headed by White Hall Sutton. He has also been a breeder of the big type Poland China hogs, his hogs being headed by Buster Wonderer.

Mr. Baker was the first president of the Sparta State Bank at Cromwell. He has taken an intelligent interest in local affairs, and was elected and served a term of six years as trustee of Sparta Township. He is a republican in politics.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker had three children, two of whom are still living, Gertrude and James Otis. Gertrude is a graduate of high school and had a commercial course and is now the wife of Robert Bouse. They live on a farm in Washington Township, and their daughter is the wife of Roy Hontz. Mr. Hontz is train dispatcher at Garrett, Indiana. James Otis Baker is a graduate of high school and married Mattie Cramer. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have one grandchild, Mabel Hontz.

PHILIP M. GAUSE. One of the prosperous farmers and well known men of Noble County, whose valuable farm of 200 acres in Swan Township represents the toil and energies and savings of many years of his life, is Philip M. Gause, who was born in the township where he now lives, August 24, 1859.

His parents were John C. and Anna M. (Beard) Gause. His father was born in Wuertemberg, Germany, December 20, 1815. In 1841 he came to the United States, being then twenty-six years of age. From New York City he went West to Ohio, lived in that state two years, and in 1843 arrived as a pioneer in Noble County. Here he bought land, which could scarcely be said to be improved, in section 34 of Swan Township. He was a man of great enterprise, and handled large affairs outside of his farming. He took a contract to build a section of the plank road through this part of Indiana. He also had a contract for construction work on the Eel River, and that nearly proved disastrous, since he lost most of his capital. Later he had a contract for building some miles of the Lake Shore Railway. After a varied fortune in this line of work he finally devoted all his energies to the farm and lived on his land in Noble County until 1864, when he went to Allen County and took charge of the Judge Hanna farm of 1,040 acres. He used that extensive property for raising sheep, and was engaged in a successful business there for sixteen years. He then returned to Noble County and died here honored and respected and in advance age May 2, 1902. He was a member of the Lutheran Church and was very active in the democratic party. Of seven children three died in infancy. Of those living John C. is a resident of Missouri; Maggie is the wife of David Wert, of Quincy, Indiana; Katie is the widow of Joseph Pepper; and Philip M. is the youngest.

Philip M. Gause grew up on a farm and had a common school education. He was at home with his parents to the age of twenty-one. After that for two years he found employment in Fort Wayne and also spent nine months in Michigan. Eventually he rented the old farm of his father and finally had progressed far enough to purchase the land outright. He has continued its successful manager for many years. One specialty of the Gause farm is pure bred Duroc hogs.

October 24, 1884, Mr. Gause married Miss Mary J. Fogle. She was born in Allen County, Indiana,

August 14, 1861, and was reared and educated there. Seven children have been born to their marriage: Floyd, a graduate of high school, who also attended college, has been a successful banker, was first president and for three years has been cashier of the Farmers and Merchants Bank, and was also for a time an employe of the Fort Wayne postoffice; Anna is the wife of Clarence Freeman; Ora P. married Arthur Potter; John is a farmer at home; Trude is the wife of Merle Gump; Pearl is married and lives at home; George, the youngest of the family, wears the uniform and has seen service with the American Expeditionary Forces in France.

Mr. Gause has been a liberal supporter of church and allied causes. He is affiliated with Huntertown Lodge No. 689, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and has attained the thirty-second degree, Scottish Rite, in the Fort Wayne Consistory. Politically a democrat, he has aided his party and has been a live and public spirited factor in his own community.

CHARLES WELLER. "The Fairview Farm," which speaks for itself among the pleasant attributes of Swan Township, Noble County, is owned by Charles Weller in section 1, comprising 120 acres. Mr. Weller is a very particular and careful agriculturist, and combines just the right amount of science with good practice, so that his ledger has always shown a comfortable balance on the credit side.

Mr. Weller was born in Butler Township, of DeKalb County, Indiana, November 24, 1869, son of Philip and Elizabeth (Rakestraw) Weller. His parents were both natives of Ohio, his father of Clark County and his mother of Greene County. After their marriage in Ohio they moved to Indiana about 1860 and settled in DeKalb County, but in 1871 moved to section 1 of Swan Township in Noble County, and lived there the rest of their lives. They were members of the Methodist Protestant Church and in politics the father was a republican. Of eleven children six are still living: Martha, wife of Levi Treesh, of DeKalb County; Joseph, a farmer in DeKalb County; Oliver and Olive, twins, the former a resident of Ligonier, and the latter the wife of Henry L. Houser of DeKalb County; Emma, wife of David Heitz, of DeKalb County; and Charles.

Charles Weller grew up on the old farm in Swan Township and had a district school education. Since the age of twenty-one he has been making his own way in the world. He married Ida L. Henry. She was born in Noble County, on the farm where she and her husband now reside. Her birth occurred July 12, 1870, and she received her education in the district schools. For three or four years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Weller lived in DeKalb County and then returned to Noble County and bought their present home. They have two children: Gertrude is a graduate of the Avilla High School and is the wife of Freeman Kelham, living in DeKalb County. Gladys is a graduate of the common schools and of the high school. Mr. and Mrs. Weller are members of the Methodist Protestant Church and he is one of the church trustees. He is a past master of Avilla Lodge No. 460, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and in politics is a republican.

HARVEY E. MUSSER has been a resident of DeKalb County since early infancy, and during his mature career of thirty years has been a member of the farming community of Franklin Township. He owns a farm of eighty acres in section 5 of that township.

Mr. Musser was born in Stark County, Ohio, Feb-



ruary 23, 1863, a son of William and Catherine (Yutzler) Musser. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania. The mother was born in Switzerland and was fourteen years of age when she came with her parents to the United States. She grew up in Ohio and was married in Stark County. In 1865 the Musser family came to DeKalb County, Indiana, Harvey E. being then about two years old.

He was the oldest of seven children, and as a boy he attended the common school and acquired an education sufficient for his needs. He is a member of Hamilton Lodge of Masons, also belongs to the Hamilton Grange and in politics is a democrat. He and his wife are members of the Eastern Star.

December 29, 1883, he married Ida Hamman. They have five children: Effie, wife of Ozro Richey; Sherman, who lives in DeKalb County, near Hamilton; Ethel, wife of Leroy Hodges; Edna, wife of Err Lemon; and Floyd, who married Laura Kauffman.

Mrs. Musser is a daughter of Adam and Rebecca (Curry) Hamman. Her father was born in Stark County, Ohio, May 12, 1838, and her mother in Columbiana County, that state, in March 1842. In the Hamman family were eleven children, and those living today are: Ida; Lydia, wife of Benjamin Duncan; Jesse, of Williams County, Ohio; Cora, wife of John Rohrbaugh; Rebecca, wife of William May; and Miles, of Pleasant Lake Indiana. The Hamman family settled in DeKalb County in 1854. Mrs. Musser was reared in Franklin Township and attended the public schools there.

ELBRIDGE E. BUTLER has spent nearly all his active years as a farmer in Salem Township of Steuben County. He was born there, grandson of one of the earliest settlers, and his own life has been in keeping with the high standards of industrious and good citizenship set by the earlier representatives of the name.

Mr. Butler was born in Salem Township September 16, 1865. His grandfather was Jesse Butler, representing an old Vermont family. In June, 1838, Jesse and his brothers Loren and Daniel with their families started for Steuben County, Indiana. There were of course no railroads, and they made the journey by the feasible routes then in existence. They first proceeded to Albany, New York, crossed New York State on the Erie Canal, from Buffalo went by lake boat to Toledo, and near Toledo bought the teams and wagons which brought them to Salem Township in Steuben County. The three brothers bought 500 acres in sections 5 and 8, and they not only improved their lands from the wilderness into good farms, but were men of prominence in every way. The children of Jesse Butler were Seymour, Mary Jane, who became the wife of Newton Bodlie, Parthena and James W.

James W. Butler, father of Elbridge E., was born in Salem Township April 25, 1843, and died May 13, 1895. He married Elnora Wright. She was also a native of Salem Township, daughter of Elbridge and Martha (Cochran) Wright. Elbridge Wright was one of the early farmers of Salem Township. His children were Elnora, Henry, Cyrus, Monroe and Marion, twins, Elsie, who became the wife of Frank Gettings, and Dora, who married John Tritch.

James W. Butler received a public school education in Salem Township, also attended the academy at Orland, and from early manhood devoted himself to farming in his native township. He owned the 160-acre homestead of his father and lived there until his death. But besides looking closely after

the management of this farm he became noted as probably the most successful stock buyer in this part of Indiana. His wife died May 27, 1885, the mother of four children: Elbridge E.; May, who became the wife of Benjamin Hayward; Cora, who died at the age of thirteen; and Lura, wife of Edward Bussell.

Elbridge E. Butler attended the Butler School in Salem Township, and with the exception of two years when he was managing a livery business at Kendallville has devoted his energies to farming in his native township. In 1900 he bought his present farm in sections 4 and 9, and has 160 acres well fitted for staple crops and livestock. He is a breeder of Jersey cattle and as a farmer knows his business thoroughly.

October 2, 1889, Mr. Butler married Elizabeth Emerson, a native of Salem Township and daughter of Avery and Elizabeth (Parsell) Emerson. The Emersons are a well known Steuben County family. Mrs. Butler is a sister of Fred Emerson of Angola. To their marriage were born four children: Monroe, who married Irene DeLong and has two children, Ruth and Jean; George Clifford who married Margaret Emerson; James A., who died in childhood; and John Elbridge. Mr. and Mrs. Butler also took into their home Cora Barkley at the age of seven years, and she has lived with them for the past fifteen years. Mr. Butler is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

JAMES T. IDEN. One of the farms longest occupied in Sparta Township is that of James T. Iden in section 25. Mr. Iden and wife have lived in that locality of Noble County nearly forty years, have cultivated innumerable crops, and have seen their efforts grow and prosper under their hand. In every sense of the word they are substantial citizens, good neighbors and upholders of the best community spirit.

Mr. Iden was born in Licking County, Ohio, September 4, 1854, a son of Samuel and Julia A. (Hull) Iden, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. They were married in Ohio, and after some years of residence in Licking County moved to Noble County, Indiana, in 1864, settling near Indian Village in Sparta Township. The parents spent the rest of their days there, and Samuel Iden had a farm of 120 acres. He was a very active member of the Baptist Church and in politics a democrat. There were five children, and the three now living are: James T.; Alpheus J., a resident of LaMesa, California; and Sarah E., unmarried.

James T. Iden was ten years old when he came to Noble County. He had attended school back in Ohio and finished his education in the district schools of this county. After reaching the age of twenty-one he worked out by the month, and on April 17, 1881, married Anna S. Schlachach. She was born in Stark County, Ohio, November 9, 1859, and was only an infant when her parents came to Noble County. She was educated in this county in the common schools. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Iden located on the farm where they have lived ever since. They have 100 acres of land devoted to general farming and stock raising. Mr. Iden is a democrat in politics. He and his wife have no children.

William M. Schlachach, father of Mrs. Iden, was born in Pennsylvania. He went from that state to Ohio and married there Sarah Braucher. For many years they were farmers in Ohio, but in the spring of 1860 came to Noble County, Indiana, and located in Sparta Township, where they spent the

rest of their lives and became well known and highly respected people of that community. Mrs. Iden's mother died in July, 1880, and her father passed away February 2, 1909. There were eight children in the Schlabach family, seven of whom are still living: Clara A., wife of Yangelph Werker; John R., who lives near Cromwell; Anna, Mrs. Iden; William O., of South Bend; Mary E., wife of J. W. Smith, of Ligonier; M. Schlabach, of Fort Wayne; Charles L., of Cromwell; and Ida E., deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Schlabach were members of the Christian Church.

MRS. MARY E. THOMPSON, widow of the late Elza J. Thompson, is a member of the well-known Pancake family of Noble County, and is daughter of the late John Pancake, one of the most prominent citizens of this section of Indiana. He first settled in Elkhart Township of Noble County.

The late Elza J. Thompson was born three miles north of Albion in 1851, was educated in the district school and taught school, and on January 14, 1886, married Mary E. Pancake. Mr. Thompson died fourteen years later.

Mrs. Thompson has two children: Jennie E., born August 3, 1888, still living with her mother, and Forest P., who was born November 26, 1891. Mrs. Thompson has eighty acres in her home farm, 160 acres in Elkhart Township, and she owns her father's old home of 160 acres. She is a depositor in the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company at Ligonier and a stockholder in the Topeka Bank.

WILLIAM O. SHAMBAUGH has been an active man of affairs in Noble County for over forty years, and the greater part of this time has been devoted to the cultivation of his farm in Green Township. He owns one of the best homes and homesteads in that locality, and aside from his position as a successful farmer always carried much weight in public affairs.

Mr. Shambaugh was born in Ashland County, Ohio, January 18, 1855, son of Henry and Margaret (McKinley) Shambaugh, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. His father went to Ohio when a boy, grew up and married there, and two years after his marriage moved to Wisconsin, where he bought a farm. When the Civil war came on he went into the ranks as a soldier and served faithfully and bravely until the close of hostilities. Having sold his property in Wisconsin he returned with his family to Ohio, and bought the old homestead in Ashland County. In 1874 he moved to Noble County, Indiana, and lived the rest of his life in Green Township. He was a democrat in politics. Of four children born to the parents three are still living: William O.; Nancy, wife of Isaac Shambaugh, of Green Township; and Clara, wife of Lewis Sommers, of Green Township.

William O. Shambaugh grew up on his father's farm in Ohio, had a common school education, and was a member of the home circle until the age of twenty-one. On September 14, 1876, he married Miss Fannie E. Arthur. She was born near Green Center in Noble County, February 14, 1857. Mr. and Mrs. Shambaugh have two children: Cora is a graduate of the common schools and the wife of Curtis Bonar now on Mr. Shambaugh's home farm; Franklin is a graduate of the common schools, lives in Green Township and married Della McCoy.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Shambaugh began farming in Green Township, and they now own a well cultivated and improved farm of 120 acres. Mr. Shambaugh also has property at Churusco. He and his wife and family lived for two

years at Kendallville. Mr. Shambaugh is one of the trustees of the parsonage of the United Brethren Church at Green Center, where he and his family worship. He has a record of efficient service as a trustee of Green Township, an office he held from 1900 to 1904.

CHARLES H. HOVERSTOCK, who is proprietor of the Hoverstock Garage at Topeka, has come into the automobile business by a natural process of evolution, having in early life been connected with the manufacture of bicycles, and when that vehicle was largely superseded by the automobile he became agent for one of the pioneer cars of America, and for over fourteen years has sold the famous Buick.

He was born in Eden Township of LaGrange County November 18, 1875, son of James and L. (Parks) Hoverstock. His father was born in LaGrange County April 28, 1850, a son of William and Margaret Hoverstock, who came to this state from Ohio and settled near Topeka on a farm lying partly in Eden and partly in Clear Spring Township. James Hoverstock, who died April 15, 1913, was a prominent and wealthy business man, owning a livery establishment which he operated for many years, until he retired. He and his wife were active members of the Methodist Church and he was a republican.

Charles H. Hoverstock, only son of his parents, grew up on a farm and received most of his education in the schools of Ligonier. For several years he was a foreman in a bicycle factory and in an assembly department at New Castle and Hartford City, Indiana. Fourteen years ago he took the local agency for the Buick automobile, and handles in addition the Chevrolet car. He built his present commodious garage in 1914. Mr. Hoverstock is a stockholder in both banks in Topeka.

In 1897 he married Alice Lantz, daughter of Ezra and Susanna (Yoder) Lantz. They have three children: Kenneth W., associated with his father in business; Caistro H., a student in high school; and Alice L., who is twelve years old and a student in the common schools. Mrs. Hoverstock is a member of the Baptist Church. He is a republican and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

ALBERT L. ADDIS. One of the most interesting citizens of Noble County is Albert L. Addis, who owns the Arrowdale Stock Farm in section 14 of Noble Township. Mr. Addis is not only a capable farmer and an equally capable citizen, but is a man of scholarly tastes and pursuits and is probably the highest local authority on all subjects pertaining to archeology in Noble County. Much of his work has received official recognition from the foremost scholars and from the Government at Washington.

Mr. Addis was born on the farm where he now resides March 6, 1878, son of Milton and Mary (Kneener) Addis. His father was born in Monroe County, Ohio, May 2, 1838, a son of John Addis, who brought his family to Noble County in early days and spent the rest of his life here. Milton Addis was a young man when he came to the county, was married here, his wife coming from Darke County, Ohio, and he then bought the 115 acres where his son is now living. He was a soldier in the Civil war, and while in the army lost his hearing.

Albert L. Addis was the only child of his parents, both of whom are now deceased. All his life has been spent on the home farm. He acquired a common school education, and has made use of opportunity since leaving school to extend his studies and investigations in various channels, particularly in tracing and investigating the remains of



aboriginal inhabitants in this section of Indiana. After the death of his father he took charge of the home farm, and on April 14, 1897, he married Mary M. Huff. She was born in Greene Township of Noble County January 27, 1881, daughter of Christ and Nancy J. Simmons Huff. Her father was born in Swan Township of Noble County June 18, 1843, and her mother in Darke County, Ohio, September 7, 1855. Mrs. Addis was reared in Greene Township. They have four children: Edna, Artie and Lawrence, who have all finished the work of the common schools, and Mabel, who is now in the seventh grade. Mrs. Addis is a member of the Baptist Church at Wolf Lake, and has been affiliated with that organization since 1907. Mr. Addis is a democrat.

It was about 1899 that Mr. Addis formally undertook the collection of specimens that would serve as a systematic evidence of the early occupation of aboriginal tribes in his section of Indiana. Later he sold this collection to a museum of American Indians in New York City. He was paid \$3,000 for his collection in 1915. At the present time Mr. Addis is busily engaged in acquiring another collection. He also contributed for Noble County the account of aboriginal remains published by the Bureau of Ethnology.

EDMON F. SMITH. One of the excellent farmers and cattle feeders of Steuben Township, Steuben County, is Edmon F. Smith, owner of 120 acres of as good land as can be found in this part of the state. He was born on his present farm in section 29, Steuben Township, November 7, 1860, a son of Amos Smith and grandson of Michael Smith, a native of Pennsylvania, who became one of the pioneers of Smithfield Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. A few years after locating in that township he came to Steuben Township, where he lived the remainder of his life. He married Elizabeth Fox, and they had the following children: Jacob, Amos, Emeline, who married John Fish, and Adaline, who married Frank Slayball.

Amos Smith was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Elizabeth Wolfgang, was born in Pennsylvania, she being a daughter of Samuel Wolfgang. Coming to Steuben Township with his father, Amos Smith became the owner of 200 acres of land in Steuben Township, a portion of which is now owned by his son E. F. Smith. He and his wife had the following children: Sarah, who married Charles E. Shuman; Edmon F., whose name heads this review; and Della, who married Henry Mountz. Amos Smith became well known in his community as a man of sterling character and unquestioned integrity, and his verbal promise was considered as good as another man's bond.

Edmon F. Smith attended the district schools of Steuben Township, and was taught to be a farmer by his experienced father. After attaining his majority he began farming the homestead on his own account, and has owned it since 1893, the farm comprising 120 acres. Here he carries on general farming and breeds Shorthorn cattle, his methods of doing his work being such as to win for him the commendation of his neighbors. In 1895 he erected his present comfortable modern residence, and has remodeled the other buildings so that his premises present a neat and attractive appearance and show that the owner understands his business.

On September 22, 1885, Mr. Smith was united in marriage with Enola I. Weldin, born October 22, 1864, in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, a daughter of Leander F. Weldin and his wife,

Rebecca J. (Moore) Weldin. Leander F. Weldin was born in Columbiana County, Ohio. When the Civil war broke out he naturally espoused the cause of the North, and in August, 1861, gave proof of this in his enlistment as a member of the Thirtieth Indiana Infantry, in which he served for four years and three months and participated in the following battles: Shiloh, Stone River, Chickamauga, Rocky Face Ridge, Dallas, Kenesaw Mountain, Atlanta, Lovejoy's Station, Franklin and Nashville. After he received his honorable discharge he located in Steuben Township, where he continued to farm the remainder of his life. He and his wife had the following children: Enola, Kimber M., Delbert G. and Arthur L. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have two children, namely: Velma E. and Waldo E. Waldo married Leafa Kohl and they have a daughter, Ruth De Vere, and a son, Warren Kohl. Like his father, Mr. Smith stands deservedly high in his community, and he and his wife entertain their friends at their comfortable home upon many occasions, for they delight in gathering about them those to whom they are bound by ties of affectionate regard.

JOSEPH S. WATSON is one of the well known and well-to-do farmer citizens of York Township, Noble County, and has come into his present prosperity by relying entirely upon his own good sense and hard efforts since assuming life's serious responsibilities for himself. His home is four miles southwest of Albion.

Mr. Watson was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, June 19, 1866, a son of Robert and Electra (Wells) Watson. His father was born in Medina County, Ohio, and his mother in Clark County of the same state. Their respective families came to Indiana at an early day, locating in Allen County, where Robert and Electra grew up and married. They lived on farms in different counties of Indiana and for eleven years were residents of the State of Tennessee. Robert Watson was a prominent member of the Methodist Episcopal Church and was a staunch republican in politics. Of their seven children six are still living: Milton C., of Fort Wayne; Elvira E., wife of M. V. Hall; Hans A.; Theresa, wife of John App; Joseph S.; and Viola, wife of Nelson Curtis.

Joseph S. Watson grew up on a farm and attended the district schools. At the age of twenty-one he started out to earn his own way in the world. For one winter he was a cattle feeder, and the fifty dollars he saved from that work he invested in two head of cattle and later he bought a farm in Jasper County, Indiana, and traded that for land in Tennessee, where he lived for four and a half years. On returning to Indiana he acquired eighty acres in Allen County, and he was a farmer in that locality for twelve years. Since then he has extended his efforts as a farmer and business man in Noble County, and now has a well modeled farm of 160 acres. He does general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Watson married in 1893 Dora Stephenson, of Allen County, Indiana, but a native of Paulding County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Watson are the parents of six children. Goldie, who finished her education in the college at Fort Wayne, is now general clerk with the firm of Ackerman & Hardenbrook. Etha D. is a graduate of high school and of Manchester College, and also of the Indiana Business College at Fort Wayne, and is now connected with the General Delivery Company at Fort Wayne. Alva N., Emerson, Alice and Cora May are the younger children, all at home. Mr. Watson is a republican in politics.



CHARLES E. NEWCOMER. In the same Township where he was born and reared, Franklin Township, Charles E. Newcomer has spent his active life as a tiller of the soil, has gathered many crops through the consecutive seasons, and is directing a large and valuable farm in section 8, where he has his home and where his family of children are growing up around him.

Mr. Newcomer was born in Franklin Township May 12, 1873, a son of George and Barbara (Van Horn) Newcomer, the former a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, and the latter of Allen Township, Noble County, Ohio. George Newcomer came to DeKalb County with his parents, grew up here and after his marriage settled in section 29 of Franklin Township. Some years ago he and his good wife retired from the farm and are now living at Waterloo. He is a democrat and is a member of the Masonic Order. Of the seven children six are still living: Charles E.; Lona, unmarried; Mary M., widow of John Brown; Arnie, who occupies the old homestead; Elmer, also of Franklin Township; and William, of that Township.

Charles E. Newcomer spent his boyhood days alternately attending school and working in the fields and about the home. He married Effie Mann, a native of Franklin Township. They have a family of five children: Marion, born June 22, 1897; Harold, born January 16, 1900; Howard, born December 23, 1901; Grace, born October 25, 1903; and Gladys, born November 30, 1907. The four older children are all graduates of the common school and all are still in the home circle.

Mr. Newcomer is affiliated with Lodge No. 701, Free and Accepted Masons, Royal Arch Chapter No. 106, Council No. 83, Royal and Select Masters, and he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star Chapter. He is a past grand of the Odd Fellows and a member of the Grand Lodge and is a past chief patriarch of the Encampment. Mrs. Newcomer is a past grand of the Rebekahs. Politically Mr. Newcomer affiliates with the democratic party. He is a member of the Hamilton Grange. His farm in Franklin Township comprises 200 acres and he has it well equipped and well stocked with good grades.

Mrs. Newcomer was born in Franklin Township August 8, 1876, a daughter of Jahn and Elizabeth (Curry) Mann. Her father was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1838, and came with his parents to Franklin Township in 1839. His wife was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, in 1840 and came to DeKalb County when a young lady. They were married March 24, 1864, then lived in Franklin Township one year, spent a year in Missouri, and after that lived in Franklin Township the rest of their days. Mr. Mann was a democrat in politics. There were two children: Almeda, deceased wife of Adam Hamman, and Effie E., Mrs. Newcomer.

CLAUDE KIMMELL is a prominent representative of a numerous family of that name in Noble County, and for a number of years has been successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising on a large place in Sparta Township.

He was born in York Township of the same county June 24, 1879, son of Orlando and Jane (White) Kimmell. Claude was the youngest in a rather large family. He grew up on the old farm, attended district schools. He also for two years attended Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan, and then took a business course at Indianapolis, Indiana. He lived at home until his marriage.

In August, 1909, Miss Hannah Kiester became

his wife. Mrs. Kimmell is a woman of thorough education and culture. She is a daughter of John and Barbara (Moore) Kiester. She was born and reared in Washington Township, attended the district schools there, is a graduate of the State Normal School and holds a life certificate as a teacher. She was a teacher both in the common and high schools before her marriage. They have two children: Anna May, born December 18, 1910, and Claude A., born August 14, 1917. In this large family of Kimmells in Noble County, Claude A. happens to be the only grandson bearing the name Kimmell.

Mr. Kimmell is farming on an extensive scale, and has a total of 640 acres under his control and management. He breeds and raises all kinds of livestock. He is a stockholder in the State Bank at Kimmell, is a republican, and a member of Albion Lodge No. 97, Free and Accepted Masons.

IRA L. MYERS, proprietor of the Union Home Farm of 360 acres in Orange Township of Noble County, is a man of interesting characteristics and experience. He early trained himself for a career as a pharmacist, also studied medicine, but reasons of ill health brought him back to the farm where he was reared, and for a quarter of a century he has been one of the leading agriculturists of Noble County. Those familiar with Mr. Myers' operations say that his success is largely due to his good judgment and his willingness to take long chances, the same quality that makes successful business men as well as good farmers.

Mr. Myers was born in Orange Township, March 15, 1871, a son of Reuben D. and Sarah (Kiefer) Myers, the former a native of Summit County, Ohio, and the latter of Pennsylvania. Reuben Myers moved to Indiana when a young man and settled in Noble County, and his wife's people also came to the same locality. After their marriage they settled on a farm in Orange Township, where the father lived until his death in 1912. The mother is still living. The family were members of the United Brethren Church at Oak Grove. The father was affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Rome City, and in politics was a democrat. Of four children, three are still living: Melissa, wife of Emanuel Myers, of Elkhart, Indiana; Frank E., of Orange Township; and Ira L.

Ira L. Myers spent his boyhood on the farm where he is now living, and acquired his early education at Rome City. He attended the high school there and entered the pharmacy department of Northwestern University of Chicago, graduating with the degree Ph. G. on February 25, 1890. In the fall of the same year he entered the medical department of Northwestern University and diligently pursued his studies for two years.

Then, as above noted, he left school and abandoned a professional career on account of ill health, and returning home engaged in farming. For several years he rented his father's place, and later began buying until he owns 360 acres. One of his main standbys as a farmer has been wheat, and he made money on that crop long before the era of high prices and Government regulation. He also keeps his farm well stocked and it represents a large investment and is a business handled with every degree of efficiency.

November 2, 1895, Mr. Myers married Lizzie Shaeffer. She was born in Orange Township, March 23, 1875, and graduated from the Wolcottville High School in 1892. Mrs. Myers is a member of the Evangelical Church at Wolcottville. They have one son, Victor L., born January 11, 1908, and now in

the sixth grade of the public schools. When this son was a year old the father invested for him eighteen dollars in three sheep. The sheep were kept as a nucleus of a steadily growing flock, and now at the age of nine years the son Victor has 185 sheep and has \$2,800.00 to his credit in cash securities. Mr. Myers is a democrat and has served as precinct committeeman of his party.

CHARLES W. WARRING for a number of years has been an active member of the farming community of Jackson Township in Steuben County, and has lived in that county since he was a child.

He was born in Cayuga County, New York, January 25, 1870, a son of William and Phoebe Ann (Brown) Warring. His mother was born February 25, 1845. William Warring was born in Ireland, October 4, 1841, a son of William Warring, Sr. His mother died in Ireland and in 1845 William Warring, Sr., came to Canada with his son William and daughter Cassie. He died in Canada after his second marriage. William Warring, Jr., served an apprenticeship at the trade of spinner in a woolen mill and followed that trade for a number of years. He became head boss in the Hayden factory in Cayuga County, New York. He was married while living there and he and his brother-in-law, Charles Brown, bought eighty acres of land, but after a few years he sold his interest and returned to work in the woolen mills. In 1876 he came to Steuben County with his family, buying eighty acres of timbered land without fences. He cleared up the place, built a good house, and became one of the substantial farmers of Jackson Township. He also owned an acre of ground and a house in Flint. He spent his last days with his son, Charles, and died August 24, 1907. His first wife died March 30, 1884, the mother of three children, named Charles W., Robert J. and William, the last dying in infancy. Robert J. Warring was born January 4, 1878, and is a farmer in Jackson Township, where he has seventy acres and is a successful breeder of Duroc Jersey hogs. He married Geneva Ritter, and their four children are Raymond, Wayland, Wilma and Levi. William Warring married for his second wife Minna Williams, and she died in March, 1907.

Charles W. Warring grew up on the old homestead in Steuben County from the age of six, and besides the public schools took a commercial course in the Tri-State College at Angola. Today he owns the old homestead and has added forty-nine acres of the Charles Brown place and has it all well improved and as a stockman devotes particular attention to the Spotted Poland China hogs. He is a democrat, and his father was of the same political faith until late in life.

In 1891 Mr. Warring married Florence V. DeLong, a daughter of James DeLong. Three children were born to their marriage: Rose Anne, born January 30, 1892, is a graduate of the Flint High School and the Tri-State College and is the wife of Ellis Call, by whom she had two children, Opal and Maynard, the latter dying at the age of six months. Roscoe Curtis Warring, born July 15, 1893, was educated in the Flint High School, took a commercial course in the Tri-State College, and as a farmer rents the John Parsell farm. He married Winifred Parsell, a daughter of George Parsell of Jackson Township, and has one son, Ralph. William Charles Warring, the youngest of the family, was born March 2, 1899, graduated from the Flint High School, attended the International Business College at Fort Wayne, and is still at home.

Mrs. Warring's father, James DeLong, was born in Ohio and married Polly Daily, a native of the same state. When a child he was taken to Allen County,

Indiana, by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. George DeLong, who spent the rest of their years there and were buried in the Cedar Creek Cemetery. Polly Daily's parents, George and Julia Ann (Essig) Daily, were also early settlers in Allen County, where they spent the rest of their lives. James DeLong had a public school education, and in early life went west to Colorado and took up a claim. Part of that land is now covered by Colorado City. His wife started west and got as far as Missouri, where he returned to join her and they came back and settled in DeKalb County, Indiana. Mr. DeLong enlisted while there in the Union army and served eighteen months. After the war he returned to DeKalb County and was a successful farmer, though he never owned any land. He refused to take any pension for his services as a soldier, but after his death his widow received back pension and with it bought seventy acres in Jackson Township of Steuben County. Mrs. Warring's father died in 1877 aged forty-four. Her mother lived until 1906, when she was seventy years of age. Her children were George, Catherine (deceased), Sylvia, Curtis, William, Ira, Florence and Ada (deceased). James DeLong was a republican and he and his wife were members of the United Brethren Church.

Curtis DeLong, a brother of Mrs. Warring, was born in DeKalb County, March 3, 1862, and has been a resident of Steuben County since 1891. He owns considerable land in that county, comprising 200 acres in Jackson Township and other land elsewhere. He married in 1894 Miss Maud Mercer, of Steuben County, daughter of Wesley Mercer. They have three children: Mary, born in 1896, Marie, born in 1903, and Madge Mary, born in 1908.

BURL MOUGHLER. One of the best representatives of the younger generation of farmers in DeKalb County is Burl Moughler of Troy Township. When he bought his present farm of 118 acres in 1907 he had only \$525 cash. From the products of the fields and his livestock he paid for the 118 acres, and since then has bought 48 acres additional. He is a thoroughly efficient stockman and realizes the necessity of the best improvements and methods of handling land and stock.

Mr. Moughler was born in Wilmington Township, DeKalb County, a mile and a quarter south and a half mile east of Butler, August 16, 1881, a son of John and Alice (Hendershot) Moughler. His father was born in Wayne County, Ohio, February 9, 1850, and his mother in Defiance County, Ohio, March 6, 1857. Both are residents of Troy Township, where they located when their son Burl was three years old. The mother is a member of the United Brethren Church. The father is a democrat. They have two sons, Burl and Glenn, the latter a farmer in Wilmington Township.

Burl Moughler acquired his education in the district schools and as a young man he rented a baling outfit and for three years traveled about the different farms baling hay. On December 19, 1903, he married Della C. Riser, who was born in Troy Township August 5, 1885. For three years after their marriage they rented land in Stafford Township, and then with the limited capital above noted bought their present home. The additional forty acres was acquired in 1918. Mr. Moughler breeds good grades of livestock, and for several years has fed hogs and cattle on an extensive scale. His two sons are enthusiastic members of the Boys Pig Clubs, and were contestants in the pig feeding contest for the districts of Stafford, Troy, Wilmington and Franklin townships and were awarded the first prize of \$20 in gold.



The children of Mr. and Mrs. Mougler are: Olis L., born October 21, 1904; Ora Dale, born August 12, 1906; Roy J., born December 23, 1912; and Helen, born February 27, 1915. The family are members of the United Brethren Church and Mr. Moughler is trustee of the parsonage and formerly superintendent of the Sunday school and active in all departments of the church. He is affiliated with Lodge No. 157 of the Knights of Pythias at Butler and is a member of the Modern Woodmen of America at Edgerton, Ohio. Politically he is a republican.

LEWIS T. BAKER has for thirty years or more been identified with the farming activities of Noble County, and is owner of eighty acres in Washington Township. Mr. Baker has followed general farming but has also specialized to some extent as a breeder of Shorthorn cattle and of O. I. C. hogs.

He was born at Cromwell, Indiana, November 14, 1861. His parents, Jacob and Mary A. (Smith) Baker, were both natives of Ohio and came to Noble County, Indiana, with their respective families. They grew up here, were married, and then located on a farm near Cromwell and subsequently moved to Sparta Township, where Jacob Baker lived as a practical agriculturist until he moved to Washington Township, where he died on the farm. His widow is still living. Both have been active members of the Methodist Church, and as a republican he gave three terms of excellent service as trustee of Sparta Township. Of the children five are still living: G. W. Baker, of Kosciusko County; H. E. Baker, of Denver, Colorado; Lewis T.; Julia, wife of Rev. W. H. Brightmire, of Indianapolis; and Sherman C., of Washington Township.

Lewis T. Baker spent his boyhood days and acquired his education at Cromwell, but has been a resident of Washington Township since he was sixteen years old. In September, 1885, he married Frances Palmer. She was born in Whitley County and was educated in the common schools. Mr. Baker had the misfortune to lose his wife by death in May, 1913. There were no children. He is affiliated with the Lodge of Odd Fellows at Etna and is a past master of that lodge and a member of the grand lodge. In politics he is a republican.

FRANK T. KNISELY. Nearly seventy years ago the late John B. Knisely came to Steuben County and began the development of a farm in York Township which is now the property of Frank T. Knisely. The latter, long regarded as one of the most substantial citizens of Steuben County, is an adopted son of John B. Knisely. He was born in Cleveland, Ohio, June 21, 1874, and at the age of two months was adopted by the Knisely family.

The late John B. Knisely, who died November 26, 1912, was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, November 27, 1830, a son of David and Sarah Knisely. David Knisely entered land in section 6 of York Township, Steuben County, when the land was first put on the market. John B. Knisely at the age of twenty-one came to Indiana to improve this land, and his prosperity eventually was measured by the ownership of 360 acres. David Knisely died in Ohio in 1877.

May 22, 1853, John B. Knisely married Emma S. Johnston. She was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, May 22, 1836, a daughter of Silas and Aseneth Johnston. John Knisely and wife had five children, including their adopted son Frank. The three to reach mature years were Letta E., wife of George Osfall, a farmer and merchant of York Township, and the mother of one child, Emma L.; Frank T.;

and Nellie C., who married Charles Hershmiller and died in Massachusetts, October 31, 1909.

Frank T. Knisely, who continues the Knisely name, acquired his education in the public schools of York Township and as a boy and young man worked on his father's place. For three or four years he lived on a nearby farm, but with that exception his labors have been devoted to the old Knisely homestead. He owns 395 acres in sections 6 and 7, and by his industry, good judgment and public spirit has proved worthy of his inheritance. With the exception of the house he has put practically all the buildings and other improvements on the land. Mr. Knisely is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In 1896 he married Kate McElroy, daughter of Robert and Alzina (Brooks) McElroy. The McElroys and Brooks are old families of Steuben County, and special reference to them is made on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Knisely have had six children, Vera, Burl, Neva, Orlo, Arlene and Dorothy, but Dorothy died in infancy.

MINARD F. ROSE. A resident of Steuben County over three-quarters of a century, Minard F. Rose has some interesting recollections of the journey which brought the family to this county from Northern Ohio. He has concerned himself during his active years with farming in York Township, long since acquired a competency from his efforts, and in his declining years has the satisfaction of seeing his own children and some of his grandchildren started and established in life on a self-respecting plane.

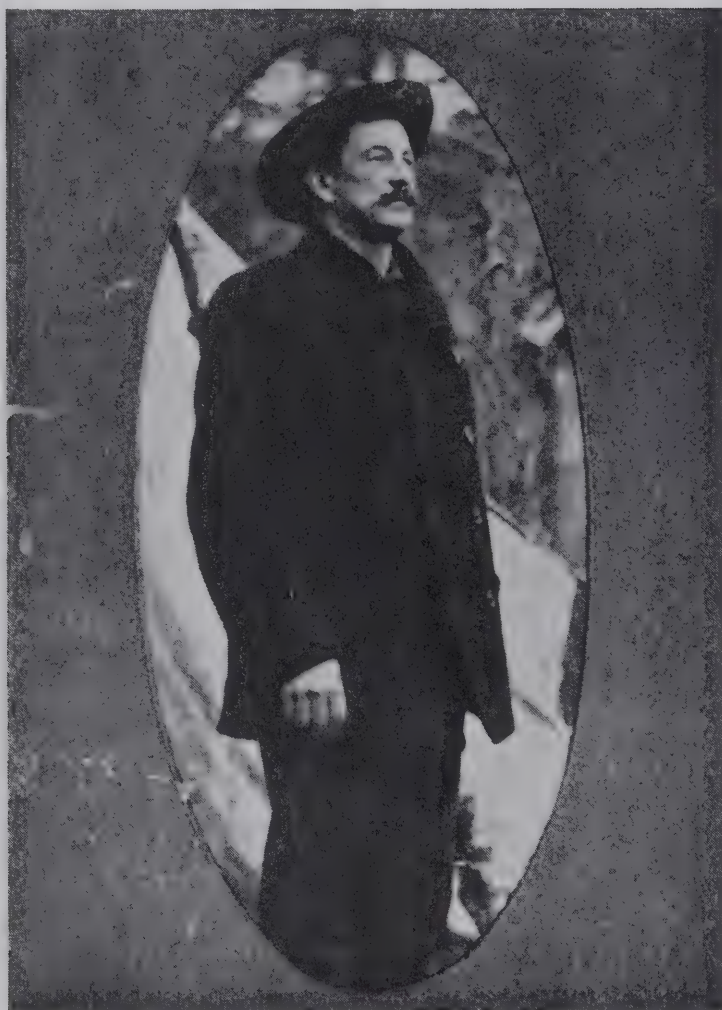
Mr. Rose was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, December 9, 1841, a son of Jacob O. and Mary A. (Comstock) Rose. His father was born in Rensselaer County, New York, May 18, 1814, a son of Elias and Eva (Overrocker) Rose, natives of New York and of Dutch ancestry. The Rose family moved from New York and settled near Cleveland in 1835. On April 12, 1837, Jacob O. Rose married Mary A. Comstock, and she was born July 3, 1817, a daughter of Stephen and Charlotte (Fitch) Comstock, natives of Connecticut.

It was in 1845 that Jacob O. Rose and family moved to Steuben County, settling in York Township. They made the journey by wagon and team. Minard F. Rose was then four years old, but recalls some of the incidents of the journey. He remembers that his father brought five head of Devonshire cows and a Chester White hog, and he recalls the difficulties of crossing the Swannee River. Just about that time Mr. Rose had his experience of the whooping cough. The family settled a mile and a half east of where Minard Rose now lives, on eighty acres of wild land. Jacob Rose eventually acquired 240 acres there, but after ten years sold and bought what is now the Robinson farm. He lived there another period of ten years and then went to Big Rapids, Michigan, where he died October 24, 1883. His widow then returned to Steuben County and lived with her son, Minard, until her death. They had three children: Elias Overrocker, Charlotte, who died in infancy, and Minard F.

Minard F. Rose grew up in York Township, and has lived there since he was four years old. He acquired a good education, attending the public schools and was also a student at Hillsdale College under President Fairfield. In his early life he also taught school in Williams County, Ohio, two miles east of Columbia. For two years he rented the old homestead and in the fall of 1863 moved to his present place, where he has 140 acres. The improvements when he moved there consisted of a







*Isaac A. Vest*

frame house, which was the second frame building erected in the township. Mr. Rose has since completely changed the aspect of things on the farm, clearing and improving and erecting substantial buildings. He and his son, Irwin, have long been associated in the management of the farm and for some years they were breeders of Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Rose was the first county assessor under a new law, being appointed by the Board of County Commissioners and later elected to that office. In politics he is a republican and also served one term as township trustee. He is a member of the Christian Church at Metz, his father having been a member of the same denomination.

October 6, 1862, Mr. Rose married Miss Ann Eliza Powers. She was the second white child born in York Township, born January 2, 1839, a daughter of Winn Powers, and member of the well known Powers family of Steuben County, including her brother, Riley Powers. Mrs. Rose, who is now deceased, was the mother of five children. Mary is the wife of Ed E. Mitchell, of Phoenix, Arizona, and her daughter, Maggie, is married to Walter E. Frazee, of Rushville, Indiana. Jay O., the second child, lives at Angola, and by his marriage to Edith Fay has two sons, Minard F., Jr., and John. J. O. Rose is a minister of the Christian Church, was pastor of churches at Fort Wayne, Kendallville, Bryan, Ohio, and many other places, and in later years has been instructor in Bible classes at the Tri-State College. William E. Rose, a resident of Chicago, married Lena Merry, and their children are Winn, Lois, Edith and Dorothy. Irwin F., who for a number of years has been associated with his father on the farm, married Alice Goodale, daughter of the late Dr. Charles W. Goodale of Metz, and to their union have been born seven children: Mildred, Margaret, Graydon, Helen, Catherine, Ruth and Gordon, all living except Ruth. Mr. and Mrs. Rose lost one child, Ida, when she was two weeks old.

ISAAC A. WERT is proprietor of 113 acres of the old Wert farm two and a half miles north and a mile and a half east of South Milford. This farm is chiefly known because of the saw mill industry which has been operated there by Isaac A. Wert and by his father before him for a long period of years, and has been the source of production of much of the lumber manufactured in that part of LaGrange County.

Isaac A. Wert was born on his farm August 29, 1858, a son of Daniel and Eliza (Miller) Wert. His father was a native of Stark County, Ohio, and his mother of Seneca County, and after their marriage they came to Indiana, about 1855. In 1857 Daniel Wert bought the saw mill in Milford Township. The plant was originally constructed about 1843, more than three quarters of a century ago. After buying the property Daniel Wert tore down the old plant and reconstructed a new and better one, and he continued its operations until the infirmities of age prevented him from managing the business any longer, since which time his son Isaac has been proprietor. The father died at the age of eighty-seven years.

Isaac A. Wert married in 1884 Ella Eiman. She is the mother of one son, Cyrus D., born in 1885, who is married and lives with his father. Mr. and Mrs. Wert after their marriage lived on a farm six years and then moved to the Mill Farm, where they have lived ever since. During the World war Mr. Wert operated his mill to its fullest capacity in order to supply government needs. He is a stockholder in the Noble Truck Company at Kendallville and the Sterlite Sales Company at Auburn,

Indiana. He is affiliated with South Milford Lodge No. 619, International Order of Foresters, and with the Encampment, and in politics is a democrat.

WALTER W. MOUNTZ is one of the best known public men in the official life of DeKalb County, is clerk of the DeKalb County Circuit Court, and has been a leader in local affairs for a number of years.

Though of an old family of Northeast Indiana, he was born at Overbrook in the State of Kansas July 10, 1886. He is a son of Francis and Della (Smith) Mountz. His father was born near Pleasant Lake, Indiana, July 6, 1859, had a common school education, was married at Ashley, and after his marriage lived in Kansas six years. Returning to Indiana, he settled in DeKalb County, at Garrett, where for fourteen years he was proprietor of a retail hardware business. He was also prominent in democratic politics, represented the Second Ward in the City Council of Garrett, and was an active member of the Garrett Fire Department at the time of his death. His widow is still living in Garrett. There were three children: Walter W.; Dessa, who graduated from the Garrett High School in 1906 and is the wife of Harry M. Barrie; and Russell M., clerk in a clothing and shoe store at Garrett.

Walter W. Mountz spent his early life at Garrett, attended the grammar schools there and one year in high school, and on leaving school was in the West for two years. July 10, 1909, he married Lulu Maurer. She died in July, 1910, and on August 5, 1912, he married Myrtle Osborne, of Kendallville, Indiana. Mrs. Mountz is a daughter of William S. and Anna (Johnson) Osborne and is a graduate of the Kendallville High School. They have one son, William W., born February 28, 1918.

Mr. Mountz was elected for two terms as city clerk of Garrett, going into office January 1, 1910, and serving seven years. He was reelected without opposition but resigned toward the close of his second term, on December 1, 1916, to take up his duties as circuit clerk. Mr. Mountz is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Royal Arch Chapter at Garrett. He served as secretary of the Lodge of Eagles from June 1, 1909, to January 1, 1917. He is also affiliated with the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, a member of the Auburn Commercial Club, and of the Presbyterian Church.

CARL A. SURFUS is one of the younger business farmers of Noble County, has been very successful in handling land, crops and livestock, and is also one of the most influential in the public affairs of Noble Township.

His home is a half mile north of Wolf Lake. He was born on a farm adjoining his present home December 31, 1881, a son of E. L. and Anna J. (Clark) Surfus. His father was born in Iowa and his mother in Ohio. Both the Clark and Surfus families came to Noble Township and settled in the woods, and both families have contributed much of the labor by which the present day improvements have been brought about. Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Surfus had two children, Carl A. and Stanley L., the latter of Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Carl A. Surfus grew up on a farm near Wolf Lake. He attended high school at Wolf Lake, and lived at home and acquired a practical knowledge of farming before he was ready to start out on his own account.

He married Lottie Kiester, of Noble Township. She is also a graduate of the Wolf Lake High School. Mrs. Surfus is one of a large family of seven daughters and three sons, all living but one.



This interesting family is named briefly as follows: Anna, wife of E. L. Prickett, former clerk of Noble County, and now living at Albion; Martha, wife of C. E. Butts, of Sparta Township; Nancy, deceased wife of C. H. Bender; J. T., of Washington Township; Hannah, wife of Claude Kimmell, of Sparta Township; Mary, wife of Charles Beers; Lee, of Washington Township; George, of Noble Township; Lottie, Mrs. Surfus; and Ruth, wife of M. J. Beers, of Perry Township.

After his marriage Mr. Surfus located on the farm where he now lives and has eighty acres under a high state of improvement and cultivation. He buys and feeds the Polled Angus cattle and also the Durhams, and is regarded as a man of special ability and wisdom in livestock husbandry. He is also a stockholder in the Wolf Lake State Bank.

Mr. and Mrs. Surfus have three children: Claude E., born in 1910; Lora Belle, born in 1914; and Lucile, born in 1917.

Mr. Surfus is a democrat in politics and was one of the youngest township trustees ever elected in Noble Township. He was only twenty-six years old when he was chosen to that responsible office, and the four years he remained an incumbent fully justified the expectations of his friends and supporters.

S. P. WILLIBEY, who was born in Williams County, Ohio, and whose people were pioneers in that state, has been identified with Steuben County as a practical farmer and thresherman for over thirty-five years, and is one of the leading men in influence and activities in Richland Township.

Mr. Willibey was born in Williams County, Florence Township, July 6, 1853, son of George and Abigail (Look) Willibey. George Willibey was born in Stark County, Ohio, July 6, 1819, son of John Willibey, who was an early settler in the old Ohio Western Reserve, and finally moved to Williams County, Ohio. George Willibey was one of the first settlers in Florence Township of Williams County, and spent the rest of his active life on a farm which he developed from the woods. He erected the first buildings and cleared the first land constituting his farm. He died in 1905. His wife, who was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, August 18, 1818, daughter of David Look, died in 1904. They were the parents of six children: John, who served with honor in the Union army during the Civil war, Elizabeth, Anna, Mary Jane, S. P. and Jeremiah. Jeremiah died in childhood.

S. P. Willibey secured his education in the public schools of Florence Township, and from early manhood his experience has been in growing crops, beginning in Florence Township and after 1883 continuing in Richland Township of Steuben County. With the exception of five years spent in York Township he has lived in Richland Township ever since. He bought his present farm of eighty acres in section 8 of Richland Township in 1915, and carries on a good business as a general farmer and stock raiser, handling the big type Poland China hogs. The harvesting feature of farming has been a matter of particular concern to Mr. Willibey. For forty years he operated a threshing outfit every season.

Mr. Willibey married Harriet Lechleidner, daughter of David and Rebecca Lechleidner. Nine children were born to their marriage, and they now have a number of grandchildren. Their children in order of birth were Maud May, Clarence, Blaine, Fred, Iva, Glenn, Paul, Orville and George David. Clarence died at the age of twenty-one. Maud May

is the wife of Ernest Wisner, and her two daughters are Ila and Dorothy. Blaine married Blanche Gates and has three children, Seleta, Galor and Ivan. Fred married Emma Gilbert and has two children, Alene and Alton Gilbert. Iva is the wife of William Hopkins and has a son, Kenneth. Glenn married Wava Newman, and their one child is Raymond. Paul married Ruth Bowles and has a child, Leotto. The family are members of the United Brethren Church, and Mr. Willibey has given his due time and means to the support of all religious causes. In his home church he has served as superintendent of the Sunday school, as a steward and trustee.

ISAAC CLYDE ALLEN. One of the younger men in the agricultural community of Salem Township, Isaac Clyde Allen has had sufficient time to make his efforts count and has achieved the dignity of the ownership of a fine farm and is working steadily toward a larger prosperity and the important service which the farmer represents.

Mr. Allen was born in Salem Township, July 27, 1883, a son of Artemus and Alvira (Garrison) Allen. His father was a son of Justice Allen, who after the death of his wife in Ohio brought his son Artemus to Steuben County in early days, and he died near Stroh many years ago. Artemus Allen lived for a number of years with Isaac Davis, and he met there Alvira Garrison, who was born in Kosciusko County in 1854 and for many years was a member of the Davis household. After their marriage they settled on a farm one mile south and half a mile east of Salem Center, and on selling that forty acres moved to a place a mile east and bought eighty acres, later increasing it to 127 acres. Mrs. Alvira Allen also inherited eighty acres from Isaac Davis. Artemus Allen lived in Salem Township until his death at the age of sixty-five, and his widow is still living on the old farm. Both were active members of the Trinity Reformed Church, and he was a democrat in politics. They had nine children, named Samuel J., Edith, Ida May, Anna Alvira, Isaac Clyde, Everett E., Bertha, Amos, who died in infancy, and Wayne.

Isaac Clyde Allen grew up on the home farm and had a public school education. Since early manhood all his efforts have been expended on agricultural work, and he made his independent start with only forty acres. He acquired another forty acres, and on selling this property bought in October, 1917, his present attractive and valuable farm of 120 acres. He is engaged in general crop raising and stock raising.

Mr. Allen is an independent democrat in politics and his wife is active in the Trinity Church. He married in 1904 Miss Ida May Ferris. From the age of two years she was reared in the home of Edward Noll of Salem Township. Mr. and Mrs. Allen have two children: Loyal W., born August 6, 1906, and Fay E., born September 22, 1910.

WILLIAM ECKERT. While there is now the fourth generation in the house of Eckert in DeKalb County, William Eckert of Locust Dale Farm in Fairfield and a brother, Jacob H. Eckert, of Kendallville, belong to the second generation, being the only surviving children in the family of Sebastian Eckert, who located in Fairfield March 28, 1855, and since that time Locust Dale has been the family homestead.

The present owner of Locust Dale, William Eckert, was born there June 8, 1864, and his life has all been spent in one place, and his own children have had his childhood environment.

There is Scotch, Welsh and German blood in the family. However, his father, Sebastian Eckert, was one of six children brought by their mother, Mrs.

(Pfeiffer) Eckert, from Germany. Their father, Peter Eckert, died of a fever in March, 1830, and in May of that year the mother and her children embarked for America. They were three months on the Atlantic, landing in August. She located in Franklin, Pennsylvania, and from there the family scattered, the mother finally going to St. Louis. Sebastian was her only son. The oldest daughter died in childhood. The other four sisters were Elizabeth, Margaret, Eve and Barbara. Sebastian, Margaret and Barbara all lived in DeKalb County, Elizabeth being the wife of John Sthair, a blacksmith, and Barbara the wife of Jerome Reynolds, a cabinet maker. Both these men once operated shops in Fairfield Center. All the family now lie buried in the Fairfield Cemetery.

December 14, 1848, Sebastian Eckert married Susan Cox, a daughter of Jacob and Jane (Denman) Cox of Wayne County, Ohio. She was one of nine children: Eli, Mary, Susan, Freeman, Andrew, Rebekah Jane, Alpheus, Samuel and Newton. Three of them, Susan, Eli and Andrew, were later citizens of DeKalb County, and they all lie buried at Fairfield. The children of Sebastian and Susan Eckert were Elizabeth, Jacob, Margaret, Amiel, Alice, Florence, William, Belle, Luther, Kate and Spener, the only two living today being mentioned above. These children all had a common school education. The family were members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. All but the two surviving brothers died before marriage. There are today only five voters in the Eckert family in DeKalb and Noble counties, and this vote is cast solidly in the interests of the democratic party.

William Eckert and Miss Mary M. Ringer were married June 8, 1886, which was his twenty-second birthday and the eighteenth birthday of the bride. They were married at the home of her parents in Richland Township. She was a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Wright) Ringer, whose family history in DeKalb County goes back to 1853, when they came from Stark County, Ohio. Jacob Ringer as an Ohio shoemaker had earned the money with which he bought his farm in Indiana. He was the only son of George and Mary (Herbster) Ringer. He had five sisters, the oldest dying before the birth of the others. The four to grow up were Mary, Susan, Leah and Margaret.

The six children born to William and Mary Eckert are: Blanche R., wife of C. W. Getts; Ethel, who died at the age of eleven days; Roswell, who married Irene Stomm and has a son, Donald Cecil; Imo, who was buried February 24, 1915, just one year from the date of her marriage with John Berkes; Granville J., who married Charlotte Bonbrake and has a son, William Louis, the first born in the fourth generation of the Eckert family in DeKalb County; and Martha Belle, the youngest daughter. The two grandchildren in the Eckert household are William Louis and Donald Cecil.

Roswell and Granville and their cousin, Russell Eckert of Garrett, were all young men under the draft. Granville was temporarily exempted because he was engaged in agriculture. Roswell had military training at Camp Taylor, Camp McClellan and Camp Grant. He was battery clerk and was advanced to the grade of corporal when the armistice changed the prospect of so many young American soldiers. Russell Eckert was at Fort Thomas. The Eckert children were all given the same educational advantages, and Granville and Martha have diplomas from the common schools.

Sebastian Eckert, founder of the family in Indiana, died at the family homestead September 6, 1890, while his wife lived on until March 19, 1919, and had

survived to welcome the two grandchildren of the fourth generation.

The farm buildings at Locust Dale were built in the reconstruction period following the Civil war, when there was an abundance of native timber, and the farmstead today is one of the well kept places in Fairfield Township.

JOHN A. CLINGERMAN. While not one of the largest farms in Noble County, Springhill Farm, of which John A. Clingerman is proprietor, has the distinctive characteristics of being a fine country home and a place where a good business is carried on in general farming and in stock raising. It is located in section 29 in Sparta Township and comprises forty acres. It is the home of some high-class Jersey cattle and Shropshire sheep, Mr. Clingerman specializing in these branches of livestock husbandry.

This is the farm where Mr. Clingerman was born March 31, 1867, a son of John and Matilda Clingerman. His parents were both born in Ohio, were married there, and then came to Noble County and settled on the farm where they spent the rest of their days and where their son now lives. They were active members of the United Brethren Church. John Clingerman, Sr., saw active service as a Union soldier during the Civil war, for many years was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and in politics always voted republican. He and his wife had seven children, and the three still living are: Isaiah W. of Whitley County, Indiana; Ellora, wife of Frank Spark, of LaGrange County, and John A.

John A. Clingerman as a boy attended the nearby district schools, and his career has been one of industry since early manhood. On June 6, 1894, he married Anna Adora Cripe. She was born in Noble County April 29, 1872, daughter of Noah and Lydia A. (Hammon) Cripe, the former a native of Elkhart County and the latter of Ohio. The Cripe family is an old and prominent one of Elkhart County. Since their marriage Mr. Clingerman with the exception of two years has lived on the old homestead, and it has been owned by them for over twenty years. Mr. and Mrs. Clingerman have one son, Virgil W., born December 13, 1897. He has distinguished himself as a scholar. He graduated from the common schools when only thirteen, from the Cromwell High School at the age of seventeen, and for three terms attended Goshen College. He is now principal of the Laotto High School. Mr. Clingerman is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Cromwell and is a republican. He has served several terms as road supervisor.

CHARLES H. DULL has been one of the most widely known farmers and livestock traders in Noble County for many years. He has been a buyer and dealer in horses for twenty years, and most of his operations in this field center at Ligonier. He also has a fine farm, where he resides, in section 6 in Sparta Township.

Mr. Dull was born in Washington Township of Noble County, July 5, 1867, a son of Peter and Mary (Moore) Dull. His parents were natives of Ohio, and their respective families came at an early day and settled in Washington Township of Noble County, where Peter and Mary were married. They were farmers of Noble County for a number of years, and finally died at the home of their son Charles in Sparta Township. They were active in the Lutheran Church, and Peter Dull was a republican in politics. Of their eight children, seven are mentioned: Cora A., deceased; George W., who is associated with his brother Charles; Charles H.;



Perry, of Kosciusko County; William, who lives in Ohio; John, of Sparta Township; Archie, of Elkhart Township, Noble County.

Charles H. Dull lived in Washington Township until he was seven years old, and then went to York Township and at the age of eighteen removed to Kosciusko County. He acquired his education in the common schools, and in Kosciusko County he worked at monthly wages for five years. On March 4, 1892, he married Catherine Rapp, of Kosciusko County, where she was born. For several years Mr. and Mrs. Dull rented land, and then traded for their present place of 115 acres, the improvements of which and the value of the property represents many years of hard toil and good management on their part. Mr. Dull is also a stockholder in the Citizens Bank of Ligonier, and in the Farmers Elevator at Ligonier.

He and his wife have one daughter, Ethel, a graduate of the Cromwell High School. She is now the wife of Ray Maggert and lives at Cromwell. Mr. Dull is affiliated with Cromwell Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is a past noble grand. He has been quite active in republican politics, and is now a member of the County Central Committee, representing Sparta Township.

**NELSON ELLSWORTH CAREY.** From the standpoint of continuous ownership by one family one of the oldest farm homes in Steuben County is Pleasant View Farm in section 19 of Richland Township. Its present proprietor is Nelson Ellsworth Carey, who was born there, and the land was originally acquired by his father seventy-five years ago.

The first of the family in Steuben County was his father, William S. Carey, who was born May 15, 1818, son of John and Margaret Carey, who spent their last years in Knox County, Ohio. In that county William S. Carey married on February 21, 1843, Melissa Gordon. She was born in New York State, January 28, 1825, a daughter of William and Mary Gordon. William Gordon, who was born in Manchester, England, September 17, 1773, was a son of a physician and silk manufacturer and a man of great influence in England. As a result of a disagreement with his father William, at the age of twelve, ran away to sea, and spent three years before the mast on a whaling vessel and later joined the English army, his father's influence securing him a colonel's commission. Part of his service was under the Duke of Wellington. In 1802 he left England and came to this country and in 1809 was married and in 1814 took up his residence in Morrow County, Ohio. He and his wife reared a family of eight children. It is said that in his last years William Gordon suffered the keenest regret for his early relations with his family and planned to revisit the old home. However, he put off carrying out this design, and finally died in 1882, at the remarkable age of 109 years. In 1844 William S. Carey and wife came to Steuben County and settled in Richland Township, where he died February 27, 1869, after having carried forward many of the early improvements on the farm. He and his wife were very active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. She survived her husband many years and died in 1894, at the age of sixty-nine.

Nelson Ellsworth Carey, who was born on the old homestead, November 29, 1861, has always lived in that locality. He attended the public schools at Alvarado, and since early manhood has been busily engaged on the home farm. He has it well improved and among other buildings has a double barn, each 30 by 50 feet. For some years he was a successful breeder of Duroc Jersey hogs, and all the hogs on his farm are pure bred though not registered.

Mr. Carey is a republican, and has served as road supervisor. He is affiliated with the Lodge of Knights of Pythias at Metz, and is a member of the Christian Church at Eden, Ohio.

On April 10, 1881, he married Miss Relefa Dally, daughter of Vincent Dally and a member of the prominent family of that name so frequently mentioned in the annals of Steuben County. Mr. and Mrs. Carey have two children. The daughter, Melissa H., was born August 15, 1886, and was well educated in the public schools.

The son, William Elmer Carey, is now in active charge of the home farm and one of the most progressive young farmers in Richland Township. He was born April 26, 1896, and was educated in the public schools, graduating from the eighth grade at the age of thirteen and from the Eden High School in 1913. December 24, 1916, he married Miss Arilla A. Van Zile, of Richland Township, daughter of Alonzo and Sina (Strubel) Van Zile. To their marriage has been born one son, LaMar Gordon, January 27, 1918.

William E. Carey is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Metz, and he and his wife are very active members of the Christian Church at Eden. He has been superintendent of the Sunday school for three years. Politically he votes as a republican.

**JOHN K. RIDDLE** is one of the old timers of Noble County, having lived here for seventy years, and throughout this long period has been actively identified with farming. He now lives with his only son, O. F. Riddle, in Wayne Township.

He was born in Morrow County, Ohio, April 20, 1845, a son of Joseph B. and Traney M. (Knox) Riddle. Both parents were born in Richland County, Ohio. In 1848 they came to Noble County and when all the country was new settled in Jefferson Township and lived there for some years, later moving to Albion in Noble County, where both of them died. Joseph B. Riddle was a republican in politics. Of their nine children six are still living: Elizabeth, widow of John Cotton; William W., former treasurer of Noble County, living at Kendallville; John K.; Homer; Comfort, widow of Henry Stanley; and Edith, wife of John G. Gill.

John K. Riddle was three and a half years old when brought to Noble County and as a boy he attended the local schools near his father's home. His education was finished at the age of eighteen, and since then he has been bearing his part as a sturdy laborer in the world. At the age of twenty-one he started out for himself. January 29, 1871, he married Miss Jennie Foster. She was born in Noble County, and after over forty-one years of married companionship passed away April 16, 1912. Of her two children, one died in infancy.

O. F. Riddle, only child of his parents still living, graduated from the Albion High School and also attended college at Lansing, Michigan. He married Lida Grate. They have four children: Howard and Ralph W., both students in high school; Margaret, in the sixth grade; and John Harold. O. F. Riddle is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a republican voter. The home farm comprises 269 acres, highly cultivated, improved, and kept up in a high degree of productiveness.

**CHARLES W. BENDER.** One of the best improved farms in York Township of Noble County is that owned by C. W. Bender in sections 20 and 20. Mr. Bender has lived there practically all his life, and has succeeded beyond the ordinary as a farmer and stock raiser, and also as a capable citizen and worker in his community.



He was born in the house where he is still living July 1, 1870, son of John E. and Evaline (Lafevre) Bender. John E. Bender, his father, was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, March 4, 1815. He was left an orphan at the age of seven and for the next ten years lived as a bound boy with Samuel McClintock. During that time he had no opportunity to attend school, and was given a mere living, and left his employer with only an old suit of clothes. He then went to work on a salary, and the first year received only \$8 a month. His wife, Evaline Lafevre, was born in Tennessee. In 1868 they settled in Noble County, Indiana. John E. Bender and wife had four children: Charles W.; Myra, deceased wife of Samuel DePew; John A., a farmer in York Township; and Joseph, who died in infancy.

Charles W. Bender grew up on the old farm in York Township and had a district school education. For many years he has been a general farmer, and now owns 200 acres of land. He is also a breeder of Belgian horses and has several pure blooded animals of that strain. He has done much shipping of live stock in past years. Mr. Bender was a charter member and one of the solicitors for the stock at the organization of the Kimmell State Bank and became one of its first directors.

February 11, 1892, Mr. Bender married Miss Nancy E. Kiester. She was born in Washington Township of Noble County. They were happily married twenty-five years, and Mrs. Bender passed away November 7, 1917. She was the mother of three children: Ermal, born April 9, 1894, is a graduate of high school and attended Goshen College and is now the wife of Dr. Homer Hiatt, serving with the rank of first lieutenant in the Medical Corps of the United States Army. Cecil, born December 7, 1895, is also a high school graduate and is the wife of Ralph Denny, an attorney. Carl, born July 22, 1902, has finished the common school course. Mr. Bender also has two grandchildren.

He is a member of the Christian Church, as was his wife. He is past noble grand of Kimmell Lodge No. 773 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, has sat in the Grand Lodge, and his wife was active as a grand of the Rebecca Lodge and also represented her lodge in the Grand Lodge.

**ISAAC EATON.** Large land ownership, good agricultural methods, public spirited citizenship and an influence steadily directed toward elevating the religious and moral life of the community have been characteristics of the Eaton family in Steuben County for many years. Mr. Isaac Eaton, one of the extensive land owners and successful farmers of Fremont Township, is the only child of the late Lucien B. and Melinda (Phelps) Eaton. On both sides he represents pioneer families in this section of Northeast Indiana. His mother, Melinda Phelps, was born near Brookville in Franklin County, Indiana, November 15, 1815. She was born when Indiana was still a territory. Her parents were Reuben B. and Ruth (Carson) Phelps. Reuben B. Phelps deserves a special memory as one of the earliest settlers of Steuben County, having moved here from Franklin County about 1833. His place of settlement was on the left side of Lake James in Pleasant Township. This Steuben County pioneer had no male descendants, the line being carried on through his five daughters, Melinda, Lucinda, Julia, Ruby and Ruth.

Lucien B. Eaton was born in Canada, December 17, 1808, and died in February, 1889. He came to Steuben County from New York State, settling in Jamestown Township with the very first pioneers there in 1836. He was a man of unusual person-

ality, business energy and enterprise, and at one time owned about 900 acres of land in Steuben County, and also had extensive farming interests in Michigan, selling his Michigan property about 1875. These landed accumulations were enough to absorb the energies of an ordinary man, but in addition he did much work as a Methodist preacher, preaching in his home locality, and his last regular charge was in Whitley County, Indiana.

Mr. Isaac Eaton acquired his education in the public schools of Fremont. He was born on the farm where he now lives, January 12, 1855. For over thirty years he has been a farmer in that neighborhood, and is the owner of over 500 acres. Mr. Eaton is thoroughly well informed on the Scriptures and Biblical history, and is a member of the "Beasterian" Church, the name of which is the coinage of Doctor Lane, of Fort Wayne, and represents an effort to return to the original sources of religion as given by God, untainted with paganism and racial antagonisms.

**ENOCH DAVIS**, who is now retired as one of the oldest residents in Clear Lake Township of Steuben County, grew up there from the age of ten years, and was for a long time a factor in the farming enterprise of that locality.

Mr. Davis was born in Noble County, Ohio, July 12, 1847, a son of Hiram and Esther (Jefferson) Davis. His parents came to Steuben County in 1858, settling in Clear Lake Township. In 1862 Hiram Davis bought a saw mill, and used it for the manufacture of lumber and incidentally as a means of clearing up much of the land in this part of the county. He died in 1897, at the age of eighty-six, while his wife passed away in 1895, aged seventy. They were the parents of six children: William, who enlisted in 1862 and served two years and ten months as a Union soldier and is now deceased; Martha, deceased; Enoch; Joseph; Samuel; and Adelaide. Hiram Davis was a republican, and he and his wife were members of the United Brethren Church.

Enoch Davis grew up in Steuben County, and after leaving the public schools went to work on a farm. In early manhood he bought forty acres in Fremont Township, and after selling that spent three years in California. On his return to Steuben County he acquired a farm of ninety-two acres, and on selling that bought the seventy-seven acres where he lives today. He has effected some of the good improvements on this land, and has good buildings but has turned over the management to a son and is now living retired. He is a republican, and with his wife is a member of the Latter Day Saints Church.

In 1869 he married Dora Ellis. They had two children, Byron and Leona. Leona is the wife of Bert Dagert, of York Township. Byron, who was born January 2, 1872, owns forty-three acres of land in Fremont Township and rents and manages his father's farm. He married Allie Geedy, who died leaving him four children: Roy, Orville, Gladys and Golda. Roy saw two years of service in the National army, and was in France about six weeks.

**CLYDE FRANKLIN WILSEY.** The Wilsey name has been one of honored consideration in DeKalb County since 1848 and has many worthy representatives here at present, a well known one being Clyde Franklin Wilsey, an active and substantial citizen of Corunna and the owner of the Corunna Telephone Exchange. Mr. Wilsey was born in DeKalb County September 22, 1884.

The first Wilsey in DeKalb County was William H.

Wilsey, a native of New York, who married Ursula Jane Haskins, a native of Vermont, January 25, 1843. Five years later they moved from New York to Indiana and entered land in Fairfield Township, DeKalb County, paying \$1.25 an acre for the same. On that farm three generations of the Wilsey family were born. Henry E. Wilsey, father of Clyde F., was born here November 28, 1860, and on January 26, 1882, he was married to Mary L. Krum, who is a daughter of Jacob and Martha (Holden) Krum, old residents of Steuben County, Indiana. There were five children in the Krum family, namely: Martha, Elizabeth, Eugene, Allen and Minerva, the last named being deceased. Two children were born to Henry E. Wilsey and his wife: Clyde Franklin and Grace, the latter of whom was married December 25, 1906, to Elmer E. Shipe, and they have one son, Ford. Henry E. Wilsey and wife reside at Hudson, Indiana.

Clyde Franklin Wilsey was educated in the public schools. On November 1, 1906, he bought the Corunna Telephone Exchange and has had charge ever since and many extensions have been made since that time, this exchange being now considered indispensable to both business and social life. For some years he was editor and publisher of the Corunna News. He has been active in community welfare effort, an example being his suggestions that a park be maintained along the New York Central Railway line at Corunna, and mainly through his efforts the plan was carried out, the park, with shrubbery, park seats, swings and other forms of amusement, together with band concerts often given, providing an admirable opportunity for out door enjoyment. In this and other ways Mr. Wilsey has made himself very unselfishly popular, an evidence of this popularity being shown when he was elected constable on the democratic ticket, although he had always been a republican.

Only July 30, 1905, Mr. Wilsey was united in marriage to Miss Nettie A. Wilhelm, who is a daughter of John and Mary (Cook) Wilhelm, who were married July 9, 1865, and resided at Elkhart, Indiana, their children being: William, John, Mary, Albert, Harrison, Clarissa, Rilla, Nettie and Cora. Mr. and Mrs. Wilsey have three children, the oldest born on the old homestead: Lester A., born May 15, 1906; Bernardine M., born October 29, 1911; and Robert L., born February 6, 1915, the last two born in Corunna. Mr. and Mrs. Wilsey have a charming summer place in Island Cottage on Story Lake, and when not stopping there themselves, they generously permit their friends to use it.

On January 25, 1893, the grandparents of Mr. Wilsey celebrated their golden wedding anniversary. It had been the cherished ambition of the venerable grandmother to make the most of the preparations for this event with her own hands. It was an occasion never to be forgotten by her loving descendants, but these tender preparations probably overtaxed her strength, for she passed away ten days later and with her passed one of the noble pioneer women of DeKalb County. The grandfather lived six years longer, passing away December 6, 1899.

The early Wilsey family belonged to the United Brethren Church, while the Wilhelms were members of the Evangelical body. Clyde F. Wilsey and family belong to the Methodist Episcopal Church at Corunna. He is not active in fraternal life but as a prominent and responsible citizen constantly is in co-operation with others in laudable civic movements and in helpful enterprises here and elsewhere that relieve distress.

JACK BUCKLES is distinguished among the residents of York Township of Noble County as proprietor of the Maple Grove Stock Farm, where he breeds and raises some of the finest Shorthorn cattle and big type Poland China hogs found anywhere in Northern Indiana. The farm comprises 198 acres, located in the northwest quarter of section 32.

Mr. Buckles was born in Washington Township of the same county November 22, 1866, son of John H. and Mary (Wiley) Buckles. His father, a native of West Virginia, came to Noble County, Indiana, when only four years old, was reared here, and after his marriage located in Washington Township, where he acquired a good farm of 160 acres. He is also a thresher man and sawmill man, and has a great deal of enterprise which he has used profitably both for himself and his community. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church. His wife is a native of Washington Township. They had a large family of children, noted briefly as follows: Jack; Nellie, wife of John Earnhard; Ida, wife of Ed Pollock; Mary, wife of Frank Braden; James, a carpenter of Fort Wayne; Austin Buckles, of Cygnet, Ohio; Jennie, wife of H. O. Barlett, of Chicago; Winifred, wife of Walter Sanders, of Marshalltown, Iowa; Grace, wife of Louis Hade, of Wawaka, Indiana; and T. A., of Indianapolis.

Jack Buckles grew up on his father's farm in Washington Township, and had a practical education to fit him for the duties and responsibilities of life. He married Minnie D. Blain. They had no children of their own but have an adopted daughter, Bonnie Louise, who was born February 10, 1916. Mr. Buckles is a member of Wolf Lake Lodge, Knights of Pythias, and of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Ligonier, and in politics is a democrat.

ARTHUR L. BUDD is a well-known farmer and business man of Noble County, proprietor of the Glendale Farm of sixty-four acres in Green Township, and also active in insurance and other business lines.

Mr. Budd was born in Ashland County, Ohio, December 31, 1879, but has lived in Noble County since boyhood. His parents, Thomas E. and Agnes (Davis) Budd, both natives of Ashland County, grew up and married there and were farmers in that locality. The mother died on the home farm in Ashland County in 1881. Thomas Budd continued to live in Ashland County until 1887, when he moved to Noble County, Indiana, and bought 120 acres in Green Township. He continued active as a farmer until 1906, when he became one of the organizers and a director and is now president of the Farmers State Bank at Churubusco, in which town he makes his home. He and his first wife had two children: Effie J., wife of Leroy Ressler, of Green Township, and Arthur L. By his second marriage he also had two children; one of whom died at the age of eighteen months. The surviving child, Erlin, was educated in the common schools and is now a second lieutenant in the American army, and when last reported was at Winchester, England.

Arthur L. Budd was eight years old when his father came to Noble County, and here he grew to manhood and received a good education in the local schools. He continued to live with his father until his marriage with Mina May McWilliams, daughter of Frank W. McWilliams.

Mr. Budd has made a success of the management of his small but well improved and productive farm. He is also agent for the Fidelity Phoenix Fire Insurance Company, and does a considerable business as a horse buyer. He has been active in re-







*James Tate*

publican politics and has been honored with positions of trust and responsibility by his fellow citizens.

**ROBERT N. TATE.** For over sixty years the name Tate has been an honored one in Noble County, always representing sturdy, honest and industrious people, good citizens and supporters of education and religion. The old Tate farm in Wayne Township, on rural route No. 3 out of Kendallville, now has as its proprietor Robert N. Tate, son of the first settler in that community.

Robert N. Tate was born in Wayne Township October 13, 1856. His father, James Tate, was born at Paris, Flaxby Grange, Westriding, Yorkshire, England, February 22, 1822. When a young man he came to Ohio, and there married Carolina Julia Scofield. After a number of years they left Ohio and in 1854 settled in the northeast corner of Wayne Township, Noble County. In 1864, ten years later, they moved to the farm where Robert N. Tate now lives. In 1872 James Tate moved to Orange Township, near Rome City, and there he spent his last years. He and his wife were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and gave liberally to its support and all its causes. He was also a Mason and was a leader in the local republican party. Of the six children only two are now living: Robert N. and Dora L., the latter the widow of W. L. Wones and living in Warsaw, Indiana.

Robert N. Tate has spent nearly all his life in Orange and Wayne townships of Noble County. His education was supplied by the district schools. He came to manhood with a good training and discipline in farm work and inherited the old homestead from his father. He has 170 acres of well cultivated land in Wayne Township and eighty acres in Orange Township, and is also a stockholder in the State Bank of Wolcottville and in the Noble Motor Truck Company.

Mr. Tate is a republican and a member of the Orange Township Advisory Board. He is affiliated with Rome City Lodge No. 451, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with Kendallville Chapter No. 64, Royal Arch Masons, with the Council, Royal and Select Masters and with the Knights Templar Commandery No. 19.

**CHARLES L. BORTON,** gardener, poultry raiser and summer resort proprietor of Clear Lake, has been a resident of Steuben County for twenty years and came here from Fulton County, Ohio, where his people were among the earliest settlers.

The Borton ancestry in America goes back to Quakers who on account of religious persecution emigrated from England in 1674 and settled in New Jersey. Mr. Borton's grandfather, John Borton, came from New Jersey to Ohio in 1836 and located in the woods of Fulton County, his first home being a log cabin. He was greatly prospered and at one time owned more than 1,300 acres. His wife was Elizabeth Taylor. Charles L. Borton was born in Fulton County, April 9, 1868, a son of William and Regina (Oliver) Borton. His parents have spent all their lives in Fulton County and his father is a farmer. They had five children: Ada, deceased; Charles; Sadie, deceased; John; and Arthur.

Charles L. Borton was reared and educated in his native county and was a farmer there until 1899, when he moved to Steuben County and acquired his present farm of sixty-four acres in Clear Lake Township. He took this land when its improvements were still largely characterized by a log house. That old building has been replaced by modern, up-to-date structures, and he now has facilities for handling with profit a large flock of White Leghorn

chickens, makes a specialty of raising garden produce, and has part of his land situated on the banks of Clear Lake, set apart for about forty cottages, all of which are usually occupied in the summer season.

Mr. Borton is a republican in politics, and he served as township trustee and assessor for one term each. In 1894 he married Miss Nora Alberta Baker, of Hillsdale County, Michigan. They have four children: Ruth, who was educated in the public schools and the high school at Montgomery, Michigan, is the wife of Glen Forester; Allen, a graduate of the Montgomery High School, is employed at Fremont, Indiana; Dorothy is a student in the Fremont High School, and Chester is still in district school.

**WILLARD S. TUSTISON.** The residence of Mr. Tustison is in the extreme southeast corner of DeKalb County. He is a farmer, and was born on the land which he owns today, in section 33, April 29, 1859. Mr. Tustison has always enjoyed the confidence of his neighbors and friends in DeKalb County and is a former trustee of Newville Township.

His parents were Sebastian and Anna (Allen) Tustison. His father was born in Crawford County, Ohio, a son of Nelson and Sarah (Brown) Tustison. Nelson Tustison was a native of Copenhagen, Denmark, and when he ran away from home at the age of sixteen went to sea and was a sailor to many of the ports of the world for sixteen years. He left the sea and settled at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania County, where he married and afterward moved to Crawford, Ohio, and spent the rest of his life as a farmer. He possessed unusual business judgment, a great amount of energy, and accumulated about 600 acres of land in Crawford County. These ample possessions he shared with his family of nine sons and one daughter, all of whom are now deceased.

Sebastian Tustison grew up in Crawford County, had a common school education, and in 1845 moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, and after his marriage settled in the southeastern corner of the county. He was a farmer there and at one time was superintendent of some men employed on the Baltimore & Ohio Railway. He also participated in local affairs, being assessor and justice of the peace and in politics was a democrat. He was the father of four children: George W. and Henry, deceased; Mary Jane, wife of Joseph Langham; and Willard S.

Willard S. Tustison grew up on the home farm and had a common school education. On December 12, 1878, he married Lois Jump, who was born in Scipio Township of Allen County, Indiana. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Tustison lived for three years in Scipio Township, and rented his father-in-law's farm. They then returned to Newville Township and bought sixty acres and after four years he bought out the other heirs in the old Tustison homestead. Mr. Tustison has ninety-one acres in his farm and has it stocked with some good grade Durham cattle. As a factor in local politics he served six years as justice of the peace, four years as assessor, and four years as township trustee. Like his father he is a democrat, and he and his family are members of the Methodist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Tustison had eight children, seven of whom are still living: Delmer D., of Hillsdale, Michigan; Linnie, wife of Frank Lash, of Michigan; Grace, wife of Guy McCurdy, of Allen County, Indiana; Rena, wife of Albert Shaffer, of Garrett; Owen S., of Garrett, Indiana, who is a graduate of the Hicksville, Ohio, High School, as is also his next younger brother, Ross C.; George W., who was with the Aviation Corps of the American Army



and died November 17, 1918, while in the overseas service near Liverpool, England; and Paul, who is married and lives at Hicksville, Ohio.

**JOHN A. BAUGHMAN.** Some of the best land of Noble County is in Noble Township, so there also are found some of the best and most progressive farmers. One of them is John A. Baughman, who has lived in that locality for over forty years, and though he started life with practically no capital, he has made good in every sense of the word and is now owner of one of the excellent places in his locality.

Mr. Baughman was born in Richland County, Ohio, November 26, 1855, a son of Gideon and Margaret (Swiggart) Baughman. The Baughmans originally came from Germany and were early settlers in the colony of Virginia. Gideon Baughman was a son of Henry and Susan (Trumbull) Baughman. Margaret Swiggart was a daughter of John and Barbara Swiggart, early residents of Stark County, Ohio. John Swiggart was born in 1779 and served as a captain in the War of 1812 and was the first school teacher in Monroe Township of Richland County, Ohio. Gideon Baughman and wife were reared and married in Ohio, the former being a native of Ashland County and the latter of Stark County. They lived there for many years and in 1876 moved to Noble County, Indiana, spending the rest of their lives in this county. They were members of the Lutheran Church. The father was a democrat. Of six children two are still living: Susan, widow of Archie Collins, living in Ohio, and John A. The four deceased were Michael, Martin L., Henry M. and Elizabeth, the latter the wife of John Oller.

John A. Baughman spent the first twenty years of his life in his native county in Ohio and was educated in the common schools. Soon after he came to Noble County he married on August 19, 1877, Melissa J. River. She was born in Noble County, April 19, 1861, and was educated in the common schools. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Baughman rented his father's farm until his means had increased as a result of their mutual thrift and industry to a point where he could buy the farm, and he has spent practically all his adult life in this one locality.

Mr. and Mrs. Baughman had three children. Clyde, the oldest, completed the work of the common schools and also attended Valparaiso College and Hillsdale College in Michigan, and is now a railroad employe. Chauncey, a graduate of the common schools and of the Valparaiso College, is a farmer and teacher in Noble Township. Iva, who is the wife of Floy Stureman, of Noble Township, also attended Valparaiso and Terre Haute colleges.

Mr. Baughman has been quite active in the affairs of the democratic party in his locality. He is engaged in general farming and the livestock business and has 88½ acres, all of which he manages with a high degree of productiveness.

**FRANK HANLON** is a former trustee of Green Township of Noble County, and is one of the best known men in that community. For many years he was a successful teacher, and some of his most loyal friends are his old pupils. He has also been a farmer, and is now giving most of his time to the management of his place in section 2 of Green Township.

On the farm where he now lives he was born, August 8, 1866, son of James and Mary (Hendricks) Hanlon. His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania. His father was born in Allegheny County and came to Noble County, Indiana, in 1856, grew

up here and married, then developed the land where his son now lives into a good farm. The parents were both active members of the Summit Methodist Episcopal Church, and in politics the father was a democrat. There were three children: William, who died at the age of thirteen months; Frank; and Warren, who died when twelve years of age.

Frank Hanlon while reared in a rural environment and having experience from early boyhood in the duties of the farm, acquired a liberal education apart from the opportunities presented by the local district schools. He attended the Albion Normal School and also the Methodist College at Fort Wayne. He taught his first term of school in 1884, thirty-five years ago, and there was probably not a year in which he did not give several months or more to teaching until 1907. He then gave up the profession in order to take complete supervision of the home farm, but in the winter of 1918, probably as a patriotic service, he again taught a term of school. He has a well cultivated farm of 160 acres, and he is a thorough and systematic farmer.

In the fall of 1908 Mr. Hanlon was elected trustee of Green Township, and filled that office to the satisfaction of all concerned for six years. He is a democrat, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a trustee, steward and superintendent of the Sunday school. September 5, 1889, he married Margaret J. McCoy, who was born in Green Township.

**JAMES E. TERRY** did his principal work as a farmer in an era of low prices and adverse conditions, but made such good use of his time and energy as to win a competence, which now enables him to enjoy life at leisure and in retirement. His home for many years has been at Nevada Mills in Jamestown Township.

Mr. Terry was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, April 8, 1849, a son of Thompson C. and Harriet (Richey) Terry, both natives of New York State. His father was born in 1828 and his mother in Genesee County in 1833. Thompson Terry was an early settler in the woods of Sandusky County, Ohio, cleared up a farm there, and in 1864 again ventured as a pioneer to Jamestown Township in Steuben County, where he bought the George Newnam farm and finally sold that and moved to Nevada Mills in the same township, where he engaged in merchandising. He died in 1897 and his widow on May 15, 1916. He was quite active in republican politics for a number of years, and held the office of justice of the peace for nearly a quarter of a century. Both he and his wife were liberal in their religious views. They had three children: James E.; Alice Jeanette, who died in 1864, at the age of four years; and George, a resident of Millgrove Township in Steuben County.

James E. Terry was about fourteen years old when his parents moved to Steuben County, and finished his education here in the public schools and also attended the Orland Academy and the college at Angola, and thus prepared he became a successful teacher, a vocation he followed five terms. With that exception he has been farming since early manhood until he retired, and is owner of a place of 180 acres. Mr. Terry has had his home at Nevada Mills since 1884. In politics he is a republican without any official record, and attends the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which his wife is a member.

October 1, 1871, he married Miss Helen Hobson, of Steuben County. She died in January, 1895, the mother of three children. Raymond, who is a merchant at Inverness in Steuben County, married Lulu McNett, and they have two children, Eleanor and Ralph. Fred, a merchant at Nevada Mills, married



Iola Bachelor, and has had two daughters, Helen, deceased, and Genevieve. Lou is the wife of Perry Sprague, a lumber merchant at Syracuse, Indiana, and is the mother of one son and two daughters, Alice, Nellie and Dale. In January, 1897, Mr. Terry married Flossie Kreuder, who was born in Medina County, Ohio, August 1, 1868, a daughter of Conrad and Catherine (Turner) Kreuder, the former a native of Germany and the latter of Ohio. The Kreuder family came to Steuben County in 1876, settling in Pleasant Township, where Mrs. Terry's father died in 1883, at the age of sixty-four, and her mother in 1894, aged sixty-two. Mr. Kreuder was a farmer. Mrs. Terry had a public school education, attended the Tri-State College, and was a successful teacher for ten years. She was one of a family of four children, named Mary, Theodore, and Flora and Flossie, twins.

FRANK L. KIPLINGER is president and manager of the Knisely Dry Goods Company of Butler, one of the oldest business establishments of DeKalb County. The Knisely brothers were in business at Butler beginning nearly fifty years ago. The present firm is an incorporation, with Mr. Kiplinger its executive head and H. B. Miller, secretary and treasurer, and the directors are Mr. Kiplinger, H. B. and E. C. Miller and Mrs. Kiplinger.

Mr. Kiplinger was born in Ashland County, Ohio, July 29, 1859. He has been a merchant nearly all his life. His father was a country merchant in Ohio, and the son when not in the village schools was working in his father's store. At the age of twenty-one he went out to Kansas and had a varied mercantile experience in that state for several years. On coming to Indiana he was a clerk in the employ of Knisely Brothers at Butler for ten years. After that he was a traveling dry goods salesman over Indiana Territory, representing a Cleveland house for ten years. He then returned to Butler and bought an interest in and took the management of the old business of Knisely Brothers.

Mr. Kiplinger married Della Miller, of Waterloo, Indiana, a graduate of the high school of that city. Mrs. Kiplinger has been prominent in local affairs at Butler and was one of those instrumental in securing the public library, and for the past twelve years has served as secretary of the Library Board. Mr. and Mrs. Kiplinger are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is a trustee. He is affiliated with Forest Lodge No. 259, Free and Accepted Masons, with the Royal Arch Chapter and Council, the Apollo Commandery of Knights Templar at Kendallville, was a Shriner and was a member of the Scottish Rite Class of 1919.

GEORGE GLOYD. One of the old and carefully tended homesteads of Sparta Township in Noble County is owned and managed by the Gloyd brothers, comprising George and W. H. Gloyd, who have been successfully identified with agriculture and stock raising and with the citizenship of that locality practically all their lives. The farm is on the Lincoln Highway, a mile southeast of Kimmell.

George Gloyd was born on that farm December 8, 1848, a son of William and Matilda (Beachgood) Gloyd. His great-grandfather, Daniel Gloyd, was a soldier in the American Revolution, enlisting at the age of sixteen and at the battle of Bunker Hill was wounded while fighting for the cause of independence. William Gloyd, grandfather of George, was an overseer in the employ of Major Lewis, who married General Washington's step-daughter. William Gloyd, Jr., father of the Gloyd brothers, was a native of Missouri and moved from there to

Ohio, where he married Matilda Beachgood. She was born in Maryland and her father was a soldier in the War of 1812 under General Jackson. Her brother, James Beachgood, was with Phil Sheridan's army at Winchester, and served all through the war. William and Matilda Gloyd after their marriage moved from Ohio to Noble County, Indiana, and were pioneers in Sparta Township. They were members of the Sparta Christian Church and were highly thought of people all their lives. Of their six children three are still living: Caroline, wife of John Foster, of York Township, who served in the Civil war; George and W. H. Gloyd.

W. H. Gloyd was also born on the old homestead, had a district school education, and on March 15, 1877, married Mary R. Bowers. She had two brothers who were Union soldiers. Henry S. Bowers enlisted in 1861 and remained until the close of the war, being with Sherman on the march to the sea and participating in twenty-three battles but was never wounded. The other brother was in the war two years.

The Gloyd brothers are members of the Christian Church and both are active republicans, their father having been a whig and a charter member of the republican party. The Gloyd farm comprises 240 acres.

JOHN HEMRY has been a citizen of Steuben County for more than half a century, and the name is well known in York and Clear Lake townships, where the people of this name were pioneers. The Hemry family were among the earliest settlers in the State of Ohio, the old home having been in Crawford County for many years.

John Hemry was born in that Ohio county, November 2, 1838, a son of Abram and Mary Ann (McClaskey) Hemry, and grandson of Isaac and Nancy (McCullen) Hemry. Isaac Hemry lived for a number of years in Carroll County, Ohio, and in 1832 moved to Crawford County, where he died August 11, 1868, at the age of eighty-four. His widow survived him and passed away at the age of ninety-one in August, 1879. Isaac Hemry during the War of 1812 was captain of an Ohio militia company.

Abram Hemry was born in Carroll County, Ohio, in 1812. His wife, Mary Ann McClaskey, was born in Ashland County of that state in 1820, a daughter of Jacob McClaskey. In 1845 Abram Hemry brought his family to Steuben County, but some years later returned to Crawford County, Ohio, living there for four years, and afterward settling again on his farm in York Township, where he died when about sixty-five years old. His wife died in Steuben County about 1850. At one time he owned 160 acres in Steuben County, and at the time of his death his farm consisted of seventy-five acres. He and his first wife had nine children, named John, Margaret Ann, Nancy, Lydia, Rebecca, Lila, George, Andrew and Eva. For his second wife Abram Hemry married Mrs. Elizabeth Hanselman and had one child, Lizzie.

John Hemry was seven years old when his parents first came to Steuben County. When he was seventeen he went back to Crawford County, and in 1864 settled permanently in Steuben County, buying forty acres of land in York Township. At the present time he owns a farm of 109 acres, also had twenty acres in Ohio for some years, and has sold twelve and a half acres to his son-in-law. His farm is well improved with buildings, his barn being 40 by 72 feet. He is still acting and looking after his farm though eighty-one years of age. Mr. Hemry is a democrat in politics.

In 1864 he married Miss Rebecca Ramsey, of Crawford County, Ohio. She died in 1905, at the

age of sixty-seven. They had two children: Cora is the deceased wife of Albert Barnes and had one son, John. Carl, now deceased, married Edith Isenhour, and they had two children, including one son, Kenneth.

**CLARENCE A. MALLORY.** Some of the earliest names in the chronicles of Jamestown Township of Steuben County are those of the Mallory family. Clarence A. Mallory is a member of the third generation of the family and has spent practically all his life on the old Mallory homestead in Jamestown.

His father was Asa Mallory, who was born in Vermont in 1824, a son of David Mallory, who first came to Steuben County in 1835. Asa Mallory followed him soon afterward, and was long identified with the upright citizenship of the county. Some additional facts concerning his history are published elsewhere in this work.

Clarence A. Mallory was born on his father's homestead November 8, 1876. He acquired his education in the public schools and since early manhood has been a practical farmer. He now handles the operations of 115 acres of the old homestead where his mother is still living. He devotes his land to general farming and stockraising. Mr. Mallory is a democrat, and he and his wife attend the community Church at Jamestown village.

November 29, 1900, he married Miss Lodema Lilly, of Branch County, Michigan. They have two children: Emory Wright, born December 18, 1901, now a junior in the Fremont High School; and Leona Lilly, born November 2, 1907.

**WILLIAM DEEMS** is one of the honored survivors of the great Civil war, and for three years he represented DeKalb County in that great conflict. He has been a resident of DeKalb County all his life, and is well deserving of the comfortable retirement he now enjoys on his home farm in Wilmington Township.

He was born in that township November 22, 1843, a son of George and Hannah (Dudgeon) Deems, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. George Deems was one of the pioneers of DeKalb County and lived in Wilmington Township until he met death in 1845, being killed by a falling tree. The care and rearing of the six children then devolved upon his widow. These six children were named, John, Joseph, Eli, Eliza, George and William, William being the only survivor.

William Deems grew up on the home farm and had a limited education in the log cabin district schools of his day. He was only eighteen when the war broke out, and in August, 1862, he enlisted in Company H of the Eighty-Eighth Indiana Infantry. He served faithfully as a corporal and was mustered out in June, 1865. After the war he returned to DeKalb County, farmed and worked as a farm hand, and eventually acquired an independent holding. He now has seventy acres of good farm land in Wilmington Township. Mr. Deems' parents were members of the Methodist Church. He is affiliated with Meade Post No. 44 of the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a republican in politics.

**WILLIAM R. COLE.** The home of William R. Cole is a mile north of Wolf Lake in Noble County. It is one of the fine farms in that locality, and its proprietor is a man of thorough training and experience and capabilities both as a farmer, business man and as a public-spirited citizen.

Mr. Cole was born in Greene Township of the same county, December 27, 1870, son of James R.

and Martha J. (Ray) Cole. His father was born May 2, 1844, and his mother December 3, 1848. They were married in Noble County, Indiana, in 1867, and for the next two years lived on a farm in Greene Township, then moved to Jefferson Township, where they bought forty acres, and after five years sold that and moved to York Township, where James Cole acquired eighty acres and for many years was successfully identified with its cultivation and management. In 1916 he moved to Albion, where he is now living retired. He was born in Ashland County, Ohio, and as a boy enlisted in the First Ohio Regiment and served as a Union soldier throughout the Civil war. He has long been identified with the Grand Army of the Republic, and is a republican in politics and a member of the Presbyterian Church. He and his wife had ten children, whose names and dates of birth are as follows: Frank W., September 10, 1868; William R., December 27, 1870; Elmer, August 9, 1873; Prentiss B., February 9, 1876; Floyd, March 12, 1880; Mary J., June 8, 1882; Mattie, January 27, 1885; Nellie, June 2, 1887; Catherine, in 1889; and Belle, in 1890. Mattie, Catherine, and Belle are all graduates of the Albion High School.

William R. Cole has lived all his life in Noble County, and acquired a common school education as a preparation for the duties of his mature years. He left home when nearly twenty-one, and has since been making his own way in the world, and had acquired a fine reputation as a farmer. After his marriage he rented a farm in Jefferson township for four years, then bought eighty acres west of Wolf Lake, and on selling that acquired his present farm of 160 acres. He raises and feeds cattle and hogs, and is also a stockholder in the Wolf Lake State Bank. Mr. Cole is a republican but has no desire to hold public office. He has been affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Albion.

October 11, 1899, he married Dora B. Gray, daughter of William D. and Rachel Gray. She was born on the farm where she and her husband are now living. They have three children: Harold G., a graduate of the common schools; Mabel M., who has also completed the work of the common schools; and Martha R.

**IRA E. BRILL**, who is successfully engaged in agricultural pursuits in LaGrange County, is a worthy representative of the farming element of Northeast Indiana. He has spent his life in Indiana, and has made his present success as an industrious and capable farmer, a man of broad information and very popular among his fellow citizens. He is proprietor of the Scenic Hill Farm, comprising 100 acres in Johnson Township. Mr. Brill has a number of good grade Belgian horses.

He was born in Elkhart Township of Noble County, October 30, 1867, a son of George W. and Charlotte E. (Trittipo) Brill, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Virginia. They were married in Indiana and located in LaGrange County and later in Elkhart Township of Noble County, where they spent the rest of their years. The father was an active member of the Lutheran Church. In the family were eight children: Lurella E., wife of W. M. Rendfro; Walter E., of Elkhart Township, Noble County; Franklin E., of Ohio; Mrs. Ida M. Reed, of Ligonier; Ira E.; Lillie M., wife of Joe Finck; Melvin G., of Ligonier; and Beulah, wife of Elza Smith.

Ira E. Brill grew up on his father's farm in Noble County, attended common schools, and for the past thirty years has been a hard working member of the agricultural community. In 1892 he married Jennie M. Shanower, of Johnson Township. They have







*Amos E. Longnecker*

one son, Russell R., who was born October 29, 1895. He married Amy A. Gordon and has one child, Hugh G., born November 15, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Brill are members of the Baptist Church, and in politics he is a republican.

**FREMONT BACHELOR.** For many years the name Bachelor has been significant of good farming methods, large farms, well managed, and a high degree of enterprise and public spirit in all matters of community interest. This is one of the oldest families of Steuben County, and some of the important facts in the history of some of the early members are found on other pages.

Fremont Bachelor, of Millgrove Township, is a son of the late Amos Bachelor, who in his time was one of the largest land owners in the county. Fremont was born in Pleasant Township March 19, 1856, and as a boy attended district schools in Millgrove and Jamestown townships, and finished his education with a high school course in Waterloo. As a young man he began farming on the old homestead. In 1887 he married Miss Harriet Ebbert, a daughter of Isaac and Lorena Ebbert.

Mr. Bachelor then took his wife to a farm at Inverness, and lived in that locality for thirteen years. In the fall of 1899 he returned to the old farm, occupying it when his father retired and moved to Angola. He has had his home there for twenty years, and now owns 250 acres. Much of the substantial equipment of the farm is due to his work and investment. He has remodeled the house, and a large barn and silo were also constructed by him.

Mr. and Mrs. Bachelor have one daughter, wife of Fred Collins. Mr. and Mrs. Collins have one son, Don Fremont.

**FRANK TEUTSCH** owns a lot of good land in DeKalb County, his home farm of eighty acres being in Troy Township. He has another tract of seventy acres in the same township and 120 acres in Franklin Township. He has been a hard working citizen and farmer for over twenty years, and in that time has bought and paid for, largely from his labors and the products of the soil, 150 acres of the land he owns. He keeps good livestock of different grades, and is an active member of the Arctic Cooperative Association.

Mr. Teutsch was born in Franklin Township March 13, 1875, a son of Peter and Artemisia (Olds) Teutsch. Peter Teutsch was born in Alsace, France, March 22, 1850, a son of Michael Teutsch, who brought his family to America in 1860, settling in Franklin Township of DeKalb County. Peter Teutsch grew up on the farm, was educated partly in France and partly in DeKalb County, and he lived in Franklin Township until late in life, when he retired to Butler, where he and his wife died. He married Artemisia Olds January 5, 1873. Her father was an early settler of Franklin Township and she was born in DeKalb County. Peter Teutsch and wife were members of the United Brethren Church, and he was a republican in politics. They had four children, one dying in infancy. The three living are Frank; Foster, who married Elsie Campbell and lives in Franklin Township; and Leota, wife of Logan Woods of Fort Wayne.

Frank Teutsch spent his early life on the home farm and acquired a common school education. On June 20, 1898, he married Saloma Mark, who was born in Franklin Township. Since his marriage Mr. Teutsch has occupied and operated his home farm of eighty acres. He is a republican in politics. He and his wife have three children: Mildred, Loren

and Roy. Mildred graduated from the common schools in 1919.

**CHARLES E. POLLOCK** has made his mark among the citizens of Washington Township in Noble County and is a very progressive, live and enterprising farmer. His present home is located two and one-half miles west of Wolf Lake.

He was born in Ligonier, Indiana, June 20, 1861, son of Cyrus and Martha (Kendall) Pollock. His father was born in Richland County, Ohio, April 12, 1832, and his mother in Greene County, Ohio, May 5, 1835. Both the Pollock and Kendall families came in an early day to Noble County, Indiana, settling in the woods of Sparta Township, where Cyrus and Martha were married. For several years they continued to live in Sparta Township, then moved to Perry Township, and finally to Ligonier, buying a farm in York Township. In that community they spent their last years. They were members of the Universalist Church, and Cyrus Pollock was a republican. He served as superintendent of the County Infirmary from 1876 to 1881. In the family were nine children, seven of whom are still living: Charles E.; Morton, a resident of Angola; Ella, wife of William Lafong; Edwin, of Wolf Lake; Laura, wife of Myron Baker; Lizzie, wife of Harry Schlotterback; and Vivian the wife of Joseph Geiger. One of the deceased children was named Milton.

Charles E. Pollock spent his boyhood days in York Township, and his early advantages were supplied by the district schools. He remained at home till the age of twenty-two, and since then has been solving the problems of life on his own account. The farm his wife owns comprises 112 acres, and in improvements and productiveness bares favorable comparison with any farm in Washington Township. Mr. Pollock served seven years as assessor of York Township.

He married for his first wife Mary L. Wright, who was born in Noble County, was well educated in the common and high schools and was a teacher before her marriage. The three children born to them are all now deceased. Their names were: Rolland, a graduate of Albion High School; Elva M., who also graduated from the high school and died at the age of twenty-four; and one daughter that died in infancy. The mother of these children died in 1907. On February 28, 1918, Mr. Pollock married Mrs. Clara L. McKenzie. She was born in Stark County, Ohio, June 8, 1859, and came with her parents to Kosciusko County, Indiana, locating near Pierceton, and six months later the family moved to Washington Township, Noble County, and Mrs. Pollock grew up on a farm adjoining that of her husband. She was married to Royal McKenzie on August 27, 1913. He died July 16, 1914. Mrs. Pollock is a stockholder in the Wolf Lake State Bank. Mr. and Mrs. Pollock are members of the Christian Church, and he served many years as a deacon and is one of the trustees of the Eel River Christian Conference. In politics he is a republican.

**AMOS E. LONGNECKER**, who has spent all the years since early childhood on one farm in Milford Township of LaGrange County, is regarded as a man of exceptional ability in general farming and stock raising. From his farm he has sent many carloads of choice stock to market, and he knows that branch of agriculture probably as well as any other man in LaGrange County.

He was born in Seneca County, Ohio, February 18, 1870, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Hampshire) Longnecker. His father was born in Seneca County



in November, 1844, and he and his wife were married October 1, 1863. They came to Indiana in 1871, locating in Milford Township. Late in life Jacob Longnecker moved to South Milford, where he died February 7, 1903. His wife was born in Fostoria, Ohio, November 18, 1841, and died January 5, 1905. Both were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, while the father was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and was a republican. There were two children in the family, Jessie M. and Amos E. Jessie is the wife of George Nifer, and they live in Milford Township.

Amos E. Longnecker was one year old when his parents came to Indiana and four years old when they established their home on the farm where he now lives. Besides the district schools he attended the Tri-State Normal at Angola, but the greater part of his life's efforts have been confined to farming.

May 31, 1892, he married Mabel C. Teal. She was born in Clear Spring Township December 11, 1873, and was educated in the district schools. Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Longnecker have occupied the home farm. They have two children, Ota E., born February 23, 1894, a graduate of high school and the wife of Harry L. Reed; and Jacob A., born December 19, 1897, who after finishing his high school course attended Purdue University and for about six months was in the air service of the army in France.

Mr. Longnecker is prominent in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is a past noble grand of the lodge at South Milford, a past patriarch of the Encampment, while he and his wife are both past grands of the Rebekahs. Politically he is a republican. Mr. Longnecker's farm comprises 191 acres, and for a number of years he has used it largely as a feeding ground for livestock. He is president of the South Milford Shippers' Association and its manager.

Mrs. Longnecker is a daughter of Ashbury and Ellen (Myers) Teal. Her father was born in Wayne County, Ohio, March 14, 1837, and her mother in DeKalb County, Indiana, March 20, 1846. Ashbury Teal came to Northeast Indiana when a youth, was married October 11, 1861, and died at Montpelier, Ohio, May 1, 1911. He was a democrat in politics. In the Teal family were five children, all living, named Edward E., Mabel C., Eleanor, John A., and Charles V.

THOMAS M. OTT. Clover Leaf Farm in Noble Township of Noble County is one of the high class places where the agricultural art is seen at its best, and the management and appearance of the farm stamps its owner, Thomas M. Ott, as one of the leading agriculturists of the county. The farm comprises 200 acres, and Mr. Ott also owns another place of eighty acres in the same locality.

Clover Leaf Farm represents to him not only a business and his present home but also the associations of early childhood. He was born there December 15, 1853, a son of Abraham and Sarah (Morgan) Ott. His mother was a native of England and was a small child when brought to the United States by her parents. His father was born in Maryland. Both families subsequently settled in Preble County, Ohio, where Abraham Ott and wife were married. In 1840 they came to Noble County, Indiana, locating on land which he had pre-empted in 1838, being the original owner direct from the Government. Abraham Ott was a man of many fine qualities which constituted him a leader in the community, and he was active in politics as a republican and as a member of the Christian Church. Of nine children four are still living: Julia A. Winebremer,

widow of David S. Winebremer; George W., a farmer in Allen County, Indiana; Almira, widow of John R. Young; and Thomas Ott.

Thomas Ott has seldom for any great length of time been away from the farm home where he was born. He attended the common schools, and remained with his father and finally succeeded to the ownership of the place.

December 11, 1879, he married Alta A. Seymore. She was born in Noble Township, and she and her husband grew up in the same locality. They have five children: Charles A., a graduate of Wolf Lake High School, is married and lives in Noble County; Lura, a graduate of the common schools, still at home; Frank J., a graduate of high school, is married and lives on a farm in Noble Township; Harvey, a graduate of high school, and Elmina, who has also finished a high school course.

Mr. Ott and family are members of the Christian Church, and he and his wife and daughters are members of the Pythian Sisters. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Wolf Lake and is past chancellor and a member of the Grand Lodge. In politics he is a republican, has served as a member of the Advisory Board and every worthy movement in his community is certain of his support and co-operation. He is one of the stockholders in the Farmers State Bank at Wolf Lake, is a director in the Albion National Bank and a stockholder in the Albion Grist Mill.

GLENN BROWN. Some of the most important interests of agriculture and stock industry in Steuben County are concentrated in the Brown family. Glenn Brown, a son of the well known Steuben County land owner, Frank M. Brown, of Fremont, whose career and family connections are reviewed on other pages, is personally directing many of the family interests and is one of the leading farmers of the county.

Mr. Brown was born in Jamestown Township January 6, 1883, acquired a good education in the district schools, the high school at Jamestown, also the high school at Fremont, and was a student in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola. He has been farming on his own responsibility since 1909, and handles more than 300 acres of his father's land in Jamestown Township. The field crops under his management seldom figure as sources of direct income. The principal business is cattle and hogs. Mr. Brown feeds about four carloads of cattle for the market every year, and in the spring of 1919 he put 265 hogs on the way to market condition, at a time when the price of hogs was the highest in history.

In 1908 Mr. Brown married Pearl Legg, daughter of G. D. and Adaline (Fulmer) Legg. They have two young sons, Roscoe E. and Russell L.

JONATHAN WILHELM. A highly esteemed and widely known resident of DeKalb County, who has made his home here for sixty-eight years and has witnessed and taken part in the development of this section of Indiana, is Jonathan Wilhelm, who lives practically retired in his comfortable home at Waterloo. He was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, January 18, 1843, and was eight years old when he accompanied his parents, David and Christina (Shaumbacher) Wilhelm, to DeKalb County.

David Wilhelm was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, of German parents. He was reared to farm pursuits and when he reached manhood married Christina Shaumbacher, who was born in Wurtemberg, Germany, came from there as an immigrant to Ohio, and in that state supported herself until



her marriage. Six children were born in Columbiana County and two more were added to the family after settlement was made in Indiana. Of these children but two survive: Jonathan and Caroline.

Jonathan Wilhelm grew up on a farm and gave his father assistance, as was the duty of a good son. He well remembers the old days when forests covered a large amount of the present richly cultivated farm acreage and when the main highways were little more than Indian trails. In his boyhood a village called Uniontown stood on the site of the present busy City of Waterloo. His father had to haul all family supplies from Fort Wayne. With the coming of such sturdy settlers as the Wilhelms, however, improvement began and constant development has followed. After embarking in business for himself Mr. Wilhelm for many years engaged in farming and bought and shipped livestock, his main market being Buffalo, although demands from Cleveland were also attended to, and he has additionally done shipping to Chicago. He still owns 326 acres in four different farms or tracts of land in Smithfield Township, over which he maintains oversight.

Jonathan Wilhelm was united in marriage to Mary E. Geeting, who had accompanied her mother, Mrs. Sophronia Geeting, from Canton, Ohio, to DeKalb County. Mr. and Mrs. Wilhelm became the parents of four daughters: Lizzie, Sophronia, Gertrude and Mary. Lizzie who is deceased was the wife of P. A. Bohler and the mother of four children namely: Ralph, Elmer, Ione and Floyd. During the World war Ralph went to France in an engineer corps with the American Expeditionary Forces. Elmer was also in service, attached to the Coast Defense Corps on the coast of Florida. Both were at home at the time of their mother's death. Sophronia and Gertrude reside with their father at Waterloo, looking after his comfort since the death of their mother. Mary, the youngest daughter, is the wife of R. C. Thompson, and Mr. Wilhelm's only sister is a member of the Thompson household. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have two children, Lavon and Roger.

Mr. Wilhelm has never been active in a political sense but has always been a helpful and conscientious citizen, practical in business and honest and upright in every relation of life.

**CAPT. LEWIS W. GRIFFITH.** In the death of Capt. Lewis W. Griffith on January 25, 1919, there passed away a brave and gallant soldier and a citizen of Steuben County whose life was a long exemplification of civic virtue and fidelity to duty.

Captain Griffith was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, June 17, 1838, a son of John and Jemima (Gossage) Griffith, the story of whose lives is told on other pages. Captain Griffith was twelve years old when his parents moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, and when about nineteen he accompanied them to Otsego Township in Steuben County. He was educated in the public schools and on July 25, 1861, enlisted in Company A of the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry. He was in the siege and capture of Fort Donelson, was wounded at Pittsburg Landing, and for gallant conduct at the battle of Stone River was promoted from sergeant to first lieutenant, and later was with the Forty-Fourth when it was almost annihilated at the battle of Chickamauga, where he was again wounded and received a captain's commission. He and his surviving companions of the regiment were afterward put on post duty. Captain Griffith veteranized and remained in the army until October 22, 1865. Captain Griffith was at one time commander of Steuben Post of the Grand Army of the Republic.

After the war he returned home and engaged in

farming and buying and shipping livestock. His army service caused a permanent disability.

He was a staunch republican. In 1868 he was elected assessor of Otsego Township, and later was county assessor and deputy county auditor, and had a long official record of about twenty-five years. He was a staunch republican and was affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Hamilton.

On September 1, 1861, after he had enlisted and before he was called to duty, he married Betsy Carpenter, who is still living. Her parents were Harlow J. and Fanny (Merry) Carpenter. Harlow J. Carpenter was born in Vermont in 1813, went to Ohio in early manhood, and was married there in 1836, his wife being a native of Ohio, born in the same year as her husband. In 1849 Harlow Carpenter moved to Steuben County, buying land in Otsego Township. For many years he was one of the leading members and local preachers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and was widely known as Elder Carpenter. He died April 30, 1883, and after his death the church in Otsego Center was rededicated under the name Carpenter's Chapel.

Captain and Mrs. Griffith had ten children. Emma, who became the wife of Roscoe Harpster lives in Kansas and their son Claud was in the famous Thirty-fifth Division as a corporal, and was a participant in the battle of the Argonne Forest. Jessie is the widow of John Hammond, who left four children, Harry, Harold, Joyce and Ruth. Of these Harold was in the Thirty-Second Division in France and Harry was with the navy at the Great Lakes Training Station. Edna, the third child, is the wife of John Zimmerman, living in the State of Washington. Sarah married William Healey and has three children, Charles, Pauline and Griffith. Nellie died at the age of twenty years. George married Lillian Isenhour, and during the Spanish-American war he was a member of the One Hundred and Fifty-Seventh Indiana Volunteers. Shirley married Pearl Curl, and their children are Edna, Bertha, Lewis, Bettie, Yovona and Thomas. Ford died at the age of eight years. Bert was in the army during the World war. Vella is the wife of Merle Mortorff, and their three children are Helen, John and Alda.

**ELIAS W. OLINGHOUSE**, who is now concentrating his energies upon his farm in section 31 of Clear Spring Township in LaGrange County, became widely known over this section of Northeast Indiana as a veteran thresherman, a business he followed forty years.

He was born in Eden Township a half mile west of Topeka, Indiana, December 11, 1853, a son of Jonathan and Mary (Collet) Olinghouse. His parents were both natives of Ohio and grew up and were married in Indiana, in LaGrange County, near Topeka. They settled on a farm a half mile east of Topeka, where Jonathan Olinghouse conducted a blacksmith shop in addition to clearing up and developing his land. In 1878 he moved to another farm four miles southeast of LaGrange, and spent his last days there. His first wife died in Clear Spring Township. They were active members of the Methodist Church. Jonathan Olinghouse had fourteen children by his two marriages. His first wife was the mother of four sons and three daughters, six of whom are still living: Elias W.; Charles, of Ligonier; Theo, deceased; Burther, who lives six miles east of LaGrange; Ada, wife of Harvey Babb; Etta, wife of O. C. Harsh; Mary, wife of C. E. Babb.

Elias W. Olinghouse grew up on the home farm and had a common school education. At the age of nineteen he began working out for his living, and

in 1874 bought a threshing outfit, which he operated successfully every season for forty years. He owns 187 acres in his home farm in LaGrange County and also has forty acres in Oklahoma. He is a stockholder in the State Bank of Topeka.

Mr. Olinghouse married Miss Catherine Medlaum. Their children are Russell, Ray and Roy, twins, and Martha, wife of Frank Dovel. Mr. Olinghouse is a member of Hawpatch Lodge No. 760, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is a past noble grand, and is a member of the Encampment No. 133. He has sat in the Grand Lodge of that order. Politically he is a republican.

JOSEPH ROHRABAUGH lived a life of extreme industry and to good purpose, started out in young manhood without resources beyond the experience he had acquired working for others, was a farm hand, a renter, and eventually acquired a good place of his own.

He was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, February 5, 1861, the only child of Joseph and Mary Ann (Frick) Rohrbaugh, early settlers of DeKalb County. Joseph was a small child when his father died. His father was well educated, taught school in early life and was also a stone and brick mason by trade. The widowed mother married John Rubley, and by that marriage had two children, John H. and Elizabeth.

Joseph Rohrbaugh at the age of eight years moved with his mother to Steuben County, and from that time made his home in Jamestown Township. He assisted his stepfather in clearing up the farm. Later he worked out by the month, spending eighteen summers in that way. For nine years he was a renter and in 1901 bought eighty acres of land in Jamestown Township. He made the land pay for itself and give him a good living besides, and he improved it with a substantial barn and had much to show for his efforts. In politics he was a democrat, and his wife was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

April 2, 1892, Mr. Rohrbaugh married Abbie U. Latta. She was born in Branch County, Michigan, in 1874, a daughter of Moses and Jane (West) Latta. Her mother was a native of Steuben County, daughter of George and Sarah (Sams) West. Moses Latta came to Steuben County when a young man, and after his marriage settled in Pleasant Township and later in Jamestown Township, where he died in 1906, at the age of seventy-four. His wife died in 1904, at the age of sixty. They were the parents of three children: Abbie, Jennie and Moses. Mrs. Rohrbaugh's mother married for her first husband Robert Sillabaugh, and by that union had two children, Milo J. and Robert Morton, both now deceased.

Both the children born to Mr. and Mrs. Rohrbaugh died early in infancy. Mary, born in 1894, lived nine months, while Christian, born in 1897, died eleven days later.

RICHARD L. COOK. There have been representatives of four generations of the Cook family to spend part of their mature years in LaGrange County, and their activities have been particularly manifested in the agricultural community of Van Buren Township.

A fine farm in that locality managed for many years by Richard L. Cook was the scene of his birth on July 29, 1879. He is a son of Adelbert and Orlinda Bell (Parker) Cook and a grandson of William and Catherine (Fowler) Cook, while his great-grandparents were John and Mary Cook. William Cook was born in England and came with his parents to America early in the last century.

The Cook family settled in LaGrange County in 1831 and John Cook died the same year of his settlement here. John and Mary Cook had four children: William, Elizabeth, George and Jane. William Cook was married in LaGrange County, and his children were Samuel, Marie, Charles and Adelbert. William Cook bought 180 acres in Van Buren Township, and lived there until his death in 1904, at the advanced age of ninety-two.

Adelbert Cook was born in Van Buren Township September 26, 1847, grew up on the old Cook Farm, was educated in common schools, and has spent his active life as a farmer. He owns 183 acres, and this is the farm where his son Richard was born and where the latter has been in full charge as manager for many years. Adelbert Cook is a democrat, and that was also the politics of his father, William. His wife was born September 2, 1857.

Richard L. Cook grew up on the old homestead, attended the local schools and for about twenty-five years has had an increasing share of responsibilities in connection with running the old homestead. He is a democrat like his father and grandfather and is affiliated with Lodge No. 698 of the Masons at Howe.

In 1911 he married Esther L. Firestone. She was born in Elkhart County February 2, 1890, a daughter of Jacob and Nancy Firestone. Her mother is still living. Richard L. Cook and wife have one daughter, Kathryn Virginia, born April 7, 1917.

CLARENCE HANSELMAN. A farm in Otsego Township that has been improved by the labors of two generations of the well-known Hanselman family is in section 5, comprising 140 acres, and now owned and cultivated by Clarence Hanselman. Mr. Hanselman is one of the most successful representatives of his family and has proved his worth both as a practical farmer and as a public-spirited citizen.

He was born on the homestead where he still lives, October 19, 1875, a son of John Quincy and Margaret (Kankamp) Hanselman and a grandson of Aaron Hanselman. A more detailed record of this family will be found on other pages of this publication. Clarence Hanselman grew up on the home farm. After acquiring a public school education he took up farming as his serious career, and in course of years acquired the old homestead of 140 acres. He has remodeled the barn, and installed many other improvements, including a furnace in his home. He is a breeder of pure bred Shorthorn cattle and also keeps the best grades of Duroc Jersey hogs. Politically Mr. Hanselman is a republican.

October 30, 1907, he married Miss Lela Dora Sutton, member of an old and prominent family of Steuben County. She was born in Scott Township, March 7, 1882, a daughter of Roswell and Emma J. (Waller) Sutton. Her parents were both natives of Steuben County, her father born April 27, 1852, and her mother on January 1, 1859. Roswell Sutton was a son of Roswell and Nancy (McMinn) Sutton, both pioneers of Northeast Indiana. Roswell, Sr., was the first, or one of the first, teachers in Steuben County. Emma J. (Waller) Sutton, who died March 3, 1912, was a daughter of Jacob and Rhoda (Trobridge) Waller, likewise pioneers of Steuben County. Mrs. Hanselman's father is still living in Scott Township. He had four children, named, Delevan, Robert, Lela Dora and Orville. Mr. and Mrs. Hanselman have a son and daughter, Russell Clarence, born October 3, 1908, and Helen Ruth, born August 1, 1911.

ROY PERKINS, cashier of the Farmers State Bank of Stroh, has been identified with that institution two



years, and is one of the leading business men of LaGrange County.

He represents a family well known for their enterprise and good citizenship in Northeast Indiana. He was born on a farm in Milford Township, August 26, 1881, a son of Samuel and Emma (Mains) Perkins. Some additional facts regarding his father and the early history of the family will be found on other pages. Samuel Perkins and wife, who spent their last years on a farm in section 23 of Milford Township, were active in the Methodist Church, and he was a republican. They were the parents of five sons and the four still living are J. D., of Milford; M. S., of Milford; Clyde, of Milford; and Roy. The Perkins brothers have a number of individual interests and are also associates in the ownership of the Stroh Grain Company, and for five years were engaged in drainage contracting.

Roy Perkins grew up on the home farm in Milford Township and graduated from the South Milford High School and spent three years in the State Normal. He is well known for his splendid work as a teacher. For thirteen years he was engaged in schoolroom work, and during that time was superintendent of the South Milford school five years and principal of the Stroh school four years.

The Farmers State Bank of Stroh was organized November 16, 1915. Its officers are: H. B. Lewis, president; S. A. Stout, vice president; Roy Perkins, cashier, while the Board of Directors consist of H. B. Lewis, S. A. Stout, Roy Perkins, M. S. Perkins, J. D. Perkins, J. B. Hayward, R. O. Conklin, F. N. Wilson and E. E. Goodsell. The bank is capitalized at \$25,000.

November 28, 1905, Mr. Perkins married Opal Lovett. She is a graduate of the South Milford High School. They have four children, named Marjorie, Katherine, Dale and George. Mr. Perkins is a past master and charter member of Philo Lodge No. 672, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is also a past grand of the Odd Fellows. His wife is both a Rebekah and a member of the Eastern Star. Politically he is affiliated with the republican party.

CHARLES B. OURY is a resident of Jackson Township, Steuben County. Farming has constituted his work, and he has been a busy and successful agriculturist for the past twenty years. In that time he has acquired a good farm of his own, and his prosperity is very much in evidence.

Mr. Oury, who is connected with several leading families of Steuben County, was born in Seneca County, Ohio, October 21, 1871, but has lived in Steuben County since early childhood. He is a son of William and Rachel (Bowerman) Oury, the former born in Knox County, Ohio, in 1849, and the latter in Seneca County, a daughter of Simon and Lydia (Spangle) Bowerman. William Oury, who died in 1901, came to Steuben County about 1874, and after 1876 had a farm in sections 16 and 21 of Jackson Township.

Charles D. Oury was the oldest of six children. He attended district school No. 4 in Jackson Township, and went to work as a young man at farming. In 1899 he moved to Pleasant Township, and in 1901 moved to another farm in Springfield Township of LaGrange County, where he directed the operations of 290 acres for ten years. He bought his present place in section 4 of Jackson Township in 1911. He has a farm of 120 acres, well improved and increasing in value every year under his management. Mr. Oury is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Flint.

May 29, 1897, he married Miss Emma Dudley, a daughter of Grove H. and Mary (Closson) Dudley. Reference to her father is made on other pages of

this publication. Mr. and Mrs. Oury have four children: Maynard, born September 8, 1899; Wayland, born November 25, 1901, and died August 25, 1911; Ruth Marguerite, born October 20, 1904; and Mildred Rachel, born October 1, 1908.

LEVI I. MILLER. Everyone having business relations with the community of Shipshewana knows the work and position of Levi I. Miller as cashier of the Farmers State Bank. Mr. Miller has been one of the leading young business men of that town nearly twenty years.

He was born in Clay Township of LaGrange County July 10, 1877, and represents an old family, early settled in Northeast Indiana, and formerly of Pennsylvania. The Millers represented many of the fine and enviable qualities of the sturdy Mennonites, who were so prominent in the early life and affairs of Pennsylvania. He is a son of Daniel J. and Catherine (Thomas) Miller, both natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. His father was born January 17, 1849, and his mother on January 23, 1846. Catherine Thomas, who died January 22, 1905, was a daughter of Jacob and Rachel (Blough) Thomas.

The great-grandfather of Levi I. Miller was Christian Miller, whose father came over from Germany and located in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania. There are more than 700 descendants of Christian Miller, and of this great family connection there are sixty-six who are ministers and deacons in the Mennonite Church.

Jacob S. Miller, grandfather of the Shipshewana banker, was born in Somerset County December 10, 1795. He came to Clay Township, LaGrange County, in 1866, and lived in that locality until his death on January 26, 1874. He was twice married, and by both wives had eighteen children. His first wife was Catherine Kime, who died in 1832. She was the mother of Christian, Henry, Jacob, who died in infancy, Joseph, Martha, John, George and Fannie, who died at the age of seventeen. Jacob S. Miller married for his second wife Fannie Hershberger, who was born May 9, 1806. Her children, ten in number, were Susan, Barbara, Katie, Sarah, Lydia, Moses, Lizzie, Fannie, Daniel J. and Polly.

Daniel J. Miller came to LaGrange County with his parents when seventeen years of age, and a few years later bought his father's old homestead and lived there in Clay Township until about 1880. Since then he has made his home in Newbury Township and is owner of 100 acres of good farming land. He and his wife had three children: Harry D., Levi I. and Lucy, who is the wife of Herbert Hostetter and has a daughter, Arlene.

Levi I. Miller attended the district schools of Newbury Township, is a graduate of the Shipshewana High School, and in the same year completed a commercial course in Valparaiso University. During his first year out of school he was employed by the Farver Brothers Lumber Company at Shipshewana, but in 1901 entered upon his banking career as assistant cashier of the Bank of Shipshewana. When this bank was reorganized in October, 1907, and the name changed to the Farmers State Bank he was promoted to the post of cashier and is the genial and efficient man with whom most of the patrons of that bank have done business ever since. Mr. Miller also writes fire and tornado insurance and is owner of a farm in Newbury Township. He was honored with the responsibilities of trustee of Newbury Township from January, 1915, to January, 1919. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Shipshewana.



June 6, 1906, he married Amanda Bowers, a daughter of Samuel and Catherine Bowers. They have two children: Helen, born January 10, 1912, and Stanley, born January 25, 1915.

**GEORGE H. WALBERRY.** A special place of esteem has always been reserved for George H. Walberry in Otsego Township of Steuben County, where he has spent forty-five years of his life. Mr. Walberry made an interesting record as a soldier of the Union during the Civil war. He served with an Ohio regiment, and after coming to Indiana busied himself for many years in clearing and developing a good farm in Otsego Township and is still living there though now retired.

He was born at Fremont in Sandusky County, Ohio, October 26, 1845, a son of Christian and Sophia (Miller) Walberry. His father was born in Germany, came to the United States at the age of twenty-two, and was married the same year. His wife was a native of Pennsylvania. Christian Walberry had a tragic end. He had been away from home working for a neighbor, and on his return alone he was taken ill and died, and his body was not found for three days. His death occurred in July, 1846. George H. Walberry was then an infant, and the other child was Rhoda Ann. In 1854 the widowed mother married William Burkett, who died in 1864, the father of five children, Ellen Jane, George W., Caroline, Angeline and Charlotte. The first two are now deceased. The mother spent her last years at Elkhart, Indiana, where she died January 9, 1883.

The family circumstances being as they were George H. Walberry early had to face serious responsibilities upon his own account. He acquired some education in Sandusky County, and at the age of fifteen began working in sawmills and on farms. On December 9, 1863, at the age of eighteen, he enlisted in the Ninth Company of the First Battalion of Ohio Sharpshooters. This company was afterwards assigned to the Sixtieth Ohio Infantry, but after a protest to the Government it served its original purpose as sharpshooters for the Second Brigade, Third Division, Ninth Corps of the Army of the Potomac. Mr. Walberry was in his first battle at the Wilderness and later at Spottsylvania and Cold Harbor was under fire for seven days. He was in the siege of Petersburg, and was one of a party of twenty volunteers who responded to a call to "go over the top" and capture a portion of the enemy's works. After the successful charge only ten were left uninjured. Mr. Walberry participated in thirteen battles, serving under Grant most of the time, was at the surrender of Appomattox, and was a special guard on a number of occasions. He stood guard at the Carroll prison in Washington when Mrs. Suratt, the famous spy and an accomplice in the murder of Lincoln, was hanged.

Mr. Walberry received his honorable discharge July 28, 1865, and then returned home to his mother and worked at farming for a few years. On December 5, 1875, he came to Steuben County, where the previous year he had bought ninety-five acres in Otsego Township. He at once busied himself with its clearing and improvement, put up good buildings, ditched the low ground, and successfully followed farming and stock raising there until the death of his wife in 1900. He then went to Oklahoma Territory and proved up a quarter section of land in that part of the Southwest. He held his Oklahoma land until February, 1919, when he sold out at a good profit.

Mr. Walberry is a democrat in politics. He was elected trustee of Otsego Township on an inde-

pendent ticket in 1880. He is a member of the Grange and has been interested in all matters pertaining to the welfare of his community.

December 22, 1867, at Woodville, Ohio, he married Miss Sarah Rhinehart, of Ottawa County in that state. She died in 1900, the mother of four children. Llewellyn, Perry O., Anna Bell and Roscoe Conklin.

**CHARLES W. AUSTIN.** The Austin family have kept their home and interests quite well concentrated in Milford Township through a period of nearly eighty years. It is one of the oldest and best known families of LaGrange County. One of them, Charles W. Austin, has passed the age of three quarters of a century, but is still actively engaged in looking after his farm in section 21 of Milford Township,  $\frac{2}{3}$  miles north and  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile east of South Milford.

He was born in section 31 of the same township, January 14, 1842, a son of John W. and Louisa (Fathergill) Austin. His father was a native of Maryland and was one of the first settlers in Milford Township. The Fathergill family also came at an early date to LaGrange County, and located in Springfield Township. Louisa Fathergill was a native of Ohio and was reared and married in Springfield Township. Both parents spent their last years on a farm in section 31, where they owned eighty acres. They were members of the Methodist Church and the father was a republican. Of five children, three are still living: Charles W.; Albert, a farmer in Milford Township; and Dora, widow of F. L. Racine, of Fort Wayne.

Charles W. Austin grew up in section 31, attended the district schools in winter and worked on the farm in summer, and at the age of twenty-one bought land and became a practical farmer, a vocation he has followed ever since. He now has a place of forty acres devoted to general farming and stock raising.

August 15, 1862, he married Ica L. McGowen. She was born in Morrow County, Ohio, September 20, 1847, and spent two years of her girlhood in Iowa and after that settled with her family in Milford Township. Mr. and Mrs. Austin have six living children: Rose, wife of Charles Grim, of Kendallville; Fred H., of Kendallville; Frank, at home; Grace, wife of Zofer Sherman; Floyd, of Milford Township; and Dora, wife of S. D. Vesey, of Milford Township. Mr. Austin is a republican in political affiliations.

**IRA T. BACHELOR.** One of the oldest and most substantial American communities in Steuben County is in Millgrove Township, where a preponderance of the early settlers were New England people, particularly from Vermont. Members of the Bachelor family have been identified with that section over eighty years, and one of the best known is Ira T. Bachelor.

Mr. Bachelor was born in Jackson Township of Steuben County, August 14, 1853. His grandparents were Ira and Hannah (Green) Bachelor. They had two children, Amos and Lucy. Ira Bachelor died in Ohio, and after his death his widow became Mrs. Elijah Owen. By that marriage there were three children: Henry, Ira and Hannah. Elijah Owen brought his family to Steuben County in 1836, making the trip from Ohio with ox team and wagon, and they were among the first settlers of Millgrove Township.

Amos Bachelor was eleven years old when brought to Indiana. He was born in Lake County, Ohio, in April, 1825. He married Susan Burroughs, who was born in New York State December 10, 1828, a





*Charles. Black,*



daughter of Rev. Truman Burroughs. Her father was a pioneer Baptist minister who carried the gospel through several counties in Indiana and Michigan.

Amos Bachelor began his career as a farmer in Jackson Township, and in 1857 came to Millgrove Township. In May, 1869, he left the farm and lived at Waterloo until March, 1874, in order to give his children the advantage of high school. With that exception he spent all his active career on the farm in Millgrove Township. In the fall of 1899 he retired from farming and moved to Angola, where he died January 29, 1905. His widow passed away in June, 1911.

Amos Bachelor was one of the highly successful farmers of Steuben County, and at one time owned over 500 acres of productive land. He and his wife had four children: Ellen, who is the wife of James Campbell and lives at Waterloo; Ira, Fremont and Elmer.

Ira Bachelor in his individual career has manifested many of the good business qualities of his father. He acquired a good education, partly in the district schools of Jamestown Township, also in the high school at Waterloo, and for three terms he taught school. He has many talents and gifts in music. He began his farming career in Millgrove Township, where he has lived for over thirty years. He owns a farm of 185 acres, and all its substantial buildings were put on the land by him with the exception of one house.

Mr. Bachelor married in 1873 Miss Etta Patterson, daughter of William Patterson. They have three children: Clyde, Io, wife of Fred Terry, and Paul.

**THEODORE HUNT.** The passing years have dealt pleasantly with Theodore Hunt, one of the prosperous farmers of Franklin Township, DeKalb County. He has lived in DeKalb County most of his life, has worked hard for his prosperity, and enjoys high standing as a citizen and has a happy family around him.

Mr. Hunt, whose sixty-eight acre farm devoted to general crops and livestock is six miles north of Butler and near the Town of Hamilton, was born at Fostoria, Ohio, October 9, 1864, a son of Theodore and Harriet H. (Boughton) Hunt. His father was born near Fostoria and his mother was a native of Connecticut, coming when a girl with her parents to Seneca County, Ohio. In 1867 the Hunt family moved to Williams County, Ohio, locating five miles northwest of Bryan. In 1877 they settled in Franklin Township of DeKalb County, but after several years sold their property and returned to Bryan for about two and a half years. They then resumed their residence in Franklin Township, where the father and mother spent their last years. They were active members of the Methodist Church and the father was a worker in the Grange and was a past grand and member of the Grand Lodge of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Politically he was a staunch republican. He and his wife have eight children: Ellen and H. B., both deceased; Emma, wife of John Hinkle; Mary, deceased wife of Ed Hinkle; Theodore; Hattie, wife of Arthur Oberlin; Eben; and Jennie, wife of Oren Aldrich.

Mr. Theodore Hunt was about thirteen years old when his parents first came to Franklin Township. He completed his education in the district schools, and after the age of nineteen began his independent career. On December 31, 1883, he married Belle Taylor, daughter of Jasper S. Taylor. Mr. and Mrs. Hunt have three children: Grace, wife of

Bert Oren; Ida, wife of Guy Obendorph; and Ralph T., who makes his home with his father.

Mr. Hunt is affiliated with Hamilton Lodge No. 648 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is a past grand, and he and his wife are both members of the Rebekahs. Politically he is a republican.

**CHARLES BLACK.** It was not altogether personal popularity nor partisan strength that resulted in the choice of Charles Black for sheriff of Noble County at the general election of November, 1918. Mr. Black has exceptional qualifications for any position to which he might aspire. He has been a resident of Noble County practically all his life, is a sturdy and thorough farmer, and bought and sold stock for a number of years and has been directing the management of a good farm right up to the date he assumed the duties of his office.

Mr. Black was born in York Township October 18, 1871, son of John W. and Matilda (Tyler) Black. His parents were both born in Stark County, Ohio. The father was born October 16, 1837. They were married in that county, and about the close of the Civil war moved to Noble County, Indiana. After a few years in York Township as a renter John W. Black bought a farm, and at the time of his death owned 156 acres. He was a republican, quite active in his party, and served at one time as assessor of York Township. In his family were twelve children, five of whom are still living: John W., a resident of Canton, Ohio; Emmett, a farmer in York Township; Charles; Calvin, of York Township; and Jennie, wife of David Young, of LaGrange County, Indiana.

Mr. Charles Black grew up in York Township and attended school in winter and worked on the farm in summer. At the age of twenty-one he left home and spent three years in Illinois, and on returning to Noble County he and his brother bought ninety acres in York Township and farmed it in partnership for five years. Mr. Black then sold his interest to his brother and on March 7, 1912, he moved to Albion and engaged in the business of buying and shipping livestock. He lived on his farm three miles southwest of Albion and also has a residence in the Town of Albion. He is a stockholder in the Albion Grist Mill. Mr. Black has been active in republican politics for a number of years. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias, and he and his family attend worship in the Presbyterian Church of York Township.

October 17, 1901, he married Miss Lulu A. Moore. Mrs. Black died October 9, 1916, the mother of two sons, Clarence G. and Charles D. On February 28, 1918, Mr. Black married Mrs. Gail Frazure.

**NOAH S. STUMP.** For nearly forty years the Stump family have been factors in the agricultural development and business and civic enterprise of Washington Township in Noble County. Noah S. Stump, who came to that locality when he was a boy, is a farm owner, farmer and stock raiser in section 22.

He was born in Jackson Township of Elkhart County, Indiana, December 7, 1873, son of Noah and Maria (Hettzel) Stump, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Pennsylvania. The Stump and Hettzel families came to Indiana in early days and Noah and Maria were married here, after which they settled four and a half miles southwest of Paris, Indiana, and from there in 1880, after selling their farm, went to the western frontier in Nebraska, but after a brief experience returned to Indiana and then bought land in Washington Township of Noble County. Both parents

spent the rest of their lives in this county, where the father died in 1912, and the mother in May, 1917. They were active members of the River Brethren Church. A brief record of their large family of twelve children is as follows: Daniel D., a former county commissioner of Noble County; Anna, deceased; Adam, of Washington Township; Susan, of Kosciusko County; Mary, wife of Marion S. Weigle, of Washington Township; John B., of Washington Township; Fannie, wife of Lewis C. Hontz; Noah S.; Frank, of Monroe, Michigan; Levi, deceased; James, of Columbia City; and George, of Washington Township.

Noah S. Stump was seven years old when his parents came to Washington Township, and in addition to the advantages of the district schools attended the Tri-State College at Angola and has a term or so of teaching to his credit. On December 30, 1899, he married Aldine Hontz. She was born in Noble County, August 26, 1872, and is a daughter of Jacob Hontz. Mr. and Mrs. Stump have three children: Earl, a graduate of the common schools and with three years of attendance at high school, is unmarried and is still at home; Jennie is a graduate of the common schools and attending high school; and Paul is still in the district school.

Mrs. Stump is a member of the Baptist Church. He is a past grand of Lodge No. 722 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is a member of the Grand Lodge, and is past chief patriarch of the Encampment. Both he and his wife are members of the Rebekahs and she is a past grand of that order. He is also affiliated with Cromwell Lodge No. 705, Free and Accepted Masons. Politically, Mr. Stump is a democrat. The farm which he conducts with so much profit comprises 147 acres. One phase of his efforts there is the breeding of registered hogs. He is a stockholder and director in the Sparta State Bank at Cromwell and is also a stockholder in the Farmers National Life Insurance Company.

FREDERICK E. SHROYER, who in his early life was a successful teacher, has been equally successful as a practical farmer. He is one of the best known men of Milford Township in LaGrange County, where he is the present township trustee.

Mr. Shroyer was born in Orange Township of Noble County, Indiana, August 23, 1882, a son of William F. and Florence (Reinoehl) Shroyer. His father was born in the same township of the county April 30, 1861, a son of Edward and Mary (Swinehart) Shroyer, both natives of Ohio, who came to Noble County in early days and settled in Orange Township. William F. Shroyer now lives near Helmer, Indiana, an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, an Odd Fellow and a democrat in political affiliations. He and his wife had three children, one of whom died in infancy. The two sons are Frederick E. and John F. The latter is a graduate of the Bushy Prairie High School, graduated from Business College in Fort Wayne, and is a farmer in DeKalb County.

Frederick E. Shroyer grew up on a farm in Orange Township of Noble County and received his first advantages in the district schools there. He also graduated from high school, attended the State Normal at Terre Haute, Indiana, and spent one year in the State University at Bloomington. Mr. Shroyer was a teacher in the common schools for seven years and for two years in high school. September 12, 1907, he married Inez Milbourn. She is also a graduate of the high school at South Milford and for four years taught there, being the primary teacher in South Milford. They have two children, Harold E., born October 21, 1910, and Mildred L., born January 16, 1914.

The Shroyer family are members of the Christian Church at Stroh, Indiana. He is affiliated with Philo Lodge No. 672 of Masons, and in politics is a democrat. Before entering upon his duties as township trustee he served four years as township assessor, from January 1, 1915, to January 1, 1919. Mr. Shroyer is a general farmer and stock raiser, having 136 acres in Milford Township under his management.

ROBERT H. SNOWBERGER, one of the successful farmers and landowners of Northeast Indiana, was a veteran of the Civil war, and for over half a century has been identified with different agricultural communities in Steuben and DeKalb counties.

He comes from a family of well known prominence in this section of Indiana, being a son of David and Evelyn (Haughey) Snowberger. Some of the other details of the family history are found on other pages.

Robert H. Snowberger was born in Ashland County, Ohio, December 19, 1845, but grew up in Steuben County, acquiring his education in the California district school in Steuben Township. He was not yet eighteen years of age when on August 4, 1863, he enlisted in Company D of the Seventh Indiana Cavalry. He was in service for more than two years, receiving his honorable discharge February 2, 1866. He participated in the campaign in Mississippi, involving the battles of Okolona and Guntown, and saw much other active service. After his return from the army Mr. Snowberger did some ditching work for a year and a half, then bought a small stretch of land in Steuben Township, a few years later moved to DeKalb County, and remained there a year and a half, again moved to Steuben Township and then located on the farm where he had previously lived in DeKalb County, and remained there nine years. His next place was a farm of 200 acres in Pleasant Township of Steuben County, and that was his home and the scene of his activities for the next twenty-nine years. After leaving there Mr. Snowberger and his family lived in Angola for a year, and in March, 1918, he moved to his present place in Jamestown Township. His efforts have been prospered, and at the present time he owns about 359 acres in Pleasant and Jamestown townships.

Mr. Snowberger is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He married in 1867 Maria Lacey, daughter of Thomas Lacey. Some of the records of the Lacey family are found on other pages.

Mrs. Snowberger, who died in 1909, was the mother of five children, the first two dying in infancy. Those living are: Cary M. a dentist at Hudson; Grace A. the wife of Homer Brown; and Fred who also follows the profession of dentistry. Mr. Snowberger married for his second wife Mrs. Clara Baker.

JAMES C. DEVINNEY. While much of his time is spent away from LaGrange County in handling his business as a traveling salesman, James C. Devinney is a member of an old and well known family of this part of Northeast Indiana, and owns an extensive and well arranged farm in Van Buren Township.

He was born in Newbury Township of LaGrange County November 28, 1858, a son of Dennis and Lauretta (Dibble) Devinney. His father was a native of Pennsylvania. Lauretta Dibble was born in New York State, a daughter of Volney C. and Hannah Fidelia (Parker) Dibble. Volney Dibble was born in the same state January 7, 1808, a son of Andrew Dibble, and came to Lima, Indiana, in 1843, and conducted a wagon making shop there until



1859. He then moved to a farm in Elkhart County, later established his home in Newbury Township of LaGrange County, and continued farming until 1871. After that he spent four years in DeKalb County, and in 1876 moved to the farm now owned by James C. DeVinney in Van Buren Township, in section 32. He lived there until his death in 1901. He was a good mechanic and a capable farmer and a man whose relations with the community gave him a place of special prominence. Volney C. Dibble had three children: Hannah, Lauretta and Adelbert.

Dennis DeVinney came to LaGrange County when a young man, and after his marriage worked in the wagon shop with Mr. Dibble. Subsequently he was a farmer in Newbury Township, and he died in 1863, when a comparatively young man. His wife had passed away in 1862. Their children were: Charles A., who lives in DeKalb County, and by his marriage to Emma Treman had three children, Laura, Clair, who died at the age of two years, and George. James C. is the second child. Ida L. L. is the widow of Charles Weiss, who died April 2, 1915, and her children are Lola Fidelia, Henry C., E. Eugene, Earl C., and Ruth, who died when four and a half years old.

James C. DeVinney, who is popularly known as Mont DeVinney, was left an orphan when about five years of age, and he and his brother and sister were reared by their grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Dibble. He attended public school in Newbury and Van Buren townships, also the Normal School at LaGrange, and taught seven terms of school. For over two years he clerked in a store at Howe, Indiana, and then took up his work as a traveling salesman, which he followed for seven years. From 1892 to 1907 he was in the general merchandise business at Howe. He sold out in 1907 and spent the following two years repairing and working the home farm. Since 1909 he has had a general agency for the well known Kalamazoo tile and wood silos. He supervises the sale of these silos in fifteen counties in Northern Illinois.

Mr. DeVinney owns the fine 175-acre farm in Van Buren Township where his widowed sister and her family reside. When he is not looking after his business affairs in Illinois he makes his home with his sister on the farm. Mr. DeVinney is unmarried.

He served as trustee of Lima Township four years and for three years was manager of the Lima Creamery. Mr. DeVinney is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Howe and with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at LaGrange, and is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Howe.

RAYMOND J. LUSE. There are a number of illustrations of men who have gone from the farm into commercial and professional careers. The cases are not so numerous where young professional men have given up their chosen work to devote themselves to agriculture. A case in point is that of Raymond J. Luse, who enjoyed high standing as a physician and surgeon in Steuben County and a few years ago surrendered his practice and has made unequivocal success at dairy farming.

Doctor Luse was born at Niles, Ohio, March 13, 1880, son of Jesse B. and Frances (Sanderson) Luse, the former a native of Niles and the latter of Youngstown, Ohio. His father is still engaged in farming near the industrial city of Niles.

Dr. Raymond J. Luse grew up on his father's farm and in early life acquired some of the experience and training which has fitted him for success

since he entered dairying. He was educated in the common and high schools of Niles, and first came to Northeastern Indiana as a student in the Normal College of Angola. He graduated in 1900 and in 1902 entered the school of medicine of Drake University of Des Moines, Iowa, graduating in the year 1906. He at once returned to Angola, and took up the practice of medicine, which he continued successfully for seven years. Mr. Luse left his profession in 1913, and then moved to his farm one mile west of Angola. He has acquired a splendid herd of blooded Holsteins, noted for their milk production, and keeps twenty cows for his splendid business of dairy farming. Doctor Luse married in 1907 Clela Powers, daughter of Judge Powers, of Angola. They have two children: Raymond Powers and Anna. Doctor and Mrs. Luse are members of the Christian Church.

CHARLES W. DANCER, M. D., who has practiced medicine and surgery at Stroh for the past eighteen years, comes of a well known family of professional and business men in LaGrange County.

He is a son of Dr. John and Isabelle (Hodges) Dancer and was born at South Milford, November 29, 1871. His father became well known all over Northeast Indiana. He was a native of Stark County, Ohio, and spent most of his boyhood in DeKalb County, Indiana. He graduated from Rush Medical College in Chicago and for nearly half a century practiced his profession at South Milford, in an ever growing circle of esteem. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge, Chapter and Commandery, at Kendallville, and a democrat in politics. He served two or three terms as trustee of Milford Township. Doctor Dancer and wife had ten children, six of whom are still living: Maggie, wife of Ephraim Frandt; Katie J., widow of Dr. H. M. Newman, of South Milford; Dr. Charles W.; Edna, wife of Dallas West, a chemist with the Wabash Portland Cement Company at Stroh; George W., a dentist at Dayton, Ohio; and Jesse E., an interurban railway conductor with home at Fort Wayne.

Dr. Charles W. Dancer grew up in South Milford, attended the public schools there, and in 1893 graduated from St. Mary's College at Dayton, Ohio. From 1895 to 1898 he was a student in Rush Medical College, his father's alma mater, and took his degree in medicine from the Tennessee Medical College in 1899. The following year he located at Stroh, and has since had a busy town and country practice. He is a member in good standing of the County and State Medical societies, is a democrat and has served as county chairman of LaGrange County four years. He has also been a trustee of Milford Township and a few years ago was nominated for the State Senate on the democratic ticket. In a district normally republican by 2,500 he was defeated by only 800 votes. Dr. Dancer is a charter member and was the first master of Philo Lodge No. 672, Ancient Free and Accepted Mason, and is affiliated with the Royal Arch Chapter and Knight Templar Commandery at Kendallville. He has also passed the chairs in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Improved Order of Red Men. Doctor Dancer married Elizabeth Weingart in 1908.

GEORGE M. MANAHAN has lived a life of unusual experience and has had his home and work in a number of different environments. In early life he was thrown upon his own responsibilities, had to work for himself and others, too, but in the course of thirty years has accumulated a generous prosperity and is now one of the leading farmers and farm owners in Jackson Township of Steuben County.



He was born in Ottawa County, Ohio, December 26, 1865. His parents were Ira and Nancy (Weatherwax) Manahan. His paternal grandfather, Samuel Manahan, was a farmer in Ottawa County, Ohio, and had a family of children named Rebecca, Elizabeth, James, William, Samuel, Ira, Jefferson, Thomas and Joseph.

Ira Manahan was also born in Ottawa County, Ohio, October 9, 1836, and on March 1, 1863, married Nancy Weatherwax. She was born August 28, 1842, a daughter of Lawrence and Nancy Maria (Weatherwax) Weatherwax. Lawrence was born October 3, 1813, and Nancy Maria, March 1, 1821. In the Weatherwax family were six children: Elizabeth, born June 13, 1838; Lydia, born April 2, 1840; Nancy, born August 28, 1842; John, who died in infancy; Maria Jane, born July 18, 1855; and Martha, born July 23, 1859.

Ira Manahan during his active life was a farmer in Ottawa County, Ohio. He died there October 16, 1872, when his son George was only seven years old. After his death his wife and children continued to live on the home farm some eight or ten years, and the family then came to Pleasant Township of Steuben County. Mrs. Manahan bought a farm of fifty acres about two miles west of Angola, and lived on that place until 1892. She then went west to Adams County, Nebraska, and kept house for her two sons, Charles and Bert, and remained there until the marriage of her son Charles, since which time she has resumed her residence in Steuben County and now lives at Angola. She was the mother of a family of five: Samuel L., born July 10, 1864; George M., whose birth has above been noted; Minnie Jane, born October 30, 1867, wife of Edward Baker; Charles W., born October 24, 1869; and Bert L., born September 22, 1871.

George M. Manahan acquired most of his education in his native county of Ohio, but also attended district schools in Pleasant Township. He was only thirteen years old when he became a wage earner, working out at \$10 a month. His career as an independent farmer was begun in 1888 in Pleasant Township on a rented farm. After a year and a half he moved to Jackson Township, continued farming there until 1894, and then spent a year as a farmer in Nebraska. After returning to Steuben County he located in Pleasant Township and for fifteen years lived on various places and made a number of moves, though most of the time he was a farmer. He has owned several different farms and has been a permanent resident of Jackson Township since 1911, when he bought his present place. The prosperity gained by years of effort is represented in the ownership of 265 acres, with building improvements of exceptional value.

Mr. Manahan married Nellie R. Moore, a daughter of Robert and Rachel A. Moore. They have two children: Glenn L., who married Hilda Leese; and Esther C.

**GEORGE F. PAUL.** One of the most complete and modern farms in DeKalb County is the Maple Lawn Farm, a mile and a half north of Butler in Franklin Township. Its proprietor is George F. Paul, and on the land which he cultivates today he was born November 19, 1869.

He is a son of Edwin A. and Sarah A. (Firestone) Paul, both of whom were also natives of Franklin Township, the father born December 15, 1848, and the mother September 13, 1851. The paternal grandparents were Edward and Lucy (Thompson) Paul, the former a native of Pennsylvania while the latter was born in Greene County, New York, March 16, 1817. They were married in New York, moved from

there to Pennsylvania and then to Indiana in 1845, locating in Wilmington Township and later in Franklin Township, where they spent the rest of their lives. Lucy Paul died March 13, 1885, while he died July 4, 1863, his death being the result of a rattlesnake bite. Of their twelve children five are still living, named Lucinda, wife of Nick Bucher, of Cincinnati; Nancy, widow of Benjamin Walton, of Garrett; Hattie, wife of Charles Thompson; Minnie, widow of Watson Halabaugh; and Rachel, widow of Henry Workman.

Edwin Paul grew up in DeKalb County in a locality and under circumstances which prevented him from getting a good education. On July 3, 1868, he married Sarah A. Firestone, who was one of thirteen children, five of whom are still living.

George F. Paul was the only child of his parents and he has spent practically all his life on the home farm. As a boy there he attended the common schools. On December 27, 1893, he married Margaret A. McClintock. She was born in Troy Township, DeKalb County, February 18, 1873, a daughter of Jeremiah and Mary (Scott) McClintock. Her father was a native of Perry County, Pennsylvania, and her mother of Crawford County, Ohio. They were married in Ohio and in 1867 came to Indiana. Jeremiah McClintock was a Union soldier, having served three years in Company K of the Ninth Ohio Cavalry. In later years he was active in the Grand Army of the Republic and was an influential member of the republican party. In the McClintock family were four children, three of whom are still living: Elias, of Auburn; Margaret and Mattie, wife of Vernon L. Kepler, of Troy Township. Mrs. Paul received her education in the common schools of Troy Township.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Paul lived on a rented farm two and a half years, then spent six years at Butler, and with that exception they have lived on the old homestead. Mr. Paul has sixty acres of good farm land and he is also one of the directors of the Butler Farmers Elevator Company and a stockholder in the Arctic Cooperative Livestock Association. He has been active in the republican party and he and his wife are members of the Wilmington Grange. Both are affiliated with the Pythian Sisters, Mrs. Paul being past chief and a member of the Grand Lodge. His membership is with Butler Lodge No. 158, Knights of Pythias. Mrs. Paul is a Methodist.

They have three children: Sherley E. is a graduate of high school, also took advanced training at Winona and Angola, and for three years was a teacher. She is now the wife of Clarence T. Carson, and lives in Chicago. Bessie G. is a high school graduate, wife of D. A. Baker, of Butler. Russell E., the youngest, is still at home and attending school.

**ORLA L. FAST.** Bearing a name that has long been honored in the citizenship of Steuben County, Orla L. Fast has added credit to the name and is now holding one of the responsible offices of the county, as trustee of Pleasant Township. Mr. Fast has lived at Angola since he left his farm about ten years ago.

He was born in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, July 17, 1867, a son of Christian and Rhoda M. (Wells) Fast. His grandparents were Martin and Catherine (Blosser) Fast, of Pennsylvania. In 1816 they moved to Ashland County, Ohio, the total population of which then consisted of nine families. Catherine Fast for three months never saw the face of a white woman. The county settled rapidly after they came, and Martin and Catherine spent their last years with every comfort of civilization. They

reared a family of seven children, named John, Anna, Eli, Mary, Jacob, Christian and Elijah.

Christian Fast was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, February 12, 1814, and from the age of two years lived in the pioneer surroundings of Ashland County, where he farmed for several years. In 1852 he brought his family to Steuben County, and secured 160 acres in Pleasant Township. Only four acres had been cleared. Twenty acres he reserved as a timber lot, but all the rest gradually came under cultivation, and he earned an abundant prosperity. He died December 13, 1898. In 1839 he married Henrietta Sowle, who was born in Oneida County, New York, in 1820, daughter of Joseph and Rachel (Allen) Sowle. She died in December, 1859, mother of the following children: Joseph J.; Rosanna, who married Alonzo Burlingame; Mary, whose husband was Orville Goodale; Francis Allen; Eli; Rachel, who became the wife of Melville McGrew; John A., who died young; and Henrietta. Christian Fast married for his second wife Rhoda M. Wells, who was born in Wayne County, Ohio, December 12, 1837, daughter of Loton and Anna M. (Sowle) Wells. To the second marriage were born: Elmer, who died in infancy; Ira C.; Orla L.; and Laura, who died aged nine years. Christian Fast was a justice of the peace many years, and was a member of the Christian Church.

Orla L. Fast, after getting his education in the district schools of Pleasant Township, took charge of his father's farm, and from the age of twenty-one handled it independently and planted and harvested crops there every season until 1910, when he left the farm and moved to Angola. In the county seat he was for two years engaged in the draying business. He was elected trustee of Pleasant Township in 1914, and in 1918 the citizens set the seal of their approval upon his capable administration by returning him for a second term of four years. He is a popular member of the Masonic and Odd Fellows lodges, and is a member of the Christian Church.

Mr. Fast married Miss Catherine Penner, daughter of Martin and Elizabeth Penner. Their family consists of five children, named Paul A., Mildred A., Arline, Hershel and Henrietta.

MILO R. JONES has been a prominent citizen of Orange Township, Noble County, for many years, is a native of that township, and his family were established in this section of Indiana at a pioneer date. Mr. Jones is prominent in local affairs and is the present assessor of his township.

He was born January 30, 1854, son of George R. and Hannah E. (Hunter) Jones. His father was a native of New York State and his mother of Champaign County, Ohio. His grandfather, Milo Jones, came to LaGrange County, Indiana, as early as 1843, and a few years later moved to Noble County and settled in Orange Township. He lived to the age of eighty-five. The family were members of the Free Will Baptist Church, and the grandfather was a Mason and a republican and was active in politics, serving four years as trustee of Orange Township.

Milo R. Jones was one of five children, one of whom died in infancy. He is the oldest of the four still living. His brother William O. is a retired farmer in Orange Township. Ichabod also lives in Orange Township and Lucy A. is the wife of John Taylor.

Milo R. Jones grew up in Orange Township and lived with his grandfather to the age of twenty-one. He received a common school education. After reaching his majority he farmed the old homestead.

June 4, 1876, he married Sallie A. Eddy. She died leaving two children: Grace, now the wife of Benjamin F. King, of Elkhart Township, and Enos M., who married Mildred Conklin. For his second wife Mr. Jones married Ella Kesler. She died in 1900, without children. For his third wife he married Mrs. Ada E. Kesler, widow of Albert Kesler and daughter of Samuel Wolf. Mrs. Jones by her first husband has two children: Grover, who married Maude Hanes and lives in Noble County; and Edith, a graduate of the Rome City High School and a graduate nurse of the Fletcher Sanitarium at Indianapolis.

Mr. Jones is an active republican. He has served ten years in the office of township assessor and was reelected to that office November 5, 1918, for another term of four years. As a farmer he cultivates eighty acres of the rich and productive soil of Orange Township, his home being in section 9.

GUY K. FRIEND. Though born over the state line in Branch County, Michigan, Guy K. Friend has spent most of his life in Steuben County, grew up on a farm, and has found in farming a congenial and profitable vocation through which he has expressed his best service to himself and the world.

Mr. Friend, who is owner of one of the good farms of Millgrove Township, was born in Noble Township of Branch County July 30, 1870, a son of Jefferson L. and Nancy (Kidder) Friend. Jefferson L. Friend was a native of Stark County, Ohio, grew up in Williams County, Ohio, served as a soldier in the Union Army, and a few years after the war bought a farm in Millgrove Township which had been originally settled and cleared by his wife's father, Alanson Kidder, a pioneer of 1836 in Steuben County and a member of the original Vermont colony at Orland.

Guy K. Friend acquired his education in Orland, including his high school course, and for several years was associated with his brother Morton in running his home farm. In 1901 he bought a place in section 29 of Millgrove Township a half mile south of Orland, but after four years sold out and bought his present farm of 224 acres in section 16. Since then he has improved the place with buildings and other facilities, and his surroundings indicate every degree of prosperity.

December 25, 1892, Mr. Friend married Emma B. Barber, a daughter of William and Sidney (Slaybaugh) Barber, and a sister of W. S. Barber. Mr. and Mrs. Friend are members of the Congregational Church at Orland.

GEORGE A. WAGNER for a number of years has been identified in a progressive and enterprising way with the agricultural affairs of Franklin Township, DeKalb County, is a native of that township, but for a considerable period of his lifetime lived in the West and laid the basis of his fortune as a farmer there.

He was born in Franklin Township September 7, 1867, a son of Fred and Maria (Healy) Wagner. His father was born in Germany February 14, 1834, was educated there, and at the age of twenty came to the United States and settled in Ohio and later moved to DeKalb County. He married in DeKalb County and then settled on a farm in Franklin Township, where he lived out his industrious career until his death on August 2, 1902. His widow survived him until February 8, 1914. He was a Dunkard in religion and a democrat in politics. There were six children: Lena, wife of J. E. Firestone; Ada, wife of John Rohrbaugh; George A.; Cora, wife of Ora Hiner; Essie, wife of Luther Bryan; and Jesse, of Butler.



George A. Wagner grew up in Franklin Township. He was educated in the district schools and at the age of nineteen left home and went out to the states of Nebraska and Kansas, where he spent altogether thirteen years. He acquired a quarter section homestead and after developing and improving that bought 160 acres more. After selling his lands in the West, he returned to DeKalb County and bought the forty-acre farm where he lives today.

In 1904 Mr. Wagner married Kate Chambers. She was born in Wisconsin May 10, 1864, but came to Indiana with her parents at the age of six years and was reared in Steuben County, attending school at Fremont. She was one of the nine children, seven of whom are still living, of Nicholas and Mary J. (Noyes) Chambers.

Mr. Wagner is a past grand of Butler Lodge No. 282 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is also a member of the Encampment, and he and his wife are affiliated with the Rebekah Lodge at Butler. They are also members of the Wilmington Grange, of which he is a past master. For some years he has been prominent in the democratic party in DeKalb County, has served as a member of the election board and has also been a township supervisor. He is a trustee of the Odd Fellows Lodge at Butler.

ALFRED PENDILL for many years has been actively identified with the farming interests of Steuben County, where he was reared and educated, and has one of the well-improved places of Pleasant Township. As a farmer he depends not only upon hard work but good judgment in handling his crops and marketing the products of the farm, and has every reason to be satisfied with the prosperity he has achieved.

His father is Hiram J. Pendill, living on the same farm in Pleasant Township. Hiram J. Pendill was born in Union Township of Branch County, Michigan, August 21, 1837, son of James and Eliza (Wilder) Pendill, the former a native of Palmyra, New York, and the latter also a native of that state. James Pendill was one of the first settlers in Branch County, Michigan. It was a country of woods and prairies, and for a number of years he used his axe as diligently as he did his plow. He helped clear up that county and spent the rest of his life there as a farmer. His children by his first wife were Mary, Elijah, Hiram and Melvin. He married for his second wife Melvina Rice, and she had three children, Samuel, Louisa and James. James Pendill married for his third wife Mrs. Eliza Barnes.

Hiram J. Pendill attended school in Branch County and when a young man was initiated into the business of farming. In February, 1861, he came to Mill Grove Township of Steuben County, and after five or six years working for others he engaged in farming for himself, and that continued his occupation for practically half a century. In 1905 he moved to the farm of his son Alfred and has since lived there.

Hiram Pendill married Sarah Hyzer. They had four children, Eva, Alfred, Ortensa and Frank.

Alfred Pendill acquired his early education in the public schools of Millgrove Township. He learned farming under his father, was associated with the elder Pendill for a number of years, and since 1905 has occupied his present home and farm in Pleasant Township. Alfred Pendill married Miss Ella Brown, now deceased. She was a daughter of Jerry and Margaret (Arnold) Brown. Mr. Pendill is the father of four children: Eva M., wife of Asa Johnson; Earl, who married Nora Harter; Robert R., who married Mina Sowle; and William, whose wife was Elsie Stuttler.

DALLAS WERT is a member of an old and well known family of Milford Township, LaGrange County, and his own career has been partly business and partly professional. He is now head chemist of the Wabash Portland Cement Company of Stroh.

He was born on the old Wert farm in Milford Township, June 9, 1870, a son of Daniel and Eliza M. (Miller) Wert. Some of the important facts concerning his family are published on other pages. Dallas Wert, youngest of his father's children, grew up on a farm, attended the Center brick school in Milford Township, and took his college work in St. Mary's College at Dayton, Ohio, where he graduated with the degree Bachelor of Science. Later he was student in Purdue University, and at one time was a prescription drug clerk at Milford. For four and a half years he was engaged in the furniture business, but in 1903 went with the Wabash Portland Cement Company as a chemist. In 1907 he was promoted to head chemist in charge of the laboratory, and has had supervision of the technical processes of manufacture in the plant at Stroh.

March 18, 1897, Mr. Wert married Dee Edna Dancer, member of another well known family of LaGrange County. She was born at South Milford and besides her education in the local schools she attended the Conservatory of Music, being also a vocal student of Hillsdale College of Michigan. They have three children: Bernard N., born February 5, 1898, was in the Students' Army Training Corps at the University of Michigan and is now a student at St. Mary's College at Dayton, Ohio. The two younger children are Octa H. and Norma E., the former a student in the Kendallville High School and the latter in the grade schools at Stroh. Mr. Wert is affiliated with Philo Lodge No. 672, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is a democrat in politics.

OLIVER M. GRAMLING is the prosperous owner of a 135-acre farm in Jackson Township of DeKalb County, has made most of his prosperity through his own efforts, and is one of the leading citizens of that community. He is a stock man and a breeder of high grade Durham cattle.

Mr. Gramling, whose home is a mile and a half southwest of Auburn, was born in Smithfield Township of DeKalb County May 12, 1864, a son of Peter and Lavinia (Meyers) Gramling. His father was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1848, and his mother in York County, Pennsylvania, in 1842. They were married in Ohio and then came to Indiana and settled in Smithfield Township and spent the rest of their lives there. They were active members of the Barkers Chapel of the Methodist Church, and Peter Gramling was a republican. He served as postmaster at Summit, Indiana. In the family were eight children: Mary, wife of Thomas Lacy; Oliver M.; Isaac S., a railroad man living at York, Pennsylvania; Eleva, wife of Thad W. Thomas; Lottie, wife of J. I. Farley, head salesman of the Auburn Automobile Company; W. H., a farmer at Summit, Indiana; Carrie, wife of William Zurbrugg; and Richard A., of Cleveland, Ohio.

Oliver M. Gramling and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church at Auburn. He is a republican in politics. He married Miss Helen I. Shaffer, who was born in Union Township of DeKalb County and is a graduate of the Auburn High School. They have three children: Lester S., born March 1, 1901, a student in the Auburn High School; Frances L., born September 30, 1906; and Oliver H., born December 11, 1907.







*Daniel W. Heitz D.D.*

DANIEL W. WEITZ, who was through the Civil war as a Union soldier, has for half a century been an honored resident of Williams and DeKalb counties, for more than fifty years being a farmer in Troy Township of the latter county. His home is a half mile west of Arctic.

Mr. Weitz, who is also a justice of the peace, was born in Portage County, Ohio, June 7, 1840, son of Adam and Elizabeth (Yeager) Weitz. His father was born at Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, in February, 1810, while the mother was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania. They were married September 17, 1839, at Franklin Mills in Portage County by B. F. Hopkins. They lived in Portage County for several years, and in 1846 became pioneers in Williams County, Ohio, where they spent the rest of their lives at Edgerton. Adam Weitz was reared a Catholic but later became a prominent member of the Methodist Church and founded the Weitz Methodist Episcopal Church in Williams County. He also took up democratic affiliation in politics but in 1856 joined the newly established republican party. He held several township offices. He and his wife had a family of eleven children, nine of whom are still living: Daniel W.; John A., deceased; Harriet; Lucina and Lavina, twins; Joseph; Charles W.; Thomas T.; George A.; Francis E. and William A., deceased.

Daniel W. Weitz grew up on a farm in Williams County and acquired most of his education in school district No. 3 and in high school at Williams Center. He also made liberal use of his opportunities to study outside of school, and became a very successful teacher, a vocation he followed for about twenty years. Most of his teaching he did after the war. In 1861 he enlisted in Company H of the Third Ohio Cavalry, and was with that command until the close of hostilities, being mustered out with the rank of first sergeant. Though he was never wounded nor taken prisoner he was confined to a hospital by illness for six months.

After the war he returned to Williams County and on October 11, 1868, married Mary E. Bowersox. She was born in St. Joe Township of Williams County, being the first white girl born in that township. She was a sister of Judge C. A. Bowersox of Bryan, Ohio. In 1869, soon after their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Weitz removed to Troy Township of DeKalb County, and have had their home there for over fifty years. He owns a farm of 130 acres. He was also the first president of the First National Bank of Butler, serving for three years, then became the vice president and is now a stockholder of that bank. Mrs. Weitz died September 9, 1902. Of their five children three are still living: Nellie, who is a graduate of the high school at Edgerton, Ohio, and Tri-State College at Angola, is the wife of Joseph R. Wiley; Floy, who is a young woman of brilliant intellect and has spent twelve years as a teacher in Troy Township, is unmarried and lives at home with her father; Charles H. is a graduate of the Butler High School and Purdue University, with a degree in civil engineering, and is now in business at Salt Lake City.

Mr. Weitz is affiliated with Forest Lodge of Masons at Butler, is a member of Meade Post No. 144 of the Grand Army of the Republic, and a republican in politics. He voted for Abraham Lincoln under a pine tree in 1864. He was then in Georgia in war service. He has served as a justice of the peace for about thirty years. During a residence in Edgerton, Ohio, he served as a member of the City Council and as City Solicitor.

J. P. Cox. Steuben County furnishes not a few examples of men who have spent many years in

business, trades and professions, and who for the settled years of their careers made a choice of farming and country life. One of them is J. P. Cox, who, however, was born and reared on a farm in Salem Township, and after spending two decades at the painter's trade bought back a portion of the property on which he spent his boyhood and is now successfully engaged in raising corn and hogs and other crops.

Mr. Cox was born in Salem Township April 17, 1866, a son of Eli D. and Margaret (Eckerd) Cox and a grandson of Jacob and Ann (Denman) Cox. His grandparents were natives of Pennsylvania, moving from that state to Ohio. Jacob Cox was a Wayne County farmer, and died there in 1881. His children were Eli D., Susan Ann, who married Sebastian Eckerd, Andrew, Rebecca, who married Wesley Harper, Samuel, Alpheus and Freeman.

Eli D. Cox was born in Sugar Creek Township of Wayne County, Ohio, in 1825. He married Margaret Eckerd in 1852. She was born in Germany in 1830, and her father, John Eckerd, came to America with his family about the same year. In 1858, six years after his marriage, Eli D. Cox came to Indiana and located in section 32 of Salem Township, Steuben County. The eighty acres he bought at that time had two or three log buildings, but otherwise the work of clearing and cultivation had hardly begun. The subsequent condition of the farm represented many years of hard labor on his part, and in the course of time he had a well won prosperity. In 1871 he built a large barn and in 1873 a fine residence, and continued actively engaged in farming there until 1893. After that he lived retired in Hudson until his death on May 3, 1901. His widow survived him until January 26, 1913, being eighty-three years of age at the time of her death. Their children were: Mary Ellen, who died in childhood; Jennie, who married Jacob Clinesmith; William Franklin; Susannah, who married Rudolphus Frederick; Cora Etta, wife of George Clinesmith; J. P.; H. B.; J. F., who died in childhood, and O. W. Cox.

J. P. Cox acquired his early education in the Pleasant Ridge School House. At the age of twenty-one he left the farm, where he had put in several years of work and gained a general knowledge of farming, to learn the painter's trade. He followed it actively for twenty years, nine years of the time being spent in Chicago. He gave up his vocation in 1905, and then bought a farm west of Kendallville, Indiana, living there a year. In 1905 also he bought his present place of eighty acres. The buildings on his farm are good ones and represent his work and investment since he became proprietor here. He is engaged in general farming, and keeps some excellent stock, and for the past five years has been rather extensively engaged in buying and shipping livestock. At the present time Mr. Cox is manager of the Farmers Cooperative Shipping Association at Helmer.

On October 29, 1899, he married Miss Alma Henney, daughter of Jacob and Catherine (Shellenberger) Henney. They have three children: Harold J., born January 12, 1902; Derl E., born January 31, 1904; and Hilda B., born September 2, 1909.

Jacob Henney, father of Mrs. Cox, was born in Holmes County, Ohio, July 24, 1823, and in early manhood settled in DeKalb County, Indiana, on wild land, and developed a good farm. He died March 7, 1906. He married Catherine Shellenberger November 17, 1853, and their children, ten in number, were: Amanda, James, David, Catherine, Albert, Jennie, Edward, Emma, Alma and Susie. James, Catherine and Albert are deceased.



LESLIE H. GREEN represents one of the capable younger generation of Steuben County farmers, a young man who has met the test of manhood and has proved worthy of the robe of citizenship and the responsibilities descended upon him from his father.

Mr. Green, who operates the old Green homestead in Pleasant Township, was born in Scott Township of Steuben County, May 22, 1890, a son of the late Elmer A. Green, whose life record forms the title of a sketch on another page of this publication.

Mr. Green attended public schools in Scott and Pleasant townships, and in March, 1912, at the age of twenty-two, began his serious career as a farmer. He has always lived on the old homestead and since his father's death in 1916 has had the active management of the farm of 146 acres owned by the widowed mother and her sons. He has nearly ten years of practical experience behind him, and that, supplemented with some sound native ability and a constant spirit of progress and study, fortifies him among the best farmers of Steuben County.

Mr. Green married Grace Riggelman, a daughter of George and Orda (Reed) Riggelman. They have three children, Donald C., Dale and Marvin E.

ORIS D. CANNON is well known to the community of South Milford and all who sojourn within its limits as proprietor of the Hotel Cannon. He has been a successful business man, farmer and public official in that part of LaGrange County for many years.

He was born in Wayne Township of Noble County, July 25, 1876, a son of William and Mary (Fink) Cannon. His mother was also a native of Wayne Township, and after their marriage they settled in Milford Township of LaGrange County, where they still live. William Cannon is affiliated with the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Red Men, and is a democrat in politics. There were three children: Oris D.; Cora, unmarried and living at home; and Curtis, of Milford Township.

O. D. Cannon grew up on a farm in Wayne Township of Noble County. When he was two years old he was taken into the home of his grandfather, who gave him a good education in the district schools and also supplied him with the advantages of the Tri-State College at Angola. After his grandfather's death he continued to live with his grandmother, and after his own marriage he provided a home for her.

September 5, 1901, Mr. Cannon married Maude Bartlett, who was born in Milford Township and was educated in the Milford schools. For a year after his marriage Mr. Cannon conducted a livery business in South Milford and then followed farming, was clerk in a hardware house and did other things. He owns 120 acres of land in Milford Township. He bought the hotel at South Milford, and took its active management in 1918.

Mr. and Mrs. Cannon have one son, Paul F., born November 16, 1908, and now attending the schools of South Milford. Mr. Cannon is a past noble grand of South Milford Lodge No. 610 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is past chief patriarch of the Encampment, and Mrs. Cannon is a member of the Rebekahs. She is active in church work as a Methodist and for a number of years has been a teacher in the Sunday School. Politically he is a member of the democratic party and is the present assessor of Milford Township.

ELIAS KLINE is one of the large land owners and successful farmers and stock men of Spencer Township, DeKalb County. His home is two and three-

quarters of a mile northwest of Spencerville. Mr. Kline has 160 acres of land and has his farm well improved and stocked with good grades of cattle, horses and hogs.

He was born in Stark County, Ohio, December 24, 1848, a son of Henry and Maria (Rudy) Kline. His parents were natives of Pennsylvania, were married in Ohio, and in the spring of 1866 came to Indiana and settled in Spencer Township. In 1870 they located on the farm where they spent the rest of their lives.

Elias Kline acquired his education in Stark County, Ohio, and was about twenty-two years old when he came to Indiana. In politics he has always been a republican.

January 1, 1900, Mr. Kline married Mary V. Caillet. She was born in France June 19, 1866, a daughter of John H. and Anna (Rich) Caillet. Her father died in the old country in 1871. Her mother brought her four children to the United States in 1874, landing at New York in February and going from there to Canton, Ohio. She later married John Shontz. Of her eight children four died in France and the four now living are August, Frank, Mary and Justin.

Mr. and Mrs. Kline have one son, Vernon E., born April 3, 1902, now in the third year of high school.

FRED H. GREEN. Doubtless as many and as important a volume of business and civic interests at Ligonier revolve around the family name Green as are associated with any other one group of local citizens. The Green family during their long residence in Noble County has been active as business men, farmers and bankers, and many of the important public offices have also been held by them.

Fred H. Green, of this family, is perhaps best known as the president of the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company of Ligonier, the office which he has held since the organization of that institution. This bank was organized in 1906. He was born in Ligonier, Indiana, June 18, 1862, the oldest son of Henry and Magdalena (Kaul) Green. His parents were both natives of Germany, and his father came to the United States at the age of sixteen, his mother at nineteen. When his father, Henry Green, first came to this country he came to Massillon, Ohio, and stayed with his uncle, who at that time owned a farm near that city and who later came to Noble County, Indiana, and bought a farm west of the City of Ligonier. After staying with his uncle at Massillon for a short period he then went to Cairo, Illinois, and later became a Mississippi River steamboatman, running from Cairo down the river to New Orleans. He then went to Washington, D. C., and was employed as a foreman in a packing house, which business he had taken up while in Germany. After staying there a short time he then went to Jefferson City, Missouri, and engaged in a meat business for himself and while there, in the year 1861, he was married to Miss Magdalena Kaul. During the Civil war he furnished meat for both the Northern and Southern armies. Being in communication with his uncle, who insisted on his coming to Indiana, he did so and while here made his first purchase of 100 acres of heavily wooded land west of town and later moved from Jefferson City, Missouri, to the Town of Ligonier and spent one year on the farm. He then engaged in business in Ligonier, and his first associate was Fred Mackley, and they together ran a meat market and bought live stock and were widely known throughout this section of the country. He conducted an active business until his death, which occurred in 1900. He was also among

the leading men of affairs in Noble County, Indiana. Politically he was a democrat, a member of the Masonic and the Odd Fellows lodges, and he and his wife were active Lutherans. Henry Green was survived by three sons, all of whom were born here and well known and prominent business men of Ligonier, Indiana, named Frederick H., John H. and Harry, who are at present connected with the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company, and are in the real estate business in the partnership of Green Brothers and Oldfather, which firm deals exclusively in high grade farms and are buyers of timber as well as other commodities. The Green Brothers still operate large farms and deal extensively in the stock business.

Fred H. Green spent his boyhood days in Ligonier and attended public school until he was twelve years old. He early became associated with his father in business, and later on his two other brothers entered the business of his father and the firm became known as H. Green and Sons, and was widely known throughout this section of the country, as they were among the heaviest dealers in live stock as well as timber and other business pursuits. The extensive property interests of the Green family are still conducted under the name of H. Green and Sons. On February 17, 1898, Fred H. Green married Hattie B. Hays, a daughter of W. D. and Harriett E. Hays. W. D. Hays was widely known in this section of the country and was a man who held many offices of trust. Hattie B. Hays was born on a farm which is now known as the Willow Spring Farm, where she spent her early childhood days, and later on she attended the high school at Ligonier and finished her education with a college course at Oberlin, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Green were the parents of four children. William H., the oldest, is a graduate of the Ligonier High School and of the University of Wisconsin, and is now managing the Willow Spring Dairy Farm one-half mile northeast of Ligonier, on which his mother was born. Frederick H., the second child, died in infancy. George E., the third son, is also a graduate of the Ligonier High School, as well as the University of Wisconsin, and served with the American Expeditionary Forces in France. Magdalena, the only daughter, is the youngest of the family.

The Green family are active members in the United Brethren Church, of which Mr. Green is one of the trustees. He is a past noble grand in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is also a member of the Knights of Maccabees, and in politics is a democrat. He has been prominent politically in Ligonier, was elected on the City Council at the age of twenty-six, served two consecutive terms as mayor, has been a member of the County Council, and also served as a member of the Ligonier School Board. While he was mayor of the city the present city water works were built. He was also president of the Library Board when the Ligonier Public Library was erected.

The Green Brothers were the chief organizers of the Farmers and Merchants Trust Company, and through their efforts this bank was organized and at the time of its organization the stockholders were about seventy in number. The institution has thrived from the very beginning and has been one of great benefit to this community in more ways than one from a banking standpoint. The Green Brothers have always taken an active interest in the general interest of the city and community and could always be relied upon when any move was put forth for any purpose.

CLAIR W. WISNER. By long experience Clair W. Wisner has developed a high degree of skill as a merchant, and for a number of years has offered a splendid service as a dealer in hardware at the town of Metz. He knows what the people of that community need and want, and is unceasing in his efforts to provide the best goods at the fairest prices.

Mr. Wisner, who represents an old and substantial family in Steuben County, was born in Richland Township, September 21, 1879, a son of Steven Wisner. He attended the public schools of Richland and for one year was a student in the Angola Tri-State College. As a young man he started clerking in a hardware store in Metz, and for fifteen years worked for others, mastering the business, and accumulating the capital and credit which he used to buy out the store in January, 1907. Since then he has greatly expanded the store and service and in 1908 built the substantial building in which his stock of general hardware is now housed.

Mr. Wisner married for his first wife Mattie Allman and had one child, Heyman. Mrs. Wisner died in August, 1917, and in December, 1918, he married Hazel Mote. Mr. Wisner is a member of the Church of Christ and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

IRA B. YOUNG, who has been one of the most useful professional men to the farmers and stock raisers of LaGrange County, in his work as a veterinary surgeon handles his large practice and lives on his farm at Stroh.

He was born in Johnson Township of LaGrange County, August 6, 1867, son of Emanuel and Mary (Teeter) Young. His father was born in England March 20, 1842, and was two years old when his parents came to America in 1844. The family lived in New York State a time, then moved to Ohio and from there to LaGrange County, Indiana. Emanuel Young is now living in Johnson Township. He is a member of the Evangelical church and a republican in politics. His family consisted of twelve children, nine of whom are still living: Anna, wife of Thomas Fields, of Johnson Township; Dr. Ira B.; Laura E., wife of Fred Talbert, of Albion, Indiana; Clara E., wife of Clayton Healey, of Johnson Township; Nancy A., wife of Walter Howard, of Newbury Township; Orville J., of Noble County; David H., of Milford Township; Celestia B., wife of Herbert Himes, of Clay Township; and Preston E., of Johnson Township.

Ira B. Young grew up on the old farm in Johnson Township, attended the common schools, was a student for two years in the Wolcottville High School, also attended the Tri-State College at Angola, and is a graduate of the Business College at Lexington, Kentucky. For a number of years he spent his time alternating between teaching and farming, and in 1903 he graduated from the School of Veterinary Medicine at Grand Rapids, Michigan, with the degree D. V. S., also attended the Toronto Veterinary College of Toronto, Canada, and has given much of his time to his veterinary practice. He is a stockholder in the Wildman State Bank at Wolcottville.

Dr. Young married for his first wife Mary A. Kimmel. She is deceased, and of her four children only one is living, Ethel, wife of Reverend Mr. Summers, a Lutheran minister. Dr. Young married for his second wife Bertha A. Schermerhorn, daughter of Aaron and Maria Schermerhorn. She attended high school three years and was a teacher four years. They have five children: Ruth, a graduate of the Wolcottville High School, who also continued her education in the Tri-State Nor-



mal College and is now a teacher; Nellie I., a high school student; Dena M., Dorothy M. and Bion A. Dr. Young is affiliated with Philo Lodge No. 672 of the Masons and is a charter member of his lodge.

**HARRY D. MILLER.** Many of the best regulated farms of LaGrange County may be found in Clay Township, and one of these belongs to Harry D. Miller, a worthy member of one of the old families of this section of Indiana. The family history will be found in this work. Mr. Miller was born in Clay Township, March 15, 1875, and is a son of Daniel J. Miller.

Harry D. Miller attended the public schols in Clay Township and grew to manhood on the home farm in Newbury Township, where he continued in school for a time and then accepted a clerical position in the New York Central Railroad offices, where he remained three years. Mr. Miller had come of farming stock however, and agricultural surroundings and interests began to be more attractive than outside work, and this led him back to the farm, where he has remained contented and prosperous ever since. In 1907 he bought a farm of eighty acres, later adding twenty acres, making 100, acres in all, situated in Clay Township, and carries on general farming and stockraising, working along modern lines and assisted by the best of improved farm machinery. In the spring of 1909 Mr. Miller and his wife bought eighty acres of the old Wiler homestead in Newbury Township, on which she was born.

December 25, 1901, Mr. Miller was united in marriage to Miss Edith Wiler, who was born on her father's farm January 12, 1880, and is a daughter of William and Martha (Freed) Wiler, who came to LaGrange County from Ohio, settled in Newbury Township and lived on the same farm for fifty-two years. The parents of Mrs. Miller are deceased, the father surviving the mother and passing away February 10, 1918, when aged seventy years. Mrs. Miller has one sister, Bessie, who is the wife of Mahlon Weaver. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have an interesting family of four children, namely: Freeda, who was born December 26, 1903, is a graduate from the eighth grade in the public schools; Lucile, who was born June 8, 1909; Pauline, who was born July 6, 1911; and Katherine, who was born October 17, 1915. The family belongs to the Mennonite Church. In politics republican, Mr. Miller was township assessor four years.

**D. P. HINDMAN.** One of the progressive younger farmers of DeKalb County is D. P. Hindman, of Concord Township, whose persistent and aggressive efforts and excellent management have brought to him the prosperity which is today his. He has ever stood ready to do what he could in pushing forward the wheels of progress in his community, and is well worthy of the high esteem in which he is held.

Mr. Hindman was born in Concord Township on June 16, 1880, the son of Samuel and Nancy (Ledour) Hindman. Both of these parents were natives of Ohio, the former having been born in Logan County and the latter in Hardin County. After their marriage they came to Indiana, locating on a farm near Orangeville, where they remained about twenty years. They then moved to a farm 1½ miles north of St. Joe, but about ten years later settled on a farm at Jackson Center. They are the parents of two children, the immediate subject of this sketch and Lee, of Fort Wayne, a dispatcher on the Northern Indiana traction line.

D. P. Hindman was reared on the paternal farmstead and received a good district school education.

About 1910 he settled on the farm where he now lives in Concord Township, comprising about seventy-four acres of splendid land, to the cultivation of which he gives intelligent direction. He is also part owner of a sawmill at St. Joe. Mr. Hindman has also given some attention to the raising of live stock, in which he has met with splendid success.

In 1910 Mr. Hindman was married to Anna M. Kosht, a native of Wilmington Township, in the common schools of which she received a good practical education. To this union have been born three children, Doris E., aged eight years; Samuel C., four years; and Madonna, six months old. Mr. and Mrs. Hindman are members of the Christian Church at Newville, while Mr. Hindman holds fraternal relations with Concord Lodge No. 556, Free and Accepted Masons; Lodge No. 671 Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and the lodge of Knights of Pythias at St. Joe. Politically he is a democrat and has been an effective worker in the ranks of his party, taking a keen and intelligent interest in the public affairs of his community, state and country. He is a man of broad and progressive views, advocating twentieth-century methods and stands deservedly high in the estimation of the community in which he lives.

**WILLIAM J. CASE.** During the past thirty years no one has been more prominent in sustaining the business activities of Orland than William J. Case, who for over twenty years was the leading dry goods merchant of the village, and during the past five or six years has continued an insurance agency and is cashier of the Citizens State Bank.

Mr. Case was born May 10, 1864, in Dover Township of Cuyahoga County, Ohio, near the City of Cleveland, a son of Byron and Louise (Sage) Case. His mother was born in Erie County, Ohio, daughter of George and Lucy (Davis) Sage, her father having been a farmer of that county. Byron Case followed farming and fishing in Cuyahoga County many years, and in 1868 moved to Erie County and six years later, in 1874, went to Toledo, where he had his home until 1911. In that year he joined his son in Orland, and died on April 27, 1913. His widow is now living with her daughter in Wellington, Ohio. They had three children: Arthur, who died in 1897; Jessie, wife of Rev. O. J. Coby, a Methodist minister at Wellington, Ohio; and William J.

William J. Case attended public school in Toledo, graduating from high school in 1881. He laid a thorough foundation for a business career while an employe of C. L. Luce & Company, wholesale dry goods of Toledo. He was with that firm five years. In 1886, when Luce & Company established a branch store at Orland, Indiana, they selected Mr. Case to take charge of the business. In September of the same year he and Henry Carver bought the store and the partnership was continuous until 1892, after which Mr. Case was sole owner and kept up the service standards of his store for twenty consecutive years. In 1912 he sold the business and in 1913 bought a local fire insurance agency, which he has since handled, and in 1914 became cashier of the Citizens State Bank.

During the great war he was prominent in his section of Steuben County, serving as treasurer of all the war auxiliary organizations at Orland. He is a trustee and treasurer of the Congregational Church, and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and Eastern Star Chapter.

In 1890 Mr. Case married Miss Cora Wilder, member of one of the oldest and most prominent



families of Northwestern Steuben County. They had a happy married life of over a quarter of a century. Mrs. Case died on October 16, 1916. She was the mother of five children, Celia, Wilma, Russell, Caryl and Roberta. Wilma was married in 1912 to Leo Purdy, and they have two children, Raymond and Betty Jane. Caryl is the wife of L. E. Hackett. The son Russell saw active service during the great war as a member of the Ninth Aerial Squadron. He served with the Expeditionary Forces for about fourteen months, spending nine months in England and three months in France. In April, 1919, he was at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis. Russell Case married Lois Collins in 1917.

The late Mrs. Case was an adopted daughter of George K. and Harriet (Luce) Wilder. Mr. Wilder was born in Oswego County, New York, in 1828, a son of William and Mary (Gray) Wilder, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of New Hampshire. The Wilder family came to Steuben County in 1836, and located in the Vermont settlement around Orland. Here George K. Wilder grew to manhood and attended the pioneer local schools. At the age of twenty-one he went to California, being ninety days on the overland journey from Missouri to the Pacific Coast. He remained there six years. For a year and a half he was a miner and the rest of the time a farmer. On returning to Indiana he bought a farm two miles northeast of Orland. George K. Wilder, in 1862, enlisted in the Ninth Michigan Infantry, and was with his regiment until on account of ill health he was discharged at Murfreesboro, Tennessee. After the war he farmed, and in 1877 retired to Orland. He married in 1862 Hattie N. Luce, only daughter of Walter and Mary (Gray) Luce. They reared a family of eight children.

CHARLES W. PYATT, whose home is a half mile east of South Milford, has the reputation of being a producer, a man of industry and one of the best farm managers in LaGrange County.

He is a son of Jackson and Julia (Swogger) Pyatt. His father was born in Seneca County, Ohio, March 5, 1829, and was ten years old when he was brought to Northeast Indiana by his parents, Moses and Elizabeth (Parker) Pyatt. The family settled in LaGrange County in the fall of 1839, remained three years, then spent three years in Kendall County, Illinois, after which they returned to LaGrange County. Moses Pyatt died May 9, 1866, and his wife June 24th of the same year. Both were members of the Disciples Church. Julia Swogger was the daughter of Isaac and Susanna Swogger, likewise early settlers in LaGrange County. Jackson Pyatt died June 6, 1912, and his wife February 16, 1898. They had three children: Ada, wife of Eugene Nichols; Amanda, wife of David Wert; and Charles W.

Charles W. Pyatt was born on the old farm where he lives today, July 15, 1867. He attended the public schools of South Milford and on April 20, 1898, married Lodenia Sigaly. She was born in Johnson Township and was educated in the district schools and the schools of Wolcottville. Mr. and Mrs. Pyatt have no children of their own but have taken into their home a girl to rear, Iva Vail.

Mr. Pyatt has under his individual management 700 acres of land in Milford and Wayne townships, 260 acres of which was included in the old home farm. A large part of this is cultivated to the staple crops and he is an extensive feeder of cattle, sheep and hogs. Politically he is a democrat and is affiliated with South Milford Lodge No. 619 of

the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife are both Rebekahs.

MOSES P. HOSTETLER. A good farmer and moreover a real leader in the community of Eden Township, LaGrange County, Moses P. Hostetler is a member of an old and well known family of Northeast Indiana.

He was born in Eden Township August 5, 1873, a son of Paul J. Hostetler. His grandfather, Moses J. Hostetler, a native of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, came to LaGrange County at an early day and many of his descendants are still found here. Paul J. Hostetler married Esther Miller, and spent most of his life as a farmer in LaGrange County. A more complete review of this branch of the Hostetler family will be found on other pages.

Moses P. Hostetler received his early education in Eden Township, began farming there, and after eight years of tending crops in Eden he moved in April, 1903, to Clay Township, where he continued his farming enterprise for three years. Since then he has lived in his present home place in Eden Township, where he owns 114 acres. He has constructed some substantial buildings and has surrounded himself with all the equipments and comforts of a first class farmer. From 1906 to 1912 Mr. Hostetler also operated a threshing outfit, which he made a medium of useful service to most of the grain raisers in Eden Township.

Mr. Hostetler married Carrie Mehl on December 11, 1892. She is a daughter of Jacob C. and Lucinda Mehl. To their marriage have been born three children, Ernest Mehl, Dewey W. and Nellie. Ernest, who married Susie Kitchey and has a son, Ernest, Jr., is a minister of the Mennonite Church, being a graduate of the Topeka High School and did normal work at Goshen, Indiana. The son Dewey is a graduate of the Topeka High School and finished his education in the Tri-State College at Angola. Mr. Hostetler and family are active members of the Mennonite Church.

GEORGE M. PENCE has had a busy career that has made him well known over LaGrange County, where he has lived for half a century, since early boyhood. He started life as a carpenter, proved a competent and able workman, and made his trade the basis of a larger business as a contractor and builder and the operator of a sawmill, and from his home in Topeka Township he still carries on those activities.

Mr. Pence was born in Clinton Township of Elkhart County, Indiana, April 8, 1861, a son of Patrick H. and Lucinda (Prough) Pence. His father was born in Rockingham County, Virginia, and in 1835 came to Indiana and settled in LaGrange County in 1857, where on February 23, 1860, he married Lucinda Prough. After their marriage they settled on a tract of land of ten acres, where he worked at his trade as a carpenter. Later he traded for 142 acres, and died in LaGrange County July 19, 1912. Lucinda Prough, his wife, was born in Ohio May 31, 1841, daughter of Samuel and Salonia (Confer) Prough, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. Samuel Prough and wife were married in Ohio and came to LaGrange County as early as 1849 and lived there until their death. They were members of the Dunkard Church. Lucinda Prough Pence is still living, an active member of the Lutheran Church. Her husband was a democrat. They had a family of nine children, seven of whom are still living: George Milton, Henry M., Ida S., wife of Ed Miller; Samuel B., of South Bend; Della M.,

wife of Amos Cobbun; Rose E., wife of Jesse Shoup; and Bessie, wife of Robert Larimer, of Elkhart County.

George M. Pence lived with his parents in Elkhart County until 1868, when the family moved to Eden Township of LaGrange County, and in the past thirty years he has contracted for and built many houses, barns and other structures in the towns and country communities of LaGrange and Elkhart counties. In 1884 he went to Kansas, and lived in Kansas and Oklahoma until 1895, and then came back to LaGrange County.

July 7, 1888, Mr. Pence married Sarah E. Veach. They have three children: Bessie M., wife of Norman E. Strang; Grace, wife of Vance T. Myers; and George R., who married Mary L. Boomershine and lives at Topeka, having served fourteen months in the great war. He was only fifteen years, one month and one day of age when he enlisted for the service. The family are members of the Baptist Church and Mr. Pence is a democrat in politics. Among other distinctions he has an honorable record as a farmer trustee of Eden Township, an office he held for four years, from 1915 to 1919.

BERT P. SPRAGUE, who for many years has been a citizen of Steuben County, followed farming and eventually engaged in the lumber business, and is now interested in a number of plants, but chiefly at Pleasant Lake, known as the Pleasant Lake Lumber Company.

Mr. Sprague, who has come into success through the avenue of hard work and close attention to business, was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, August 8, 1868. His father, Samuel Sprague, was born in the same house January 23, 1845. The grandfather, Samuel Sprague, Sr., was six years old when his people went to Muskingum County, and were the very first white settlers in that section of Southern Ohio. Samuel Sprague, Jr., son of Samuel and Nancy Sprague, married Malona Powelson. She was born in Muskingum County, May 11, 1847, daughter of Rhineer and Maria (Black) Powelson. Samuel Sprague attended public school at Otsego, Ohio, and as a young man took up farming, which was his permanent vocation the rest of his life. He died January 12, 1916. He was a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war, being a member of Company F, Seventy-Eighth Ohio Infantry. On October 20, 1870, he moved with his family to Branch County, Michigan, lived on a farm there nine years, and then moved across the state line into Steuben County, locating at Orland in the fall of 1881. After ten years he returned to Branch County and lived close to the line between Branch and Steuben counties the rest of his days. He was a member of the Methodist Church. His three children are: Laura, wife of A. H. Hiller; Bert P., and Perry R.

Bert P. Sprague was a small child when brought to Indiana and he spent most of his school days at Orland, being a graduate of the high school there. He began the serious occupations of life as a farmer and school teacher, and continued farming until February 19, 1912, at which date he became a business man of Pleasant Lake. The Pleasant Lake Lumber Company of which he is the active head handles coal, lumber and all classes of building material. Mr. Sprague is also interested in lumber yards at Pioneer, Ohio, Syracuse, Indiana, and LaGrange, Indiana, and Buchanan, Michigan.

In 1895 he married Miss Nellie Wilder, daughter of Norton and Eliza (Shutts) Wilder. They have two sons: Ralph, born December 24, 1897; and Russell, born July 11, 1902. Mr. Sprague and

family are members of the Methodist Church at Fremont.

CLYDE N. SWIGGER, who has spent his life in LaGrange County, is well known as a banker, being the first and only cashier of the Farmers Bank at South Milford. This prosperous institution was organized July 30, 1910, and from the beginning Mr. Swigger has handled most of the executive details and is the official best known to the public and the bank's customers.

Mr. Swigger was born in Milford Township, March 29, 1881, a son of Thomas and Catherine (Engler) Swigger. He grew up on his father's farm, attended the district schools and graduated at the age of nineteen from the Fort Wayne Business College. After leaving school he spent a year on a farm and then followed different occupations in Kendallville for a time. At the age of twenty-two he married Maggie Zonker, a native of DeKalb County and a graduate of the common schools. She died in July, 1911, the mother of two children: Greta, born in 1906, and Walter, born in 1911. May 3, 1913, Mr. Swigger married Vena Whitcomb, who was born and reared in LaGrange County and is a graduate of the South Milford High School. Mr. and Mrs. Swigger are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a teacher in the Sunday school. He is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge of Masons, with the Odd Fellows at South Milford, and he and his wife are both Rebekahs. Politically Mr. Swigger is a democrat.

ELLIOTT P. MASTERS, whose place as a business man is signally indicated by his senior partnership in the firm of Masters & Reed, proprietors of the Hamilton Lumber Company, is a man of many thorough business qualifications, derived from an active experience of forty years, and most of his life has been spent in Northeast Indiana or over the line in Williams County, Ohio.

He was born in Fulton County, Ohio, October 10, 1853, a son of Hon. Ezekiel and Susanna B. (Perkins) Masters. His father was born in Knox County, Ohio, December 3, 1816. He settled with his family in Williams County in 1869, and for many years was regarded as a very successful business man. He also enjoyed well deserved prominence in local affairs. In early life, in 1836, he became interested in the local militia organization of Ohio, being appointed orderly sergeant of the volunteer Rifle Company. Eighteen months later he was made second lieutenant, and eventually became colonel of the regiment. He was active in church and politics and at one time was a member of the State Legislature.

Elliott P. Masters was about sixteen years old when his parents moved to Williams County. He finished his education in the public schools of Pioneer in Williams County, and as a young man followed farming there. On November 18, 1875, he married Martha B. Fulton, a daughter of Peter B. and Angeline (Thorpe) Fulton.

After his marriage Mr. Masters engaged in the produce business and in June, 1882, moved to Butler, Indiana. He soon had a business built up to successful proportions there, and for eighteen years his enterprise was the leading one of the kind in that part of Northeast Indiana. He was a buyer and shipper of produce and was also in the coal business. In February, 1910, he sold his establishment at Butler and bought an interest in the lumber business at Hamilton, where he has since been head of the firm Masters & Reed. This firm handles all kinds of building material.







SHILLING FAMILY GROUP

Mr. Masters is a Mason and Odd Fellow, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife have three children: Bertha G., wife of W. D. Plow, of Bad Axe, Michigan; Herbert F., a resident of Ellis, Kansas; and Lottie B.

CHARLES E. REED, who has had a working career of over thirty years, is a successful business man of Hamilton, partner and joint proprietor of the Hamilton Lumber Company under the firm name of Masters & Reed.

Mr. Reed was born in Wayne County, Indiana, December 26, 1866, son of John W. and Elizabeth (Myers) Reed, the former a native of Frederick County, Maryland, and the latter of Wayne County, Indiana. John W. Reed spent many years of his life as a farmer in Miami County, Indiana. He was affiliated with the Masonic order and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was a member of the Methodist Church, and his children will always take pride in the fact that he served as a Union soldier for three years and six months in the Nineteenth Indiana Battery. He participated in twenty-one battles and was in Sherman's march to the sea.

Charles E. Reed in early childhood accompanied his parents to Miami County, where he was educated in the public schools. As a young man he began to contract for building construction in that county, and gradually developed increasing interests. In 1907 he moved to Butler and on February 28, 1910, located at Hamilton, where he is a partner in the Hamilton Lumber Company. He is a good business man, has a thorough knowledge of lumber and builders' supplies, and is a man who can be trusted to carry out every obligation he assumes.

In 1890 he married Miss Margaret Mays, daughter of James and Mary Mays. They have two children, Esta and Elbert. Mr. Reed is a Methodist and is affiliated with the Masonic Order, the Knights of Pythias and the Maccabees.

DANIEL SHILLING, for many years a resident and progressive farmer in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, is representative of one of the first families established in Concord Township. Mr. Shilling owns a fine farm of about 146½ acres in sections 12 and 13 of Jackson Township.

He was born four miles from Massillon, Stark County, Ohio, October 19, 1849, a son of Solomon Shilling. Solomon Shilling, long prominent in DeKalb County, was born in the same locality of Stark County in 1823, a son of Adam and Mary (Roan) Shilling. Adam Shilling came to DeKalb County at an early date and entered and bought extensive tracts of government land in Concord Township. He gave each of his sons 160 acres and each of his daughters eighty acres. Solomon Shilling came to DeKalb County to take possession of one of these quarter sections of wild land in 1850. This land was in section 19 in Concord Township. He built a log cabin, cleared and improved, and by his work and good management was accounted one of the wealthy men of the township. He became an extensive shipper of livestock, and shipped the first carload of stock over the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad from this locality to Chicago. He owned about 400 acres of good farm land. In 1872 he was elected trustee of Concord Township and re-elected in 1874. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Protestant Church. Solomon Shilling married Esther Biler, who was born in Pennsylvania. They were the parents of six sons and six daughters, one daughter dying in infancy, and the eleven to reach maturity being: Daniel, Josephus R., William, Mary, Sarah, Adam, Francis,

Hiram E., John, Vienna L. and Dora. Eight of these children are still living.

Daniel Shilling grew up on the farm home in Concord Township and has been a resident of DeKalb County since early infancy. He attended district school and lived at home to the age of twenty-six. On November 9, 1875, he married Annetta Widney. At the time of his marriage he bought his present home farm, and Mrs. Shilling died there in 1880. She was the mother of three sons: Adam E., who was liberally educated, was a teacher and died at the age of twenty-six; Samuel H., who married Maud Stafford, lives in Jackson Township and has a daughter, named Bonnie; and Frankie, who died the year after his mother.

Mr. Shilling has long been active in the Methodist Protestant Church and also in its Sunday school. He is a republican, is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, and has been a liberal factor in his community, being especially patriotic in behalf of the various causes for the recent war.

LUCIUS B. HART is a veteran railroad man and for many years has been a competent engineer handling one of the passenger runs on the Baltimore & Ohio between Garrett and Chicago. Mr. Hart, whose home is at Garrett, is a native of Northeast Indiana, having been born near Ligonier March 1, 1867.

His parents, David and Rebecca J. (Cummings) Hart, were natives of Ohio. His father was born in Ashland County October 17, 1835, and his mother in Van Wert County January 17, 1845. When these families came to Indiana the Harts located in DeKalb County and the Cummings family in Noble County. David Hart and wife were married in the latter county and then settled on a farm east of Ligonier, later lived in Tennessee for about seventeen years, and on returning to Indiana settled in DeKalb County. David Hart died at Butler, Indiana, in 1890. He was a fine mechanic in wood and also a farmer. He was active in the Methodist Episcopal Church and a republican in politics. Of the six children four are living: Lucius B.; Dora, wife of Fred Wagner, of South Bend; Mrs. Rena Todd, of South Bend; and Oda, wife of J. A. Engstrom, of Garrett.

Lucius B. Hart was seventeen years old when his parents returned to Indiana and settled in Butler. He had acquired his education in the public schools of Tennessee and at the age of fifteen started out to make his own living. He worked in a woollen mill in Tennessee and on coming to Indiana entered the service of the Wabash Railroad as a call boy. He was employed in the mechanical department and on moving to Garrett entered the service of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad in 1886. He was a fireman six years, was made a freight engineer in 1892, in 1900 was promoted to traveling engineer, in 1902 became the road foreman of engines on the Newcastle division of the Baltimore & Ohio, and in the latter part of the year returned to Garrett and took charge of locomotives on the Chicago division. Since 1905 he has been a passenger engineer between Garrett and Chicago.

On June 8, 1904, Mr. Hart married Geraldine Bevard, a native of Allen County, Indiana. His wife before her marriage spent seventeen years in school work, and had finished her education in the Methodist College at Fort Wayne. They have two daughters, Jane Ellen, born April 22, 1905, and Louise, born October 31, 1907, both attending the common schools. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Hart being on the official board and long a faithful worker in church and Sunday school. He is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive



Engineers and is affiliated with Garrett City Lodge No. 537, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Garrett Chapter No. 129, Royal Arch Masons, Apollo Commandery No. 19, Knights Templar, and both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. He is a republican in politics.

TIMOTHY H. DIRRIM, a resident of Hamilton, where he is practically retired, has enjoyed a life of unusual effort and experience. He has been a farmer, merchant, hotel proprietor, and when well past middle life he went to the Northwest and took up a homestead claim and developed it.

Mr. Dirrim, who represents one of the old and prominent families of DeKalb County, was born in Franklin Township of that county, May 23, 1857. His grandparents were Richard and Hannah (Wyckoff) Dirrim, the former a native of Delaware. Richard Dirrim died in 1875, at the age of ninety years. He was a soldier in the War of 1812. At the time of his death his descendants numbered 142. Richard Dirrim moved to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1883. His children were Zachariah, Hannah, James, Isaac, William H. and Eleanor.

William H. Dirrim, father of Timothy, was born in Carroll County, Ohio, July 8, 1820, and grew up in Ohio. September 12, 1839, he married Christiana Haughey, who was born in Eastern Ohio, near Wheeling, Virginia, in 1820, daughter of Robert and Hannah (Wyckoff) Haughey. William H. Dirrim was educated in Ohio and in 1844 came to DeKalb County, Indiana, and the following fall settled on 160 acres of wild land in section 11 of Franklin Township. The land was covered with heavy timber and the first winter he lived in a rude house without glass in the windows and with the openings covered with muslin cloth. The door was pinned and bolted together without the use of a single nail. His wife at that time spun all the wool for the clothing, and William H. Dirrim made the shoes for the family. For a term or two he and his wife both taught school in the neighborhood. The first wheat crop he raised brought him only 48 cents a bushel at Fort Wayne. It had to be hauled to Fort Wayne and in the absence of a team and wagon he paid one shilling a bushel for that service. Gradually the area of clearing grew until he had 100 acres under cultivation and had a good residence and other farm buildings. He served as assessor of Franklin Township two terms, was also township trustee, and he was a very prominent Methodist. For twenty years he served as district steward of the Methodist Church and had the ministry of the District Conference covering a period of fifty years. He and his wife had nine children: Hannah J.; Robert R.; William Samuel; Mary E., who died at the age of eight years; Mary Elizabeth; Christiana; Francis A., who died at the age of four years; Caroline, and Timothy.

Timothy H. Dirrim acquired his education in the public schools of Franklin Township and one term at Butler, Indiana, and one term at Hamilton. As a young man he farmed with his father on the shares, and in the spring of 1888 he moved to Hamilton and for about four years was clerk in a drug store. In 1892 he bought a furniture and undertaking business at Hamilton, and was one of the successful merchants of that place until he sold out in 1904. He then built the Fish Lake Hotel and was its landlord for five years. The hotel property he traded for a farm of eighty acres in Otsego Township, and has since sold thirteen acres and owns the rest. In December, 1913, Mr. Dirrim went to Montana and filed on a homestead in Blaine County and spent four summers improving it.

Mr. Dirrim served as a notary public for sixteen years. He is a member of the Church of Christ.

In 1895 he married Miss Lulu Garver, daughter of Isaac and Emeline (Cummings) Garver. Her father was a farmer in Defiance County, Ohio, served as justice of the peace there for twenty-eight years, and during that time married over 200 couples. He was also a commissioner of Defiance County one term. The children of Isaac Garver were: Adella, Dora, Lula and Owen. Mr. and Mrs. Dirrim have two adopted children, Pauline and Harry.

JASPER N. SIGLER is one of the oldest residents of Milford Township, where after his marriage he began with a place of forty acres, and has prospered until he now owns a farm of 180 acres in section 7.

He was born in Wood County, Ohio, May 11, 1842, a son of Jacob and Mary (Clark) Sigler. His father was born in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, February 19, 1813, and spent his early life in Ohio, where he was active in democratic politics and served as a township trustee. February 20, 1834, he married Mary Clark, who was of Irish descent and was born at Baltimore, Maryland, March 7, 1808. They came to Milford Township June 2, 1853, and spent the rest of their lives in that locality. Jacob Sigler was a Baptist and was a member of Lodge No. 380 of the Masonic Order. He and his wife had seven children, one of whom died in early childhood while the two living are David of Milford Township, and Jasper N.

Jasper N. Sigler was eleven years old when he came to LaGrange County and grew up on the farm where he lives today. He attended the common schools, and remained at home until twenty-one years of age. He spent two years in California, and upon his return to LaGrange married Mary Fields on January 15, 1874. She was born in Lima Township of LaGrange County October 4, 1853, and had a common school education. Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sigler have lived on their present farm. Their two children are Ulilla C. and Charles J. The daughter was born March 15, 1878, graduated at the age of eighteen from high school and taught two terms before her marriage to John Carry of Johnson Township. Charles, who was born March 28, 1884, married Sadie North and lives in Milford Township. Mr. and Mrs. Sigler have ten grandchildren, five boys and five girls. The family are members of the Evangelical Church at Woodruff and the son is a trustee of the church. Mr. Sigler is a democrat in politics.

SAMUEL J. MILLER has had a substantial part in the affairs of Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County, for many years. He owns a valuable farm there and has frequently been honored with positions of trust and responsibility by his fellow citizens.

Mr. Miller, whose home is four and a half miles southwest of LaGrange, was born in Newbury Township of the same county, November 15, 1863, a son of Jonathan and Elizabeth (Zook) Miller. His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania. Jonathan Miller was brought to Indiana by his parents in 1836. The family were among the first settlers in Newbury Township. However, they soon left and returned to Pennsylvania. Jonathan Miller married about 1858 and came west and settled in LaGrange County, and in 1871 answered another call or desire to visit Pennsylvania, and for seven years also was a resident of Kansas. He spent his last days in Pennsylvania. He and his wife were members of the Mennonite Church. In their family were three children: Samuel J., Levi D., a farmer



of Elkhart County; and Daniel S., who remains in Pennsylvania.

Samuel J. Miller, though a native of LaGrange County, spent most of his boyhood in Pennsylvania. He afterward went to Kansas, in the pioneer days of that state, entered a quarter section homestead in Pratt County, and remained on it until he got title to the land. He was unmarried at that time. From Kansas he came back to LaGrange County, and here he married Ida A. Bickle. They have two children: Carrie, a graduate of the common schools, is the wife of Gale Anderson and lives in LaGrange County; and Ewart S., who received the degree Ph. G. from Angola College and is a prescription clerk at Goshen.

The family are members of the Lutheran Church at La Grange. Mr. Miller is active in the Knights of Pythias, and has served as master and member of the Grand Lodge. Politically he is a republican. He has served as road supervisor in Bloomfield Township, and from March, 1914, to March, 1919, was superintendent of the Rogers Orphans' Home. Mr. Miller owns a fine farm of 185 acres. His wife is a member of the Pythian Sisters at Howe, Indiana.

JOHN J. COLE, a retired attorney living at Kendallville, is a man of wide and diversified experience in the law and in public affairs, and represents a notable family of brothers. He has nine brothers who are steadfast and sturdy republicans, and one of them, R. Clint Cole, is the present nominee for congressman from the Eighth Ohio District.

John J. Cole was born near Findlay, Ohio, April 22, 1863, son of John W. and Sarah (McCree) Cole. His father was born near Ashland, Ohio, January 2, 1832, was educated in the common schools, grew up on a farm, and moved to Hancock County, Ohio, where he spent the rest of his life as a farmer. He developed a high class farm of 160 acres and lived there until his death in 1906. He was a member of the Methodist Church and in politics a republican, his sons taking after him in that respect. He served as township trustee and as a member of the school board. John W. Cole married Sarah McCree, a native of Aberdeen, Scotland. She was brought to the United States by an uncle at the age of nine years and lived at Ashland until her marriage. She died in 1879. This couple became the parents of seventeen children, eleven sons and six daughters. Sixteen of them reached mature years and thirteen are still living. One other son, Hon. Ralph D. Cole, is a former congressman representing the Eighth District of Ohio, and is now serving with the rank of major in the One Hundred and Twelfth Military Police in France.

John J. Cole grew up on his father's farm near Findlay, attended district schools, and acquired much of his education through his own efforts. He read law while teaching, and in 1892 graduated LL. B. from the law department of the Ohio State University. After that he taught another year and began practice at Cary, Ohio, transferring his offices to Findlay, and building up a splendid practice in Hancock County. In the spring of 1911 he went to Albuquerque, New Mexico, and for two years served as deputy United States marshal of that territory. In 1913, returning east, he located at Kendallville, Indiana, and has since been busied with his private affairs. He is a republican, and is affiliated with Findlay Lodge No. 75, Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

In December, 1893, Mr. Cole married Olive B. Tussing. She was born in Hancock County, Ohio, and was educated in the district and city schools.

They have one son, Richard R., born in April, 1903, now attending the Kendallville High School.

JONATHAN E. TAYLOR is classified as a retired farmer at Fremont, is still in middle age, and has made splendid use of his time and opportunities. He is one of the largest land owners in Steuben County, and has gained his prosperity almost entirely through the avenue of agriculture, showing that men with good judgment and industry do acquire wealth in that field.

He was born in York Township of Steuben County, July 23, 1866. His grandparents were Jonathan and Anna (Smith) Taylor. Jonathan Taylor, the grandfather, was born in New York State and was an early settler in Northern Ohio near Cleveland. It is said that he owned the first horse team ever in Dover Township, Cuyahoga County. Jonathan Taylor, by his first marriage, had the following children: Julia, Rebecca G., Enos S., Linus S. and Stirata.

Linus Taylor was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, February 17, 1830. He married Catherine Kellog, who was born April 19, 1833, a daughter of Hiram and Emeline (Fisk) Kellog. Linus Taylor was reared in Ohio and in 1852 went with a party of 100 men overland to California in search of gold. On the way he was left in Salt Lake City to die of Mountain Fever, but recovered, went on, and in California became one of the owners of the old Empire Claim. Later he sold out and returned east in 1855, being shipwrecked off the Isthmus of Panama. After these experiences he settled in York Township of Steuben County, and was one of the leading citizens of that locality for many years. Late in life his mind became impaired, and he died in an asylum, May 9, 1909. He was the father of three children: Gibbs, who died in infancy; John H., born in 1858; and Jonathan E., born July 23, 1866.

Jonathan E. Taylor attended public schools in York Township and also the Tri-State Normal, being a student in the second term of that institution's existence. He attended college about three years. He left school with a debt of \$40, and he worked several months at wages of 75 cents a day to pay off that indebtedness. He also helped run the old homestead farm, and gradually he became an independent farmer and continued to make his home in York Township until 1903, since which year he has lived in Fremont. Mr. Taylor and family occupy one of the most beautiful modern homes in that little city. He now gives his time to looking after his farms, which comprise 900 acres in Steuben County and 500 acres in Michigan. Mr. Taylor is a member of the Masonic Order.

July 22, 1888, he married Lovina A. Wicoff. She was born May 23, 1870, a daughter of William and Armelia (Eldredge) Wicoff. William Wicoff was born July 25, 1830, a son of John and Margaret (Cassel) Wicoff. Armelia Eldredge, mother of Mrs. Taylor, was a daughter of Martin and Agnes Eldredge. William Wicoff and wife had three children: Willis M., born April 1, 1857; Peter B., born January 9, 1859; and Lovina A.

Mr. and Mrs. Taylor were the parents of four children, the two oldest, Frank M. and Rush L., dying in early childhood. The two living daughters are Alice A. and Catherine.

NOAH J. YODER. For many years the name of Noah J. Yoder has been substantially identified with the interests of LaGrange County as a farmer, stockman, member and official of churches, and a leader in every worthy movement.

Mr. Yoder, whose fine farm home is in section

4 of Eden Township, was born in Newbury Township of the same county November 4, 1862, a son of Joseph C. and Susanna Yoder. The Yoder family is a prominent one and represents people of high standing in Northern Indiana. His first American ancestor was Christian Yoder, who was born in Switzerland in February, 1728, and came to the American colonies in 1744. The grandfather of Noah J. Yoder was Christian C., who was born December 13, 1790, and died November 17, 1867. His first wife was born July 24, 1789, and died November 8, 1832, while his second wife was born January 3, 1800, and died December 10, 1879.

There were six sons of Christian C. Yoder who came to Indiana, Joseph C., Jacob, Tobias, Felta, John and Herman. All settled in LaGrange County except Jacob, who founded the family in Elkhart County. All bought land, developed farms and became heads of prosperous families.

Joseph C. Yoder, father of Noah J., was born November 20, 1819, and in 1861 married Susanna Yoder. She died September 4, 1863, leaving one son, Noah J., then ten months old. The latter attended the district schools and at the age of seventeen took up the task of making his own way in the world. He was a farm laborer six years. He spent four years in Wayne County, Ohio. Mr. Yoder married Fannie L. King who was born in Champaign County, Ohio, October 2, 1865, a daughter of Christian C. and Lydia (Kauffman) King. Her parents were natives of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, and after their marriage in Logan County, Ohio, settled in Champaign County. Mrs. Yoder at the age of six years was left an orphan, and she lived with her guardian, Jacob K. Yoder, to the age of eighteen. She then spent three years in Cass County, Missouri, came to LaGrange County, Indiana, returned to Ohio, and was married to Mr. Yoder on February 5, 1891. Since that date Mr. and Mrs. Yoder have been in LaGrange Township.

He owns 170 acres in Eden Township and sixty and three-quarters acres in Newbury Township, and carries on diversified farming, making a specialty of Duroc hogs. Mr. Yoder has been prominent in the Mennonite Church and served as trustee for eight years. He has also been a school director and is a republican in politics.

He and his wife had four children: Alma F. is the wife of John Roth and lives in Tazewell County, Illinois. The three younger children, all at home, are Carrie B., Elmer D. and Ora C. All the children are graduates of the common schools.

WILLIAM H. HUTCHINS was born and grew up in Scott Township of Steuben County, and for the past quarter of a century has owned and lived on one of the best farms in that township. His affairs have been prospered and he is a man both of substance and of influence in his locality.

He was born in Scott Township July 14, 1864, son of Nelsen and Phoebe (Jones) Hutchins. His father, who came to Steuben County in early manhood, was born in Genesee County, New York, April 16, 1818, a son of Ezra and Mahala Hutchins, the former a native of Massachusetts. Ezra Hutchins and wife also came to Steuben County about two years after their son, and they both died in Scott Township. Mahala died in 1857. Ezra was born May 22, 1792, and died in 1882, at the age of ninety years. Nelsen Hutchins married December 1, 1850, Phoebe Jones, who was born in Licking County, Ohio, January 2, 1827. They were the parents of four children: Alice E., born December 2, 1852; Ella, born January 29, 1860; William H., born July 14, 1864; and Carry A., born September 24, 1865.

Nelsen Hutchins for many years filled the office of justice of the peace. He was a republican and his wife a Methodist. On coming to Steuben County he acquired eighty acres of land in Scott Township that had been entered direct from the Government by Isamon Brown. He cleared and improved that land and in the course of time had a farm of 200 acres. He lived there in prosperity and comfort and died October 20, 1896, while his wife passed away in 1903.

William H. Hutchins grew up on his father's farm, and lived there to the age of thirty. He had a public school education and early acquired habits of industry that have been very useful to him in subsequent life. On May 15, 1904, he moved to his present farm in Scott Township, comprising 190 acres. All the buildings and other improvements on the farm were erected under his ownership. He has always made it a policy and rule to combine stock raising with the staple crops. Mr. Hutchins cast his first presidential vote for Benjamin Harrison and has been a steadfast republican. He is affiliated with and is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Fremont.

March 27, 1894, he married Miss Lorinda E. Wycoff. She was born in Williams County, Ohio, May 30, 1865, daughter of Peter B. and Jane (Hathaway) Wycoff. Her father was born in Holmes County, Ohio, March 12, 1837, and her mother in Morrow County, Ohio, on November 13, 1840, daughter of Richard Hathaway. Richard Hathaway was a pioneer of Williams County, settling near Columbia in 1853. Peter B. Wycoff was a son of John and Margaret Wycoff, who settled in Williams County in 1844. In 1869 Peter Wycoff took his family to Missouri, two years later moved down to Kansas, but after some experience in the Sunflower State returned to Indiana and settled in York Township. Peter Wycoff was widely known in Steuben County, where he died May 7, 1907. His widow is still living in Fremont. In the family were eight children, Lorinda E., Zoia E., of Fremont, a teacher; Charles B., of York Township; Sarah J.; John R., deceased; Harry, of Alberta, Canada; Archie B., deceased; and James, of Clear Lake Township, Steuben County.

Mr. and Mrs. Hutchins have three children: Ruth L., born May 3, 1898, died at the age of four months; Nelson Bruce, born March 19, 1905, now in the eighth grade of the public schools; and William Judson, born March 3, 1908.

SAMUEL S. LANTZ began his career as a farm hand when fifteen years old, and has found his way to prosperity over the route of hard work and complete personal integrity. He and his wife are now owners of two-thirds of the stock and the business of the J. J. Yoder Hardware Store at Topeka. J. J. Yoder was one of the oldest hardware merchants of that village, and established the first store of the kind, continuing in business until his death. Mr. Lantz is now carrying on that business and making a success of it.

He was born in Elkhart Township of Noble County September 15, 1868, a son of Isaac and Salome (Plank) Lantz, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. His parents spent many years of their lives on farms in Noble County, passing their last days in Perry Township. They were members of the Mennonite Church and the father was a republican. They had a family of nine children, seven of whom are still living: Fannie, wife of Henry Ramsey, of Alanson, Michigan; Solomon, of Ligonier; Ella, wife of D. K. Byler, of Coldwater, Michigan; Salome, wife of H. H. Kauff-



man, of Denver, Colorado; Samuel S.; Edward I., of Los Angeles; and Mary, wife of John Leperd, of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Samuel S. Lantz until the age of ten lived on the farm in Noble County, then spent a year in Michigan, and up to the age of fifteen lived on a farm a mile south of Topeka. After acquiring only limited advantages in the common schools he began working at monthly wages on a farm, and had made some progress toward an established position in the community before he married. In 1896 he married Miss Anna Yoder, a daughter of J. J. Yoder, the pioneer hardware merchant of Topeka. She was born near that village and attended district school and before her marriage was a successful teacher both in LaGrange and Noble counties. Mr. and Mrs. Lantz are members of the Methodist Church. He is affiliated with Topeka Lodge No. 688, Free and Accepted Masons, and with the chapter and council of Masonry at Ligonier. Politically he is a republican, and he also belongs to the Odd Fellows Lodge at Topeka.

EDWARD AVERY. Several communities in Steuben County have known the presence and have benefited thereby in the Avery family, who have lived in that county for over sixty years. Edward Avery represents the family in Salem Township, where for many years he has been one of the leading farmers.

He was born on the old Avery farm in Otsego Township, March 14, 1855, and is a son of Jesse W. and Eliza (Shumaker) Avery. Some references to this family are made on other pages of this publication. Edward Avery attended public school in Otsego Township, was also a student in Angola, and for three terms taught a school in Otsego. He made his home with his parents until he was twenty-four years of age.

In February, 1879, he married Miss Hattie Dutter, daughter of George and Anna Dutter. With his marriage he began farming in Otsego Township, was there three years, farmed in Salem Township three years, then again in Otsego for ten years, was a resident of Scott Township three years, and in 1899 moved to his present home place of eighty acres in section 12 of Salem Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Avery had two children: Edna and Ethel, the latter dying in childhood. Edna is the wife of William H. Gochenaur. Mr. Gochenaur was born in Scott Township of Steuben County, May 24, 1880, a son of Henry and Lucinda (Smith) Gochenaur, and a grandson of Henry Gochenaur, a native of Pennsylvania who came to Steuben County in early days. Henry Gochenaur, Jr., was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and his wife in Wayne County, Ohio. He settled in Steuben Township of Steuben County in 1854, acquiring land near what is now known as the Lake Valley Church. He and his brother Joseph bought eighty acres, cleared it up and began with log buildings. After a few years he moved to Scott Township, and from there to Pleasant Township, where he continued farming until his death. Henry Gochenaur had three children, Elmer Ellsworth, Amelia and William, Amelia dying at the age of eighteen.

William H. Gochenaur after getting his education in the Sandhill School of Pleasant Township, went to work as a farmer there, rented for two years and then bought the old homestead near the Sandhill School. He sold that property in 1911 and bought a farm in section 33 of Jackson Township. He owns 120 acres, built a good house, and is carrying on his affairs with a high degree of prosperity and spirit.

Mr. Gochenaur married Edna May Avery in 1905. They have two children, Leon and Ethel.

JONI M. BORNTRAGER. Of a family whose lives of integrity and industry have identified them permanently with the best interests of LaGrange County, one who deserves special mention is Joni M. Borntrager, a successful farmer living seven miles southwest of Shipshewana, in section 5 of Eden Township.

He was born in section 5 of the same township, June 20, 1868, son of Manassas J. and Lydia (Yoder) Borntrager, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. The Borntrager family originated in Germany and has been residents of the United States for more than a century and a half. Manassas Borntrager was a son of John and Anna (Yoder) Borntrager, John being a son of John and Barbara (Johns) Borntrager, while the next generation was headed by Martin Borntrager, a native of Germany who came to the American colonies on October 5, 1767. Manassas Borntrager came to Indiana with his parents when he was six years old, and the family at that time located in section 4 of Eden Township. His wife also came to Indiana with her parents. Manassas Borntrager and wife had twelve children, eleven of whom reached adult life: Barbara, wife of Moses Lehman; Joni; John, who married Mary Easch and lives in Michigan; Catherine, wife of Christian D. Hostettler, of Eden Township; Daniel, who married Margaret Miller and lives in Eden Township; Benjamin, whose wife was Elizabeth Miller, and they live in Clear Spring Township; Manassas, who married Elizabeth Miller and lives in Eden Township; Noah M., who married Katie Glick and occupies the old home farm in Eden Township; Christian, who married Mary A. Miller and lives in Eden Township; Anna, wife of Joseph J. Raber, of Eden Township; and Lydia, wife of Andrew Easch, of Eden Township.

Joni M. Borntrager spent his boyhood days on a farm just across the road from his present place. He attended the district schools. For many years he has found himself pleasantly and profitably engaged in farming and is owner of 198½ acres, a goodly property, most of which is to be credited to his industrious efforts. He keeps good grades of livestock. Mr. Borntrager and family are members of the Amish Mennonite Church, known as the West Honeyville District, and he is a deacon in the church.

January 10, 1889, he married Anna Borntrager, who died September 9, 1897. She was the mother of three children: Levi, who married Sarah Thomas; Gideon, who married Rosa Bender, and she is now deceased; and Lydia, wife of Ervin Stutsman, living in Iowa. January 4, 1900, Mr. Borntrager married Amanda J. Gingerich. Six children were born to their union, Emma, Barbara, Manassas, Amelia, Amanda (deceased), and Susie.

RICHARD E. TARLTON has made an honorable record in the most ancient and honorable of professions, agriculture, and is well known as a farmer in DeKalb County. His home is on his farm in section 29 of Keyser Township, and comprises the southwest quarter of that section.

He was born in section 30 of the same township December 23, 1873, a son of Joseph E. and Elizabeth (Fountain) Tarlton. His father, who was born in Mansfield, Ohio, January 30, 1848, is now living at Avilla in Noble County, Indiana. Elizabeth (Fountain) Tarlton, died March 19, 1898, the mother of three children, Richard E., William J. and Sadie J.



Richard is the only one now living. Joseph Tarlton married for his second wife Amanda R. Davis.

Richard E. Tarlton grew up at the old Fountain farm in Keyser Township. He attended the district schools from the age of seven to twenty-one, and on December 25, 1897, married Milia L. Truelove. She was born in Noble County, Indiana, was educated in the common schools, and died May 18, 1915. She was the mother of two children, Myrtle M. and William R.

Mr. Tarlton after his marriage lived in Keyser Township, for thirteen years was a resident of Allen Township in Noble County, also lived one year in section 1 of Swan Township, and has since been located at his present home, where he has ninety-two well cultivated acres. He also owns thirty-eight acres in section 33, near Altona, and has eighty acres in section 1 of Swan Township, Noble County. Mr. Tarlton is a member of the Evangelical Church and is a republican.

WILLIAM FOUNTAIN was a DeKalb County pioneer, developed a home out of the woods and acquired a modest fortune in lands and many riches of community esteem on account of his honorable life and character.

He was born in Lincolnshire, England, December 25, 1811, a son of Simon and Rebecca Fountain. He was only three days old when his parents died and he grew up under the care of his older sisters. In June, 1848, after his marriage, he came to the United States, his wife being a native of the same county in England. After a brief stay in Ohio they came to DeKalb County in the same year and William Fountain bought eighty acres in the midst of the heavy woods. A little cabin home had already been prepared and there he and his wife began their humble task of housekeeping. William Fountain was a man of prodigious industry and before his death had accumulated a tract of 400 acres. He died June 11, 1889, and his wife survived him until July 4, 1909. Both were active members of the Methodist Church and he gave liberally to its support and various causes. He was a republican in politics, and his home was constantly the scene of a liberal hospitality. William Fountain and wife had three children: Sarah A., born December 3, 1850; Elizabeth, who became the wife of Joseph Tarlton and died March 19, 1898; and William R.

William R. Fountain was born February 3, 1855, had a common school education and since the death of his parents he and his sister have lived on the old home farm. They jointly own 260 acres of the old Fountain homestead and he also owns a business building on Randolph Street in Garrett and three dwelling houses there. Both he and his sister are members of the Methodist Church at Garrett. William R. is a republican.

LEROY ISENHOWER, proprietor of the leading garage and automobile agency at Fremont, is one of the younger business men of Steuben County, and has been a factor in keeping up the business enterprise of Fremont since early manhood.

He was born at Fremont, March 1, 1884, a son of Amos and Caroline (Geedy) Isenhower. His grandparents were Peter and Sarah (Wade) Isenhower, who came to Fremont Township in Steuben County in 1850. Peter Isenhower died on the farm which he bought when he came to this county, and was well known to all the early settlers. He and his wife had the following children: Benjamin, Jacob, Catherine, Mary, John and Amos.

Amos Isenhower was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, February 5, 1852, and was seven

years old when brought to Steuben County. He married in 1870 Caroline Geedy, also a native of Pennsylvania and daughter of William and Mary (Taylor) Geedy, the former a native of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, and the latter born in England. William Geedy settled in Fremont Township in 1865, but enjoyed the use and cultivation of his farm of eighty acres less than a year. He died in 1866. His children were: Enos, Caroline, Ermanda, Simon, David, Mary, Martha Ann and Emma.

Amos Isenhower farmed for several years and then engaged in the livery business in Fremont and for a few years also conducted the local hotel. He was active in business until his death on December 22, 1905. He and his wife had the following children: Bert; May, wife of Homer Gripman; Eva, wife of James Noggle; Frank; Lilly, wife of George Griffith; Delvin, who died in childhood; and LeRoy.

LeRoy Isenhower acquired a public school education at Fremont and took a business course at Detroit, and at the age of twenty-two bought a half interest in his father's livery. After about a year he went into the bakery business, following that for two years, and then for three and a half years was a retail meat dealer. In December, 1914, Mr. Isenhower established his garage and automobile sales agency, and his business has been a landmark to motorists for five years. He has the local agency for the Overland, Buick and Oakland cars.

Mr. Isenhower married May 22, 1906, Blanch Fay Grim, daughter of Elmer and Ida Grim. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church and he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge.

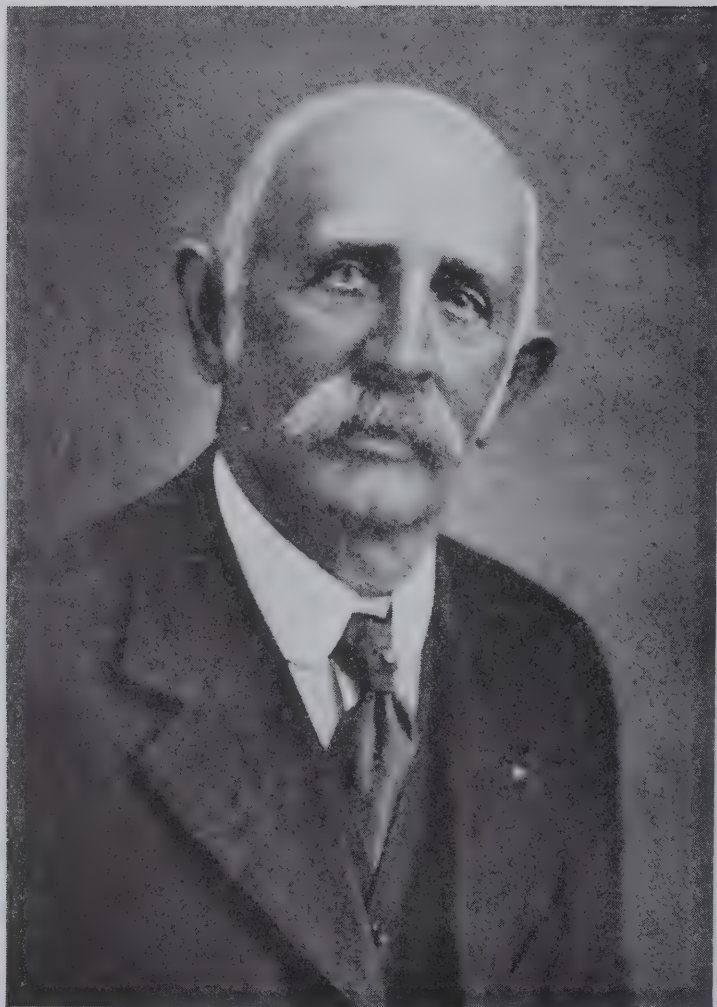
H. E. CRAIG spent the greater part of his active business career as a traveling salesman, but in recent years has been identified with the management of one of the fine farms in LaGrange County. This farm is in section 15 of Clear Spring Township.

Mr. Craig was born in LaGrange County, in Eden Township, June 2, 1857, son of William and Margaret (Thompson) Craig. His father was born in Ireland in 1825, the son of an Irish linen weaver. William Craig was a cooper and farmer. He came to the United States about 1835, and eventually worked at his trade in Warren, Ohio. After his marriage to Margaret Thompson he came to Indiana about 1854 and located on a farm in Eden Township. The last eight years of his life were spent in Topeka, where he died in 1908. His widow died in the same village in 1912. William Craig was a democrat in politics. He was the father of eight children, seven of whom are still living. Ada, wife of Dr. J. W. Nihart, of Petoskey, Michigan; H. E. Craig; Celia, wife of Clinton Stage, in Noble County, Indiana; Clara, widow of Andrew Cooper, of Ligonier, Indiana; Marion, who lives in the State of Washington; Eden, a dairy farmer in New York State; and Ethel, who is a graduate of dietetics and is head nurse at Howe School Hospital.

H. E. Craig grew up on his father's farm in Eden Township, and besides the district schools attended commercial courses in Valparaiso University. He taught both before and after attending the Valparaiso school, putting in altogether four years in school work. In 1880 he married Miss Carrie Cunningham. They lived in Minnesota three years, and his wife and their two children died there.

Mr. Craig took an active part in democratic politics in Minnesota and was elected to represent the twenty-eighth district in the State Legislature, serving one term. Mr. Craig spent twenty years with the E. H. Andrews Company of Chicago, manufacturers and dealers in school and bank furniture. He left that firm temporarily to enlist in the





*John E. Pancake*



United States navy at the time of the Spanish-American war, and was discharged at the close of hostilities. From that time until 1913 he represented the E. H. Andrews Company as a private salesman.

Mr. Craig returned to LaGrange County, and on March 16, 1916, married Estella V. Parks, widow of Dr. J. L. Miller. Mr. Craig was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church in Minnesota and is affiliated with Grand Prairie Lodge No. 54, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, at Brookston, Indiana.

Mrs. Craig is a daughter of William T. and Lydia A. (Fought) Parks. She was born on the farm where she is now living March 8, 1857. Her father was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, April 1, 1827, and her mother in Columbiana County, Ohio, December 22, 1828. William T. Parks came with his parents to LaGrange County in 1835. This was one of the early families to settle in this county. After he reached manhood he bought eighty acres in Eden Township, and lived there until he bought the eighty acres where Mr. and Mrs. Craig now live. From a portion of this land he cut away the timber to build his home, and he remained there until his death on April 14, 1905. Mrs. Craig's mother is still living, and is an active member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Parks was a steadfast republican until 1884, when he became a democrat. At one time he owned 300 acres in LaGrange County. In the Parks family were four children: Roderles M., who died at the age of two; Zidana M., who is the wife of F. P. Smith; Calvares M., who died at Victor, Colorado, at the age of forty-one; and Estella V., who was educated in the district schools and for eight terms was a successful teacher, six terms in LaGrange and two in Noble County. December 5, 1887, she became the wife of Dr. J. L. Miller, who died in January, 1915.

**JOHN E. PANCAKE.** For a period of over forty years John E. Pancake has been one of the leading citizens of Elkhart Township in Noble County. He has been useful to himself, to his family, to his friends and, in fact, to the entire community. An evidence of the high esteem in which he is held was afforded at a recent election when he was candidate for county commissioner of Noble County. The county went republican by a majority of 600, but Mr. Pancake was defeated by only ninety-nine votes. While he is not a member of any church, he has been one of the most active and liberal supporters of the Baptist Church of his community, was a member of its building committee and one of the largest contributors when the edifice was constructed. He is at present a member of the County Central Committee of the democratic party.

Mr. Pancake is also a charter member of the Topeka State Bank, and served as its vice president fourteen years and is still on the board of directors. He is a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank at Wawaka, a stockholder in the National Bank at Albion, and a stockholder in the Noble Motor Truck Company of Kendallville. For many years his time and energies have been well bestowed on his farm of 400 acres in Elkhart Township, where he specialized in Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs.

His father was Joseph Pancake, who was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, May 22, 1822, and was reared and educated in that locality. He married Ruann Halstead, who was born in the same county and died at the early age of twenty-three. John E. was their only child. Joseph Pancake died in Ottawa, Kansas, January 8, 1871.

John E. Pancake was born in Pickaway County, Ohio, July 22, 1848, and acquired a good education in the local schools of Ohio. Later he graduated

with high honors from the Union Christian College at Merom in Sullivan County, Indiana. After finishing his education he returned to his native county in Ohio and taught three terms of district school. In the summer of 1870 he went to Franklin County, Kansas, worked on a farm there one year, and then homesteaded a claim of his own in Wilson County, Kansas. He had the usual experiences of a Kansas pioneer. After 1872 he sold out and coming to Noble County, Indiana, entered the service of his uncle, John Pancake. He worked on the Pancake farm and also spent six terms as a teacher in the district schools. He then took entire charge of his uncle's farm and later administered the John Pancake estate.

On January 11, 1916, Mr. Pancake married Mrs. Barbara A. Swank. She was born in Illinois September 8, 1865, and lived in that state to the age of nineteen, when she married Richard Swank. They came to Indiana and located in LaGrange County, beginning housekeeping in Topeka. Mrs. Pancake has one daughter by her former marriage, Dora, now the wife of W. G. Waynright, of Marshall, Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Waynright have one daughter, Edith, now seven years old. Mrs. Pancake is a member of the Lutheran Church in Elkhart Township.

**JOSEPH E. YODER.** Every rule has its exception, but it would be difficult to find a Yoder in LaGrange County who is not financially sound and without land, stock and other improvements of value as evidence of the honest toil and good management displayed in the passing years. These evidences of thrift and prosperity in the case of Joseph E. Yoder are found at his farm on rural route No. 1 out of Topeka, in Eden Township.

He is one of the seven sons of Valentine T. and Catherine (Schrock) Yoder and was born on the farm where he lives today July 20, 1875. He grew up on that farm, and with the exception of two winters attended district schools until he was twenty years of age. On November 19, 1896, he married Miss Katie Miller. She was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, September 12, 1877, a daughter of Isaac and Mary (Hostetler) Miller. She acquired her education in the common schools. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Yoder lived two years in Elkhart County near Forest Grove and then returned to LaGrange County and occupied a farm of his father adjoining the homestead. They lived there six years as renters, and then rented the old homestead and in a year or two bought 160 acres. In 1913 Mr. Yoder increased his holdings by the purchase of eighty acres adjoining. He has forty acres at another locality in Eden Township and 222 in Elkhart County, so that his landed possessions foot up to 500 acres. Most of this represents the steady accumulation of years of good management and good farming. He is a successful stock man, being a breeder of Belgian horses, the Polled Durham cattle, the Hampshire sheep and the Spotted Poland hogs. Another side line, handled largely by Mrs. Yoder, is White Wyandotte chickens. The Yoder family are active members of the Amish Mennonite Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Yoder have four living children: Oscar, born February 15, 1909; Arie, born December 30, 1912; Orpha, born May 27, 1916; and Henry, born January 4, 1919.

**JOHN ALLEN McCLELLAN,** owner of one of the good farms in section 2 of Jackson Township, DeKalb County, is a man who has surmounted many difficulties in his career, and remembering the hardships of his early life has endeavored to smooth

out as far as possible the pathway of his own children.

Mr. McClellan was born in DeKalb County August 7, 1859, a son of Harvey and Eliza (George) McClellan. His father was a native of Wayne County, Ohio, and his mother of DeKalb County, Indiana. Harvey McClellan was married in DeKalb County and then settled in Richland Township. Not long afterward he enlisted as a Union soldier in the Civil war and died while in the army. He left two young children: Laura, wife of William Dorson, of Corunna; and John Allen.

John A. McClellan hardly remembers his father, and he grew up in the home of his grandfather George. He had only a common school education and at the age of seventeen he went to work to earn his living as a railroad man. For three years he was employed as a locomotive fireman by the Baltimore & Ohio road. He then married Viola Shull and for three years lived on the Shull farm and then bought eighty acres where he resides today. His grandfather George spent his last years and was tenderly cared for in the home of Mr. and Mrs. McClellan. Mr. McClellan does general farming and stock raising.

He has two children. John is a graduate of the State University of Indiana, is a successful teacher in Chicago, and is married and has one child. Emma L. is a graduate of the common schools and the wife of Howard Hootmier.

GEORGE ICKES. Many of the most substantial farmers of Steuben County have been born within its confines and today own land they acquired from their fathers, so that their interest in their communities is deep seated and sincere. No man can fail to be inspired with a love for the region his own ancestors helped to wrest from the wilderness, and this is the basic principle back of so much of the loyalty shown in Northeastern Indiana. One of the men who is not only a native son of Steuben County but who is now living on the farm which gave him birth is George Ickes, whose natal day was March 6, 1859. He is a son of Adam and Mary (Campbell) Ickes, and grandson of George and Nancy Ickes. George Ickes was born in Pennsylvania, but later went to Sandusky County, Ohio, where he became a prosperous farmer.

Adam Ickes was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, where his wife was also born, she being a daughter of James Campbell. At a very early day in its history Adam Ickes came to Steuben County and acquired eighty acres in Steuben Township. At that time the utmost pioneer conditions prevailed, and he and his family endured many hardships. In order to get a space big enough to put up a little house Adam Ickes had to grub out the stumps, and once he had his family housed he began the long and laborious task of clearing off his land so as to put in the crops. During the years that followed he labored long and hard, and when he died he had the satisfaction of knowing that he had a nice property, and that he had also accomplished a good deal working at his trade of carpenter. He and his wife had the following children: Nancy, Margaret, Barbara, George, James, Cynthia, Adam, Mary and Sophia, of whom James is now deceased.

George Ickes was reared on the homestead and shared in the hard work. During his boyhood he attended the Henderson School in Steuben Township. After attaining his majority he began farming the homestead, and has continued in that line ever since, carrying on general farming and stock raising, and becoming very prosperous. He owns 118 acres of as fine land as can be found in Steuben County. His

buildings and fences are kept in first class condition, and his entire premises show that he is a good manager and takes a pride in his place.

In 1905 Mr. Ickes was married to Sarah F. Fish, a daughter of Warren and Louisa (Gardner) Fish. Mr. and Mrs. Ickes have two children, namely: Roscoe W., who was born May 9, 1906, and Jesse, who was born January 4, 1912. Recognizing the importance of understanding and adopting new methods, Mr. Ickes has joined the Gleaners, and finds that organization of benefit to him. He is thoroughly abreast of the time, and oftentimes his advice is asked by those less progressive, for he is recognized as one who knows what he is about. Having devoted himself so closely to his farm in years past, Mr. Ickes has not become deeply interested in public life, but he has always been willing to give his aid in forwarding those measures promulgated for the welfare of his community, and has justly won his right to be numbered among the representative agriculturalists of Steuben County.

ORA P. NEWNAM, whose home is five miles north of South Milford and seven miles east and two miles south of LaGrange, is the possessor of a goodly heritage, and by his own work and actions has well justified his ownership, and as a practical farmer and stock man is rendering a valuable productive service to his community and his country. Mr. Newnam is owner of 179 acres, and altogether farms 279 acres.

He was born on this farm August 6, 1873, only son and child of F. A. and Eunice (Kellogg) Newnam. His father was born in Springfield Township of the same county, and his mother was born in Maryland, but was brought here when young. They were married in LaGrange County, then located in Springfield Township and later removed to Milford Township, where F. A. Newnam spent the rest of his life and died in 1906. The widowed mother is still living and is an active member of the Methodist Church in South Milford. The father was never a formal member of the church but a liberal supporter and trustee of the Brushy Chapel. He was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, being a past grand of the latter and a member of the Encampment. Politically he was a republican.

Ora P. Newnam grew up on the home farm and attended the district schools and finished his education in St. Mary's College at Dayton, Ohio. He then returned to the farm, and in its management has found sufficient occupation for all his talents.

September 6, 1899, he married Clara Goodsell. She is a daughter of Marshall and Catherine (Stoehr) Goodsell, and was educated in the common schools. They had two children: Francis M., deceased, and Walter, born May 3, 1913. Mrs. Newnam is a member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Newnam is a republican and is a member of the board of the County Council.

SCUDDER E. SHUTT is the present trustee of Keyser Township, DeKalb County. He is well known to the people of that locality, and by his record as a successful farmer is entitled to the esteem and confidence manifested through the office of which he is incumbent.

Mr. Shutt, whose home is 1½ miles south and a mile east of Garrett, was born in Allen County, Indiana, November 28, 1876, a son of Jackson and Lanora (Bowman) Shutt. His parents were born in Ashland County, Ohio, and were married in DeKalb County, Indiana, after which they settled on a farm. Three years later Jackson Shutt entered



a medical college, and on completing his studies began practice at Harlan in Allen County. He had to abandon his professional career on account of failing eyesight, and then settled on a farm in Jackson Township, where he lived until his death. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church, and in politics he was a democrat, and prominent in local affairs, serving as trustee of Jackson Township six years. In the family were ten children, eight of whom are still living.

Scudder E. Shutt grew up on his father's farm in Jackson Township, attended district schools and was at home until twenty-four years old. February 7, 1898, he married Mary Shoudel. She was born in DeKalb County, north of Waterloo in Smithford Township, February 10, 1876, a daughter of Michael and Catherine (Cline) Shoudel. Her parents were both natives of Germany, her father born in 1827 and her mother in 1839. After their marriage they came to the United States and were early settlers in DeKalb County, and spent many years of their lives in Jackson Township. Mr. and Mrs. Shutt have the following children: Alouis, who finished the common school course in 1917; Edward, who graduated in the common schools in 1919; John, Victor and Esther, the last two being twins.

Mr. Shutt is a practical farmer and owns 117½ acres of land in Keyser Township, and is also a stockholder in the Garrett Elevator and Livestock Association. Politically he has been quite a power in DeKalb County for a number of years as a democrat. He is now in his second term as township trustee, having made a most creditable record during his first four years' administration of the office.

LEWIS HOWEY is the present trustee of Jackson Township in DeKalb County. He is also proprietor of the Valley Farm, containing seventy acres situated in section 2 of Jackson Township. Mr. Howey started life a fatherless boy without means and only the experience acquired by hard work in the fields. He has achieved success, and is one of the citizens of highest standing in DeKalb County.

He was born in Concord Township of that county January 31, 1866, a son of Huston and Elizabeth (Ballentine) Howey. His father was a native of Jackson Township and died in 1868. The mother was born in Concord Township and is still living, being the widow of L. R. Wasson and a resident of Auburn.

Lewis Howey, only child of his father, was about two years old when his father died, and he lived with his mother in Concord Township to the age of twelve. He then took employment with a neighboring farmer, and was with him steadily for twelve years. He received very little wages and at the age of twenty-one had no capital. He earned his first capital by hauling logs, an occupation he followed about five years. He then bought twenty acres of land and married Dorcas Brown and began farming. He lived there eight years and then moved to the place where he now lives and subsequently bought the seventy acres.

Mr. Howey's wife died in 1903. She was the mother of two daughters: Jennetta, a graduate of the common schools and wife of Jesse Provines, and they live on the Howey farm; and Gladys, wife of Charles Carper, and she lives in Garrett. Mrs. Howey was a member of the Methodist Protestant Church at Concord.

Mr. Howey is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at St. Joe, Indiana, and is a trustee of the Ancient Order of Gleaners. He was the first man elected on the republican ticket to the office

of trustee of Jackson Township. This township is normally democratic by about seven, and he was elected by a majority of four votes.

CHESTER C. KLINK. There is a growing disposition in the minds of liberal men to judge people not by their possessions but by what they do and the value of their work and position in any community. Applied to Chester C. Klink of Salem Township in Steuben County this scale of appraisal brings out the fact that he is in the words of one of his neighbors "a corking good farmer," has made good his stewardship of one of the older homesteads of Steuben County, is a man whose judgment is civic and community affairs is respected, and his is one of the most interesting families in Salem Township.

Mr. Klink was born on the Klink homestead in section 12 of Salem Township, December 16, 1879. This homestead was once the property of his grandfather, Christian Klink. Christian Klink was a native of Germany, served over five years in the Napoleonic wars in Europe, and on coming to America landed at Baltimore, where he worked to pay his passage money. Afterward he settled in Ohio, and in 1848 came as one of the pioneers to Steuben County, Indiana. He acquired at that time a tract of land including the present farm of his grandson. He lived to see much of this land in cultivation, the log cabin replaced by a frame house, and the esteem with which he was regarded was proportionate to his material achievements.

His son, Eli Klink, was born in Ohio in 1844 and was a small child when brought to Steuben County. He became a successful farmer and in 1878 built a fine fourteen-room brick house on the old homestead. He died at Angola in 1909. He married Syrena Deller, who was born in Steuben County in 1850 and is still living. Eli Klink and wife had six children, Chester C. being fourth in age.

Chester C. Klink acquired his education in the public school of District No. 1 of Salem Township known as the Klink School, and from there entered the Angola Tri-State Normal College, taking the literary course two years and then graduating in the commercial course. As a young man he farmed in section 14 of Salem Township a year and a half, and then returned to the old Klink home and for a number of years has carried on his affairs in a systematic and efficient manner which spells success in farming and stock raising. He is well known as a breeder of blooded Shorthorn cattle, having a herd of about thirty of these fine animals and is also a breeder of spotted Poland China hogs.

Mr. and Mrs. Klink are members of the Trinity Reformed Church. June 6, 1900, he married Mabel S. Lacey, daughter of Robert A. Lacey, member of a well-known family of Steuben County. They are the proud parents of six fine looking and sturdy children, named in order of age, Robert E., Vinson C., Wayne E., Thelma S., Wilbur M. and Wesley W.

JOSEPH R. SNYDER has spent practically all the years of his life in LaGrange County, and has ordered his career along the pleasant and not unprofitable lines of agriculture and the building trade. For many years he was associated with his brothers under the name Snyder Brothers as general contractors and builders, and his father was also a skillful carpenter. Mr. Snyder lives on a good farm a mile north and a mile west of Wolcottville in Johnson Township.

He was born in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County, October 14, 1862, a son of William J. and Julia A. (Hilderbrand) Snyder. His



parents were both natives of Pennsylvania, and their respective families moved from that state to Ohio, where William and Julia were married. Immediately after their marriage they located on a farm in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County, where they spent the rest of their days. They were very active members of St. John's Lutheran Church, and William Snyder did much of the carpenter work in the construction of the church edifice. As a contractor and carpenter he worked at his trade until hindered by the infirmities of old age. In politics he was a republican. He and his wife had a large family of twelve children, seven of whom are still living: Mrs. Addie Philipson; Louisa, wife of George Canfield; John J., of Mongo, Indiana; Catherine, wife of Joseph Johnson, of Auburn; Joseph R.; Bloomfield, of Elkhart, Indiana; and May, wife of William Seaman.

Joseph R. Snyder grew up on his father's farm in Bloomfield Township and had a common school education. At the age of sixteen he began earning his own living, and worked by the day and month until he married. He learned the carpenter and joiner's trade under his father, and in association with his brothers was a contractor and carpenter for fourteen years.

January 22, 1885, Mr. Snyder married Jennie Holsinger. She was born in Johnson Township March 11, 1866, daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Fleck) Holsinger, the former a native of Stark and the latter of Seneca County, Ohio. Their respective families moved to Indiana, where Mrs. Snyder's parents were married and then settled in Johnson Township, where her father entered land direct from the Government, and as a pioneer cleared up and put under cultivation a large tract. He is remembered as one of the stalwart early settlers, very charitable and helpful to his neighbors and to the unfortunate, and an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Snyder located at LaGrange, but a year later moved to Johnson Township, where he continued the work of his trade. He has occupied his present farm since February, 1904. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder have one daughter, Izetta, wife of Clarence Cook, living in Elkhart. Their one grandson, George W. K., is a graduate of the Elkhart High School and is a talented young musician. Mr. and Mrs. Snyder are members of the Lutheran Church, he is a past noble grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has sat in the Grand Lodge, and in politics is a republican. His home farm comprises fifty-five acres.

**GEORGE E. CLARK.** One of the recent comers to Northeast Indiana, George E. Clark became a farm renter after his marriage, made thrift and economy the keynote of his domestic and business career for several years, and did not become a permanent land owner until he moved to DeKalb County. He owns one of the good farms in Butler Township, located in section 20.

He was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, December 28, 1874, a son of Charles W. and Lucinda (Bear) Clark, both natives of Ohio, his father being a native of Knox County. After their marriage they settled at Middlepoint, Ohio, where the father was a farmer, and he lived there until he met an accidental death while handling a team. He served as a Union soldier in the Civil war and was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and was affiliated with the Methodist Episcopal Church. His wife died in Van Wert in 1918. They had nine children: A daughter born September 24,

1869, and died in infancy; John H., born September 14, 1870; Charles A., born February 29, 1872; Mary C., born June 10, 1873; George E., born December 28, 1874; Sarah A., born January 6, 1877, and is now deceased; a daughter born January 8, 1879, and died in infancy; Willis E., born March 14, 1880; and Ethel, born April 25, 1883.

George E. Clark grew up on his father's farm in Ohio and had a district school education. He lived at home to the age of twenty-five. In November, 1899, he married Elva O. Fawcett. She was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, December 30, 1877. Her father, Levi Fawcett, died in 1916, at the age of eighty-three, and her mother, whose maiden name was Ellen Burr, is still living. In the Fawcett family were thirteen children, namely: Emma J., deceased; Albert, of Toledo, Ohio; Iza, wife of R. H. Somerset, living near Middlepoint; John, of Fort Wayne, Indiana; David, of Van Wert; Robert who lives southeast of Middlepoint; William, living in Ohio; Alma, wife of John Parnett, of Van Wert County and now deceased; Luella, wife of Noah Ashbaugh; Elva, Mrs. Clark; Frank; Charles O., deceased; and Nellie, wife of Thomas Lynch, of Fort Wayne.

After his marriage Mr. Clark settled on a farm in Van Wert County, and was a renter until he removed to DeKalb County in 1915. At that time he bought 127 acres constituting his present farm in Butler Township. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have five children: Mildred I., born October 10, 1900; Velma R., born October 9, 1902; Neoma L., born October 23, 1904; Francis W., born May 2, 1907; and Clifford, born June 4, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Clark are members of the Friends Church near Van Wert, Ohio. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Middlepoint, Ohio, and in politics is a republican.

**DANIEL STOMM.** The best way to identify Daniel Stomm with the citizenship of DeKalb County is to say that he is proprietor of Vistawald in Fairfield Township. He was born May 20, 1862, and is now the senior in the house of Stomm in the United States. He looks both backward and forward over two generations of the family in DeKalb County.

The house of Stomm was first established in this country when his uncle, Daniel Stomm, whose name he bears, accompanied by a sister, Margaret Stomm, located in Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, in 1851. They were soon followed by the rest of the family from Baden, Germany. In 1854 George Henry Stomm and his family arrived in DeKalb County, after living for a short time in both Pennsylvania and Ohio. The son Daniel, who was a blacksmith in Pittsburg, died there unmarried, but the daughter Margaret came on with the family to the new home in Indiana. When George M. Stomm and wife, Margaret (Holtzworth) Stomm, crossed the Atlantic to join their son and daughter in America they were accompanied by four children, Henry, Elizabeth, Barbara and Catherine.

Henry, who was the father of Daniel, the present head of the Stomm family, was born in Germany March 24, 1833, and had just attained to manhood when he came to DeKalb County. He had learned the weaver's trade in Germany, but agriculture has been the forte of the Stomm family in this country. The naturalization papers of Henry Stomm are now a matter of record in the DeKalb County court house. Today the history of all that generation of the Stomm family has been written on the tombstone in the DeKalb-Steuken County Line Cemetery in Steuben County. The Stomm family name was identified with the German Reformed Church,

and in politics the family vote always went to democratic candidates.

Henry Stomm married Anna Maria Gettz on January 9, 1856. She had come with her parents, William and Eliza (Hosler) Gettz, from Pennsylvania. Two of her sisters, Sarah and Susannah Putt, who married brothers, are living at Garrett, Indiana. The seven living children born to Henry and Anna Maria Stomm are: Daniel, Elizabeth, Moses, William, Mary, Nora and Clara. Three others deceased were Sarah, Amanda and Cora. The mother died October 1, 1882, and Henry Stomm married Catherine Bickle, who helped rear his younger children.

On January 1, 1886, Daniel, who, it will be noted, was born about eight years after the family came to DeKalb County, married Nancy Elizabeth Urey. She became the mother of two sons, Voyde G. and Roy C. She died January 3, 1891. On October 10, 1894, Mr. Stomm married Mary M. Borger, of Owen County, Indiana. She is a daughter of Joseph and Emma (Hostetler) Borger, whose eight children were: George M., Costa M., William F., Mary M., Ida A., Esther, Martin J. and Jacob E. An older set of children than these were seven half brothers and sisters bearing the name Borger: Rachel, Benjamin, Levi, David, Elizabeth, Catherine and Sarah.

The three children born to Daniel and Mary M. Stomm are Ralph B., Ruth O. and Emma M. The two older sons, Voyde and Roy, were reared in the same household. Voyde married September 28, 1917, Iva High, and they have one child, Lois M. Roy married, May 31, 1914, Mary Benjamin, and their son, Austin Leroy, and the father, Roy, are both now deceased. The son Ralph B. married Theresa M. Hanes December 2, 1917. They have one son, Robert G. Ruth O. was married January 1, 1919, to Hubert Boyd. Lois May and Robert Gerald Stomm are the two representatives of the fifth generation of the Stomm family in DeKalb County.

Since 1887 Daniel Stomm has lived in his present home in Fairfield and today Vistawald is one of the most picturesque and attractive farmsteads in the entire county. The hill top building site is high and dry, and the home buildings are well set in orchard and small fruit groves. Strawberry culture is a specialty. Spraying and other necessary work is done in season in order to secure high class fruit. A small apiary is maintained with the double purpose of honey on the dinner table and the better polenization of fruit. There is a stucco house with full basement story, modern heating, electric lighting and water system, the water being forced into the house by hydraulic ram from a spring that supplies sufficient water for all domestic purposes and for the live stock as well. Winter or summer there is no water to pump and a stream down the hillside from the fountain, encased in cement, has a continuous and bounteous supply.

There is the second basement barn, one having been destroyed by lightning in a storm in which six other barns were burned in the same neighborhood. The silo back of the barn was one of the first built in DeKalb County.

Vistawald is a scene of thrift and contentment and of work in which all members of the family participate. The farmstead is hills and dales and adapted to diversified farming and fruit, live stock and agriculture. There are yet some unfinished plans, the World war delaying some of them, but the traveler will go a long way before he finds a more attractive spot than Vistawald.

PAUL W. SANDERS. Some of the most successful of the Steuben County agriculturalists are those

who have returned to the soil after having been engaged in other lines of industry. One of those belonging to this class is Paul W. Sanders of Pleasant Township. He was born in Pleasant Township July 21, 1886, a son of William Henry Sanders and grandson of Samuel Sanders. William Henry Sanders was born December 26, 1847, and died December 20, 1917. He attended the schools of Auburn and Waterloo, Indiana, and his first business experience was obtained in the hardware line at Wolcotville and Hudson, Indiana. About thirty-two years ago he sold his hardware business and moved on a farm in the vicinity of Angola, occupying himself with conducting it until the fall of 1915, when he retired and, locating at Angola, lived there until his death two years later. In 1872 William Henry Sanders was married to Loretta Wickwire, a daughter of George W. and Loretta (Lemmon) Wickwire, and they had the following children: Guy, who married Jennie Smiley and has two children, Mark C. and Hugh G., and Paul W., whose name heads this review. Mr. Sanders belonged to the Christian Church and his wife has been a member of this same denomination for forty-three years. He was a man of sterling characteristics and one who stood high in the estimation of his fellow citizens.

Paul W. Sanders attended the public schools of Pleasant Township, the Angola High School and the Tri-State College of Angola, and was graduated from the latter institution with the degree of Bachelor of Science. After completing his collegiate course he spent two years as clerk and cashier of the McHenry Millhouse Roofing Company, but then decided to follow in the footsteps of his father, and returned to the old homestead, where until 1911 he was engaged in conducting his ancestral acres. He then bought his present farm of ninety acres in Pleasant Township, and here is profitably carrying on general farming.

On October 5, 1910, Mr. Sanders was united in marriage with Dessie Crain, a daughter of Hiram and Mary E. (Parsell) Crain. Mr. and Mrs. Sanders have two children, Loretta C., who was born November 20, 1911, and Mary, who was born January 3, 1914. The Church of Christ holds Mr. Sanders' membership. Fraternally he is prominent as a Mason and Knight of Pythias. Mrs. Sanders is a graduate of the Angola High School, and she also attended the Tri-State College at Angola and for three years after completing her educational training was engaged in teaching school. She is a member of the Christian Church. Like her husband she is interested in fraternal matters and belongs to the Eastern Star, the Rebekahs and Pythian Sisters.

Hiram Crain, father of Mrs. Sanders, was born in Pleasant Township, March 27, 1859, a son of Abraham D. and Harriet (Perry) Crain. Hiram Crain alternated attendance in the public schools of his native township with work on his father's farm, and grew up useful and sturdy. After he attained his majority he began working by the month for farmers in order to secure sufficient money to put him through high school, recognizing the benefits of education and training, and after he had taken the courses offered by the Angola High School he was engaged in teaching school for eight years during the winter months, while in the summer time he further improved his own mind. In 1884 he was married to Mary E. Parsell, a daughter of Thomas B. Parsell, and they became the parents of the following children: Dessie, who is Mrs. Paul W. Sanders, and Thomas A., who died at the age of fourteen years. After his marriage Mr. Crain went to live on the farm where he was born, and there



spent three years, but in 1887 he moved to a farm in Pleasant Township, two and one-half miles northwest of Angola, and there he died August 14, 1918. Mrs. Crain moved to Angola in March, 1919, where she proposes to reside permanently. Mr. Crain was a member of the Odd Fellows and Modern Woodmen of America, and Mrs. Crain belongs to the Rebekahs. Both the Sanders and Crain families are numbered among the most representative of the best type of people in this part of Indiana, and the members of the families have more than borne their part in the development of this important section of the state and the upholding of high moral standards.

**B. FRANK DEAL.** From almost the earliest period of settlement in LaGrange County the Deal family has had a part in the work of improvement and development. One of the representatives of this old and honored family is B. Frank Deal, whose home is in the Mt. Pisgah community of Milford Township. His farm is in section 3, eight miles east and three miles south of LaGrange.

He was born in Springfield Township of the same county April 21, 1855, a son of Harrison and Ellen (Jones) Deal. His father who was born in Marion County, Ohio, April 20, 1828, and died June 7, 1897, was an old time thresherman, a business in which he engaged between the ages of sixteen and twenty-four. He had lived in LaGrange County from 1835, the family being pioneers in section 23 of Springfield Township. January 5, 1851, Harrison Deal married Ellen Jones, who was born in LaGrange County June 9, 1832, and died March 3, 1904. After his marriage Harrison Deal lived on his farm of eighty acres in section 23 of Springfield Township until his death. He bought another 120 acres and had 200 acres highly developed as a farm and owned another tract of 120 acres in Milford Township. He was a general farmer and stock raiser, a republican in politics, honored with several minor offices, and was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He had a family of four sons and two daughters: B. Frank; William H., of Milford Township; Lewis E.; Charles, deceased; Carrie, wife of Ed Hess; and Jennie M., wife of Isaac Troyer.

B. Frank Deal grew up on his father's farm on Brushy Prairie in Springfield Township. Besides the advantages of the district schools he attended a college at Ontario, Indiana, and had a license to teach. For over forty years he has been a farmer and his home place comprises eighty acres, improved with a fine modern home, which was erected by him and his son in 1914. He is a breeder of Jersey cattle. He also for fourteen years worked at his trade of cabinet making in Kendallville.

December 27, 1876, Mr. Deal married Jennie Goodsell. She was born in Milford Township September 7, 1858, a daughter of Mynott and Nancy (Johnson) Goodsell. Her father was born at Litchfield Connecticut, May 29, 1817, and was twice married, having thirteen children by his two wives, six by his marriage to Nancy Johnson, who was born in Ohio February 15, 1840. Mrs. Deal was the oldest of her mother's children. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Deal are five in number, four of whom are still living: Alvah C., a graduate of the South Milford High School, married Eska Gaskell and lives in Blaine County, Montana; Mertie A., wife of Ray Kingsley, of Springfield Township; Guy attended the Kendallville High School and is a graduate of the Fort Wayne Business College, was tariff clerk at Kendallville for the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad ten years, married Beulah Cording, of Kendallville, and is a member of Kendallville Lodge No. 176, Free and Ac-

cepted Masons, and is past noble grand of Lodge No. 316 of the Odd Fellows and past chief patriarch of the Encampment; Harry M. is the deceased son; and Imo, born November 16, 1886, is the wife of Claude Potts, of Milford Township. Mr. and Mrs. Deal also have five grandchildren: Thola Kingsley, Leon Kingsley, Leonard Kingsley, Marion Potts and Joe M. Deal.

Mr. Deal is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Kendallville, and is past chief patriarch of the Encampment. In politics he is a republican.

**CHRISTIAN J. STAHLY**, who has had a wide experience as a farmer and business man, has for several years capably managed the old Stahly homestead in Newbury Township of LaGrange County.

The Stahly family presents one of the most interesting family records in Northeast Indiana. It is reviewed at length with its different members and family connections on other pages. Christian J. Stahly was born in the house where he still lives October 8, 1871, being a son of John C. Stahly. He is also a brother of Daniel J. Stahly of the same township.

Mr. Stahly attended district schools and as a young man worked as a farmer. In 1891, at the age of twenty, he married Anna Hostetler, a daughter of Moses M. and Mary Ann (Mehl) Hostetler.

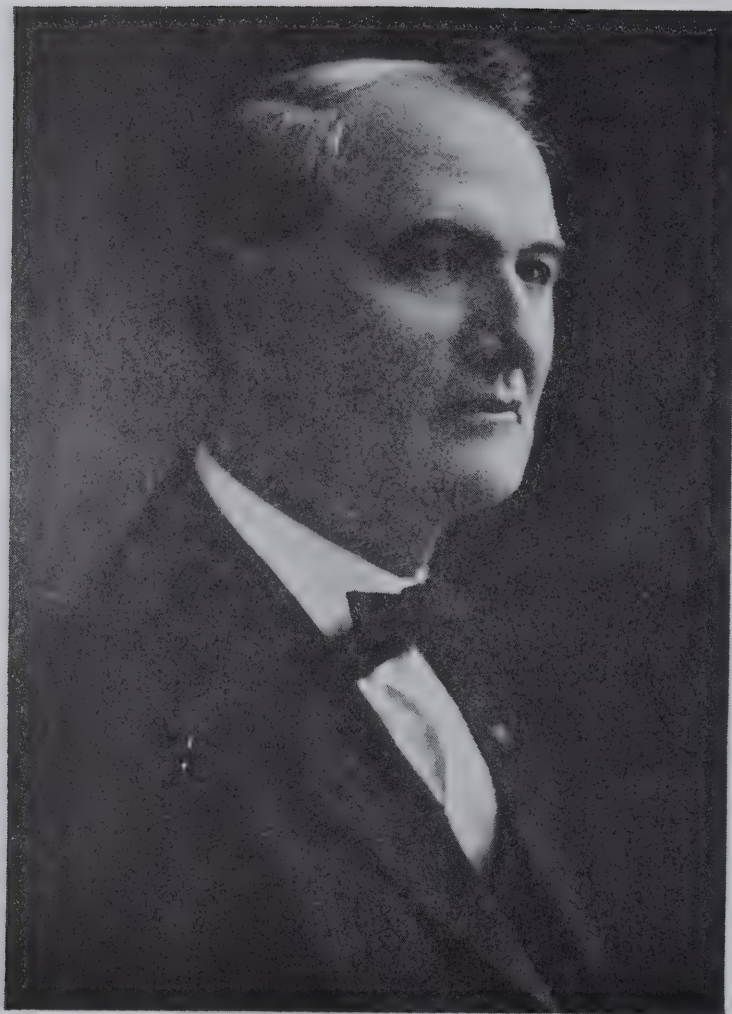
After his marriage Mr. Stahly applied himself with great diligence to the business of farming in Newbury Township until 1909. He and his family then went to Texas, where he had three years' experience as a farmer in the Lone Star State. He returned in 1912, spending one year at Wabash, Indiana, four years at Goshen, and since the fall of 1915 has occupied the old Stahly homestead in Newbury Township. He owns 150 acres in section 30, and along with general farming and stock raising makes something of a specialty of growing wheat. Mr. Stahly and family are members of the Christian Church at Goshen. He and his wife have five children: Duane A., born August 26, 1892, married Sibyl Stoner and lives at Kansas City, Missouri; Elizabeth A., born April 15, 1896; Mary A., born August 5, 1898; William J., born July 22, 1900; and Winifred M., born March 2, 1908.

**J. BRUCE PESSSELL.** It is always pleasant and profitable to contemplate the career of a man who has made a success of life and won the honor and respect of his fellow citizens. Such is the record of the well-known citizen whose name forms the caption of this sketch, than whom a more whole-souled or popular man it would be difficult to find in the community where he has his home.

J. Bruce Pessell, postmaster at Butler, Indiana, was born at Quincy, Michigan, on August 17, 1882, and is the son of Henry D. and Susanna E. (Watkins) Pessell, the latter of whom was born at Halifax, Nova Scotia. Henry D. Pessell was born in Devonshire, England, and at the age of fifteen years came to the United States, locating at Quincy, Michigan, where he grew to manhood. He was a farmer by vocation and was successful in his business affairs. Under President Cleveland's administration he was appointed postmaster of Quincy, serving one term of four years. In 1903 he was fatally stricken by lightning and his widow died in 1908. They were active members of the Episcopal Church. Mr. Pessell was greatly interested in Freemasonry, having taken all the degrees of the York Rite and those of the Scottish Rite up to and including the thirty-second degree. He was eminent commander of the







*J. E. Luckey M.D.*

Commandery of Knights Templar at Coldwater and had an appointment from the grand commander of Knights Templar of Michigan to go to Porto Rico in the interests of that order. Mrs. Pessell was a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. Politically Mr. Pessell was a democrat and stood high in the councils of his party locally.

To Henry D. and Susanna Pessell were born eight children, of whom seven are living, namely: George, superintendent of the city water works at Los Angeles, California; Arthur, assistant baggage master on one of the railroads running into Los Angeles; Lucile, who is a teacher in a polytechnic school in Los Angeles; Sarah, of Glenellyn, Illinois; Fred, a manufacturer of butter at Arcadia, Ohio; Cora, who lives in the old home at Quincy, Michigan; and the subject of this sketch.

J. Bruce Pessell attended the public schools of Quincy, being a graduate of the high school, after which he attended and graduated in the agricultural course from the Ohio State University. During the ensuing three years he was employed in the making of butter and ice cream at Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1904 he came to Butler and engaged in the same line of work, in which he was successful. On February 11, 1915, he was appointed postmaster of Butler, and is now serving his second term in that position, his reappointment meeting with the hearty approval of the patrons of the office whom he had faithfully served for four years. Attentive to the interests of the people of the community and courteous in his dealings with them, he has won a host of friends. Mr. Pessell is also captain of the Butler fire department. Fraternally he is identified with the Masonic order, in which he has met with distinctive preferment, being a past master of the Blue Lodge, a past high priest of the Chapter and past illustrious master of the Council. Religiously he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, in the advancement of which they are deeply interested.

Mr. Pessell was married to Addie Austin, of Quincy, Michigan, and their union has been blessed by two children, Rovelie and Clyde. Mr. Pessell is well endowed with those qualities which go to the making of good citizens, and he has won and retains the esteem of his fellow citizens to a marked degree.

**DANIEL OURY.** When the people of an Indiana township select their most responsible and important official, a township trustee, their choice usually falls upon a man of known and proved substantial character, good business ability and with a public spirit that when necessary will make him sacrifice his private interests in order to serve the public welfare, especially in the matter of good schools. It was that type of man which was selected to manage the affairs of Jackson Township in Steuben County when Daniel Oury was promoted to the office. Mr. Oury is now serving his second term.

He was born in Jackson Township April 26, 1874, son of William and Rachel (Bowerman) Oury. His mother was born in Seneca County, Ohio, a daughter of Simon and Lydia (Spangle) Bowerman. William Oury, who was born in Knox County, Ohio, in 1849, was thrown upon his own responsibilities when a boy and what he achieved in later years was an exhibition of his personal resources, industry and all around ability. He was married in Ohio and about 1874 he came to Jackson Township in Steuben County with his wife and one child. In 1876 he bought the farm in sections 16 and 21 where he spent the rest of his life and where he died in 1901. He built a house on that farm, built a barn,

and at the time of his death left a good property of 200 acres. He and his wife were active members of the Methodist Church at Flint. Their children were six in number: Charles Berton; Daniel C.; Pearl, wife of Guy Barr; George J.; Simon; and Ethel, wife of Clyde Ferris.

Daniel Oury was born soon after his parents came to Steuben County. He attended the No. 4 district school in that township, and was well trained in habits of industry, his father keeping him busy in the fields when he was not in school. He was thus well qualified to assume the responsibilities of managing the home farm when his father died in 1901, and he has since acquired the individual ownership of 166 acres of the land formerly owned by his father. He does general farming and stock raising and breeds Chester White hogs.

Mr. Oury married Miss Katie M. Jackson, a daughter of Charles and Martha Jackson. They have two children. Cecil L., a graduate of the Flint High School, spent two terms in Angola Normal School, was a teacher for three terms and is now farming in Jackson Township. He married Mildred Miller and has a daughter, Catherine Elizabeth. Clarence McKey, the second son, is a graduate of the Flint High School.

Mr. Oury was elected trustee of Jackson Township in 1914, and after one term of four years was re-elected in 1918. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Flint, and his wife and sons are members of the Methodist Church there.

**JAMES E. LUCKEY, M. D.** For over a quarter of a century Dr. James E. Luckey has borne the responsibilities and performed the duties of a busy practitioner in and around Wolf Lake, and is one of the foremost medical men of Noble County in point of years of experience and personal ability.

He was born in Noble County July 18, 1865, son of Robert and Abigail (Adair) Luckey. His mother was the second white child born in Washington Township of Noble County. Her father was a native of Ireland and married Eliza Window, who was born on the Isle of Wight. Robert Luckey was born in Nelson County, Virginia, in 1824, moved from that state to Pennsylvania, and at the age of thirteen came to Indiana, locating in Elkhart County. In early life he learned the trade of bricklayer, and as a contractor erected many buildings in Ligonier, Goshen and at various points in Elkhart County. Some years later he moved to a farm in Washington Township of Noble County and spent the rest of his life in that locality. He was a member of the Presbyterian Church and was a democrat until 1896, when he became affiliated with the republican party. He and his wife had seven children, as follows: Anna, wife of Dr. W. C. Hontz, of North Webster, Indiana; Lydia, wife of T. I. Ashlick, of the State of Washington; Dr. James E.; May, wife of Dr. D. S. Hontz, of North Webster; Thomas A., a Noble County farmer; Mary J., wife of J. H. Starkey, also a farm owner in Noble Township; and Joseph E., one of the extensive farmers and onion growers in this section of the state.

Dr. James E. Luckey spent his early life on his father's farm, attended the district schools and the high school, and was graduated in medicine from the Indiana University School of Medicine. He began practice at Wolf Lake in 1892, and has been steadily engaged in the work of his profession at that point for over a quarter of a century.

September 8, 1892, Doctor Luckey married Dott B. Benfer, a native of Noble County. They have three sons: Hugh A., a graduate of high school, married Hazel Gandy; Harold A., who is now living at home and has taught school for two years, is



a high school graduate and also attended Goshen College and spent one year in the State University; Robert C. is a high school student. Doctor Luckey is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Albion, with Kendallville Chapter No. 19, Royal Arch Masons, with Ligonier Council, Royal and Select Masters, with the Knights Templar at Columbia City, and is a member of the thirty-second degree Scottish Rite and the Mystic Shrine at Fort Wayne. He is also affiliated with the Elks at Ligonier. In politics Doctor Luckey is a democrat. He is a member of the United States Pension Examining Board, is a stockholder in the Wolf Lake State Bank, and is also interested in farming, owning ninety acres in Noble Township.

HARVEY A. STRATER is one of the successful farmer citizens of Noble County, owns a good place of eighty acres situated three miles west of Kendallville in Orange Township, and has been identified with the agricultural and civic affairs of his county for over thirty years.

He was born in Orange Township April 11, 1862, son of John F. and Anna M. (Toby) Strater. His parents were both born in Germany. His father came to the United States when a boy with his parents. The mother was twelve years old when her parents came to the United States. Both families settled in Richland County, Ohio, where John F. Strater and wife were married. Later they moved to Noble County, Indiana, and settled where Martin Strater now lives. In that locality they spent the rest of their lives. John F. Strater was a man of great industry, of fine moral character, and enjoyed the full esteem of his friends and neighbors. He came to Indiana with only \$400 in capital, and by an industrious life he accumulated 280 acres of land. He was a very ardent democrat in politics. He and his wife had a large family of twelve children. One died in infancy, one passed away recently in 1916, and ten are still living, as follows: Catherine, wife of Samuel Linzy; Mary, wife of Ephraim Acton, of Wayne Township; Jenetta, widow of Nelson Shamlin, of Orange Township; Laura, unmarried and living in Wayne Township; George, of Wayne Township; J. M., Strater of Orange Township; Harvey A.; Minnie, wife of Walter A. Rhea, of Orange Township; Emma, wife of John Rhea, of Orange Township; and Albert, of Wayne Township.

Harvey A. Strater grew up on the home farm in Orange Township and had a common school education. At the age of twenty-one he began working out for others and also rented a farm. He married for his first wife Isabella I. Imes. She left two children: Glenn and Carl, both of whom are married and established in homes of their own. On June 24, 1895, Mr. Strater married Mollie Spence. She was born in Jefferson Township of Noble County October 12, 1872, and was reared in that locality. Her father, Rev. T. P. Spence, a minister of the United Brethren Church, was born in Morrow County, Ohio. His wife was a native of Wyandot County, Ohio, and they were married in Seneca County of that state in 1859, and in 1865 moved to Noble County, Indiana. T. P. Spence served three years as a soldier in the Union army. Mrs. Strater was educated in the common schools, graduating at the age of sixteen. Mr. and Mrs. Strater had seven children: Dale, a graduate of the common schools and now married and living in Kendallville; Wilma, a graduate of the common schools; Edna, a student in high school; Claire, who has finished the common school course; Olive, now in high school; Reva, and one

that died young. Mrs. Strater is an active member of the United Brethren Church. In politics Mr. Strater is a democrat.

JOSEPH Y. HOOLEY, a resident of LaGrange County since 1881, started life with no particular advantages and from farm labor has progressed steadily during the passing years to a comfortable independence represented in the ownership of a fine farm in Newbury Township.

Mr. Hooley was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, June 30, 1861, a son of Joseph and Rachel (Yoder) Hooley. His mother was a daughter of Jacob Yoder. She was born October 10, 1834, and died March 21, 1893. Joseph Hooley was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, January 13, 1829, and he and his wife were married January 9, 1855. For a number of years he farmed in Mahoning County, but in 1863 moved to St. Joseph County, Michigan, where he spent the rest of his life on a farm. He and his wife were members of the Amish Mennonite Church. They had a family of children as follows: Enos, who married Lydia A. Yoder; Menno S., who married Frances Hostetler; Anna, who became the wife of Isaiah Hostetler; Joseph Y.; John F., who died November 4, 1865; Emma J., who became the wife of Jacob Hostetler; and Magdalene, who married William W. Hartzler.

Joseph Y. Hooley grew up in St. Joseph County, Michigan, attended the district schools there, and was about twenty years of age when he came to Newbury Township. He worked out as a farm hand and on March 1, 1884, married Gertrude Yoder. Then for several years he followed the trade of carpenter and in 1891 bought his first farm, comprising eighty acres. After two years he sold that and bought another eighty acres, which he still owns, and in 1902 bought a place of 120 acres, on which he has lived since 1907. He also owns nearby forty acres, and has eighty acres in Elkhart County. Mr. Hooley has rebuilt the buildings and put many improvements on his home farm, and in the matter of buildings it is one of the best places in the township. His home is in section 8 of Newbury Township.

In the comfortable prosperity of later years Mr. and Mrs. Hooley have the companionship and solace of both children and grandchildren. Their own children numbered eight. Levi F., the oldest, married Minnie Miller, and they are the parents of Nancy, Amos, Titus, Rachel, Reva and Vada. Noah J., the second son, married Syvilla Blough and has three children, Francis, Florence and Ernest. Menno S. married Dora Mast and has two children, Walter Harold and Verna. Lydia Ann is the wife of Elmer Murray, and their children are named Gerald, Joe-ulla, Elmer, Jr., Gladys and Grace. Beulah F. is the wife of Adam Birkholder, and they have Saverna and Mabel. The three younger children, still unmarried, are Ora J., Katie R. and Luella G.

SOLOMON ALWOOD, whose interests as a farmer, public spirited citizen and leader in church and community affairs identify him prominently with Troy Township of DeKalb County, lives five miles southwest of Edon, Ohio.

He was born in Troy Township January 29, 1861, a son of Charles and Elizabeth (Rosenburg) Alwood. His parents were both natives of Ohio, his father, born January 22, 1827, and his mother August 24, 1827. After their marriage they came to DeKalb County and settled in Troy Township, where the father followed farming until he enlisted in Company G of the Thirteenth Indiana Infantry. He was a faithful soldier and died July 4, 1865, before being mustered out of the army. He was a democrat in

politics. His widow survived him many years, passing away July 5, 1902. She was the mother of seven children: John, of Butler, Indiana; Henry, of Battle Creek, Michigan; Leonard, of Angola; Samantha, of Edon, Ohio; Solomon; Warren, of Clare County, Michigan; and Ananias, deceased.

Solomon Alwood was four years old when his father died. He grew up at the old home, was educated in the district schools, and helped his mother run the farm until his marriage.

November 13, 1899, Della Van Wormer became his wife. She was born in Troy Township December 16, 1867, a daughter of William and Sarah (Haskell) Van Wormer, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. Her parents were married in Indiana and her father served in Company K of the One Hundredth Indiana Infantry until the close of the Civil war. The Van Wormers were members of the United Brethren Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Alwood after their marriage lived on the home farm until he bought his present place in Troy Township. He owns a 118-acre farm, and has specialized to a considerable extent in the breeding of Duroc hogs.

Mr. and Mrs. Alwood have four children: Clark W., born September 6, 1890, is a blacksmith in Steuben County; Claude L., born June 27, 1892, a farmer in Troy Township; and Leland and Lelah, twins, born August 7, 1902, both graduates of the common schools and now in the senior year of the Butler High School. The family are members of the United Brethren Church and Mr. Alwood is a church trustee and superintendent and teacher of the Sunday School. He was a candidate on the democratic ticket for the office of trustee of Troy Township in 1918.

HOWARD E. LEES, cashier of the First State Bank of Fremont, is a banker of several years' experience, but for a much longer time was a popular and successful teacher. Most of his career was spent in Northwestern Ohio, but he is one of the well known and enterprising young leaders in business affairs in Steuben County.

He was born at Edon in Williams County, Ohio, July 14, 1889. His grandfather, Hugh Lees, was born in Belfast, Ireland, and spent much of his active life as a farmer in Ohio. He had the following children: Zeph, Murvin, Elmer, Willis, Edson, Mary, who married Henry Stuller, and Elizabeth, who became the wife of David Metzler.

Murvin A. Lees was born at Edon, Ohio, on the same farm as his son Howard, and has spent all his life as a farmer there. He has been prospered and for several years has specialized in Holstein dairy cattle. He is also one of the leading stock buyers in that section of Ohio. He married Hannah Fettes, a native of Wayne County, Ohio, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Kimmel) Fettes. Murvin Lees and wife are members of the Church of Christ. They had four children: Beulah, wife of Samuel Burkhardt; Florence, wife of Orvie Eyster; Howard E.; and Fay, who married Juanita Skelton.

Howard E. Lees attended public school in Edon, graduating from the high school there, and first became acquainted in Steuben County as a student in the Tri-State College. In the years 1909-10 he took advanced work in Miami University.

Mr. Lees taught school for nine years, three years near his native Village of Edon, five years in that town, and one year in the State of Washington. In 1916, after his last work in school, he returned to Ohio and became an employe of the First National Bank of Hicksville. In December, 1916, he moved to Fremont, Indiana, and was assistant

cashier until he was made cashier in July, 1918, of the First State Bank.

In the fall of 1911 he married Pearl Musser, of Bryan, Ohio, daughter of E. A. and Carrie Musser. They have one child, Helen Lucile, born in 1912. Mr. Lees is a member of the Church of Christ and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge.

F. E. SEYMOUR is a progressive farmer in Noble County, living on land a part of which was originally entered from the government by his father. He has a large farm in section 16 and 21 of Noble Township, and for a number of years has devoted part of it to the cultivation of onions, and is one of the leading onion growers in this section of Indiana.

He was born at his present home January 12, 1864, son of McIntyre and Sophia (Boerger) Seymoure, the former a native of New York State and the latter of Germany. His mother was brought to the United States at the age of thirteen, and she married for her first husband Henry Freer, and by her second marriage was the mother of four children: Alta A., wife of Thomas M. Ott, of Noble Township; Rudolph J., a resident of Bluff Springs in Florida; F. E. Seymoure; and Anna, wife of Simon Hire, of Whitley County, Indiana.

F. E. Seymoure has always lived at the home he now occupies, and during his boyhood attended the nearby district schools. He remained with his mother until he was thirty-one years of age, and in 1895 married Alma Kimmell. She was born in Summit County, Ohio, July 14, 1866, daughter of M. J. and Christina (Getz) Kimmell. When she was a few months old her parents came to Noble County, Indiana, and since her marriage she has lived in Noble Township. Mr. and Mrs. Seymoure have three sons and one daughter. Carlos R., born April 30, 1896, is a graduate of high school, was a teacher for two terms, and is now following the occupation of, agriculture. Martha, Roy and Harold are the three younger children and Martha is a student in high school.

Mr. Seymoure is a charter member of Wolf Lake Lodge of Knights of Pythias, and is a past chancellor and member of the Grand Lodge. His wife is a member of the Pythian Sisters at Wolf Lake. In politics he is a democrat. Mr. Seymoure's fine farm comprises 120 acres, and 100 acres of this was entered by his father at a government land office.

SAMUEL M. MILLER. A good farm in Newbury Township, with ample equipment and efficiently managed, is the distinguishing mark of the service rendered by Samuel M. Miller. Well known in that community, he is also a member of a widely known and numerous family, the Millers having been prominent in Pennsylvania and in Northeast Indiana for many generations.

Mr. Miller was born in Newbury Township December 24, 1870. He is a son of Manassas Miller and a grandson of Moses B. and Susanna (Hersberger) Miller. Moses Miller spent his life as a farmer in Cambria County, Pennsylvania. His children, several of whom came to Indiana, were Isaac, Jacob, Manassas, Sarah, Lena, Susie, Mary, Christina, Daniel, Samuel and Catherine.

Manassas Miller was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, November 28, 1842, and came to LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1864, locating in Newbury Township. He lived there the rest of his life and passed away October 8, 1916. On March 29, 1866, he married Anna Miller, who was born in Holmes County, Ohio, June 20, 1848, a daughter of



Christian and Catherine (Mast) Miller. Christian Miller was also a native of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, but in early life became a farmer in Holmes County, Ohio, where his wife was born. In 1859 they moved to Newbury Township of LaGrange County, and in 1872 Christian Miller went further west, to Shelby County, Illinois, was a farmer there ten years, and in 1882 established a home in Reno County, Kansas, where he was a pioneer. He lived there until his death the year of the Johnstown flood, 1889. The children of Christian Miller were Susanna, Martha, Anna, Moses, Jacob, Christian, Katie, Joseph and Noah.

Manassas Miller and wife had twelve children, nine living, a brief record of whom follows: Levi M. married for his first wife Anna Troyer, who died in 1908, and for his second wife, Hosana Troyer; Jacob married Polly Troyer; Samuel; Susie, who lives in Kansas, the wife of Christian E. Troyer; Christian, also a resident of Kansas, married Lydia Ann Miller; Elizabeth, wife of John E. Christner; Moses, who married Elizabeth Yoder; William, who married Polly Borntrager; and Martha, who died when eighteen years old.

Samuel M. Miller received his educational advantages in Newbury Township, and from early manhood has been a practical farmer. He farmed for about four years in his home locality, spent a year and a half in Elkhart County, and since then has been busy with the management of his farm in section 32 of Newbury Township. He owns 160 acres, and he has provided liberally for all his needs. He and his wife are members of the old order of the Mennonite Church.

In 1894 he married Lydia Troyer, a daughter of Eli D. Troyer. While they have no children of their own they have taken into their home two children to rear, Fannie and Ammon Troyer, who are children of his wife's brother, David E. Troyer.

HOMER L. CASEBERE is one of the younger men whose enterprise entitles them to special consideration among DeKalb County agriculturists. Mr. Casebere operates the fine old Casebere farm in Stafford Township, on the eastern edge of the county. This farm has many characteristics to be admired in the way of improvements and productiveness, and its good features are by no means covered up and lost sight of by the name chosen by the owner and officially recorded among farm names in the court house at Auburn. This name is "Just-A-Mere Farm."

Mr. Casebere was born on this farm July 27, 1887, a son of S. S. and Flora (Dunkle) Casebere. His father was born in Williams County, Ohio, January 22, 1860, son of George and Mrs. (Knisely) Casebere. His parents now reside at Butler and are active members of the Christian Church there. S. S. Casebere has been quite active in the republican party and was formerly township trustee and member of the County Council. In the family were three children: Lester, who married Lottie McDaniel, of Stafford Township; Mabel, wife of Frank Lyons, of Wilming-ton Township; and Homer L.

Homer L. Casebere grew up on the home farm and finished his education with two years in high school. He married Princess Thomas, daughter of Elder Fred A. Thomas of Milford, Indiana. Mrs. Casebere finished her education at Valparaiso University. They have three children: Mabel, born October 1, 1912; Harold, born May 31, 1914; and Rachel, born January 22, 1916. The family are members of the Christian Church and Mr. Casebere is one of its elders and also a teacher in the Sunday school.

His farm comprises 155 acres and while it fur-

nishes him ample employment for all his energies he has other interests, being a member of the Arctic Shipping Association of Arctic, is secretary of the Hobb Threshing Company, and a stockholder in the Hamilton National Bank at Fort Wayne. He is also a member of the Grange and is a republican in politics.

FRANCIS J. CLARK. In the person of the late Francis J. Clark, Steuben County had one of its most enterprising citizens, a successful and hard-working farmer, a thorough business man, and possessed of that character which makes his influence still count for good in the community where he lived for so many years.

He was born in Jamestown Township of Steuben County, March 27, 1861, and spent practically all his life there. His parents, Martin and Elizabeth (Conner) Clark, were both natives of Ireland. His father was born in 1813 and died in 1867 and his mother was born August 3, 1821. Martin Clark settled in Jamestown Township in 1855, and spent the rest of his life there as a farmer. His children were Walter, Mary A. and Francis J.

Francis J. Clark attended school in Jamestown Township, but owing to his father's death when he was only six years old, had meager opportunities to acquire a thorough education. He made good use of subsequent opportunities, became widely read and well informed, and always sought the companionship of men of good judgment and sound intelligence. After his father's death he worked industriously to help his mother pay off the mortgage on the farm, and he conducted the farm for a number of years. Eventually he became owner of about 200 acres, and enjoyed success in other lines as well. He was one of the organizers of the First Bank of Fremont, and served as a director until a short time before his death.

Mr. Clark died June 5, 1915. He was for one term a trustee of Jamestown Township, and was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Masons, being a charter member of the Knights of Pythias at Fremont.

October 17, 1906, he married Alma M. Baum, daughter of Michael and Mary A. (Michael) Baum. Mrs. Clark, who survives her honored husband and still lives at Fremont, represents a family that has been identified with Steuben County for seventy years. Her grandparents were Abraham and Elizabeth Baum. Her maternal grandfather, Phillip Michael, was a native of Pennsylvania and came to Steuben County in 1849, settling at Fremont, where he followed the trade of weaver. He was quite successful and was able to start all his sons in business in and around Fremont. His ten children were named Enos, Joshua, Phillip, Jacob, David, Mary A., Lydia, Sarah, Lovina and Catherine. Mrs. Clark's father, Michael Baum, was born in Pennsylvania, April 17, 1818, and also came to Steuben County in 1849. He lived at Fremont and was a carpenter by trade. He died in August, 1873.

JAY STUCKMAN has been a resident and farmer of Noble County for seventeen years, and owns a well ordered property and good rural home in Noble Township. He has handled his own affairs with admirable success and has attracted attention to himself several times by his neighbors and friends, who have nominated him for public office.

He was born in Defiance County, Ohio, May 2, 1879, son of Isaac and Evaline (Rogers) Stuckman. His father and mother were both born in Crawford County, Ohio, and lived in that state



until about 1897, when they moved to Elkhart County, Indiana, and in that locality spent the rest of their days. The father was an active member of the Progressive Brethren Church and an elder or minister of that denomination. He and his wife reared a large and interesting family, comprising eleven children, a brief record of whom is as follows: Hattie, wife of George Myers; Curtis M.; Charles and William, all living in Defiance County, Ohio; Emma wife of Jesse Snyder, of Williams County, Ohio; George, a farmer in Defiance County; Lewis, of Elkhart County, Indiana; Jay; Clyde, of Elkhart County; Ida wife of Carl Berkey, of Elkhart County; and Lottie, wife of C. A. Whittle, of Goshen, Indiana.

Jay Stuckman was eighteen years old when his parents came to Elkhart County. He had acquired his education in the common schools of Ohio, and since coming to this state has been applying all his time to farming and the varied relationships of a useful career. He moved to Noble County in November, 1902. His farm comprises 235 acres, and a part of it is devoted to the profitable crop of onions. He is also specializing in livestock, has some fine Shorthorn cattle and big type Poland China hogs. He is a director in the Wolf Lake State Bank and a stockholder in the Kimmel State Bank.

In 1900 Mr. Stuckman married Drusilla Wysong, a daughter of Joseph Wysong. She is a graduate of the Nappanee High School and was a teacher before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Stuckman have five children: Elva, Vesta, Guy, Paul and Roger. The two older children are both graduates of the Wolf Lake High School. Mr. Stuckman is a democrat, and his party nominated him a year or so ago for the office of county treasurer.

**CHARLES HAARER.** One of the best instances of the selfmade man is found in the person of Charles Haarer of Newbury Township, LaGrange County. Coming to this country a stranger to its language and customs, he has worked hard and saved thriftily and is now one of the well-to-do men of his region. He was born January 22, 1850, in Germany, he was there reared, and between the ages of six and fourteen years received the educational advantages offered by its public schools. In 1869 he left his native land for the United States, and after landing made his way to Ann Arbor, Michigan, obtaining employment first on a farm, and later on the construction of the Pere Marquette Railroad. He next moved to a wild piece of land in Michigan, 100 acres, and then from there came to Indiana. In 1886 he came to LaGrange County, Indiana, and rented a farm, and also assisted in the operation of the saw-mill owned by Tilly Schrack for a year. While living in Michigan he had bought a farm of eighty acres, which he later traded for 100 acres on the Banbridge Road in LaGrange County. After conducting it for three years he traded his second farm for the Half Moon farm of 160 acres, adding to it until he had 260 acres, but sold this property in 1917, and another farm he had bought he disposed of in 1918. In 1912 he bought his present farm, and is still conducting it. His political faith is that of a republican. For a number of years he belonged to the Lutheran Church, but sixteen years ago united with the Mennonite Church, of which his wife has been a member for thirty-five years.

On April 25, 1880, Mr. Haarer was united in marriage with Miss Elizabeth Emmert, born in Newbury Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, December 10, 1862, a daughter of Leonard and Catherine (Eash) Emmert, natives of Germany and Pennsyl-

vania, respectively, who were married in Elkhart County, where they lived for a few years prior to settling in Newbury Township. He died in Oregon in 1900, aged sixty-seven years. His widow, although eighty years old, survives and makes her home in Oregon. Mr. and Mrs. Haarer became the parents of the following children: John, who is on the old homestead, married Edna Eash, and they have four children, Orpha A., Ruby Ruth, Roy and Charles; Mary Viola, who married Daniel M. Kauffman, and their children are, Ray, Ruth and Ruby, twins, the latter deceased; Rufus Charles, Clara and Henry; Willie Henry, a farmer, who married Fannie Eash, has the following children, Aldine, Corona, Sylvester and Leonard; Joseph Frank, who is a farmer of Newbury Township, married Grace Beam, had the following children, David Paul, deceased, and Ethel Marian; and David A., Charles Edwin, Martha Elizabeth and Susan Magdalena, all of whom are deceased.

An experienced farmer and excellent business man, Mr. Haarer is held in respect for his good qualities in his neighborhood, and deserves great credit for what he has accomplished in the land of his adoption in the half a century he has resided in it.

**GEORGE H. SMITH** is proprietor of the Buckeye Farm, consisting of ninety acres in section 22 of Jackson Township, DeKalb County. Mr. Smith is an Ohio man, and has been a resident of DeKalb County for the past ten years.

He was born in Licking County, Ohio, April 16, 1860, son of William S. and Cristy A. (Wood) Smith. His parents were also natives of Ohio, and in 1910 moved to Indiana and settled in DeKalb County.

George H. Smith grew up in his native county, had a common school education, and on September 22, 1878, married Sarah E. Davis. He began his career as a day laborer and from a modest start acquired two farms in Putnam County, Ohio. On moving to DeKalb County in 1910 he bought the ninety acres comprised in the Buckeye Farm, and has used it for general farming and stockraising. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank of Spencerville. Mr. Smith is a democrat and is affiliated with Lodge No. 536 of the Masons at Leipsic, Ohio.

He and his wife have three sons: Bert Smith, who lives near Hudson, Michigan; Earl, also a farmer near Hudson; and Audrey L., who is married and lives on the home farm.

**WILLIAM J. MENGES.** The farmer is a man who needs to be well informed upon many subjects if he hopes to make a success of his work. The day has passed when men sought only to "make a living" from their farms. Land is too valuable and the need for food is too urgent to permit of any such haphazard methods. The modern farmer needs to understand the chemical elements in his soil and how to supply any which may be lacking to bring it up to the highest degree of fertility. He has to know all about rotation of crops, and make such changes in the disposition of his fields as will preserve his soil from unnecessary deterioration. His buildings must be constructed so as to conform with state sanitary regulations, and he recognizes the practicality of installing improved machinery. In order to properly realize on his crops he must be posted as to markets and best methods of transportation. If he is a stock raiser as well as grain grower many other avenues of knowledge must be traveled by him. In fact the farmer never stops learning something about his work from the time

he first goes on his farm until he leaves it for the last time. Yet, if he likes farming and appreciates its dignity and importance, in spite of the hard work and occasional reverses, he comes to recognize that he is the most independent man on earth, and that all other classes are looking to him for the most urgent necessity of life, food.

One of the representative farmers of Steuben County, who not only has spent his entire life in the county but was born here, is William J. Menges, of Steuben Township. He was born on a farm adjoining his present one, in Steuben Township, September 15, 1866, a son of Samuel Menges and grandson of Adam Menges and William Wolf. Adam Menges was born in Pennsylvania, but came to Steuben County in 1853. His wife bore the maiden name of Huffvines. William Wolf, the maternal grandfather, was born in Loudon County, Virginia, August 6, 1805, and his wife, Catherine (Fetterhoof) Wolf, was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. After their marriage they moved to Ashland County, Ohio, and in 1864 to Steuben County, Indiana, settling on the northeast quarter of section 7, Steuben Township, where William Wolf developed into a prosperous farmer. He and his wife had the following children: John, Susanna, Andrew, Jacob, Adam, Joseph, Mary Ann, Catherine, Magdalena, William, Amos, Lydia, Front, Phoebe and Sarah, of whom Mary Ann, born in Columbiana County, Ohio, March 21, 1843, became the mother of William J. Menges.

Samuel Menges was born in Wayne County, Ohio, January 26, 1840, but was only a lad when his father located in Steuben County, and he here attended the public schools. After attaining his majority he acquired a farm, all covered with timber, and had to clear a space in order to erect a log cabin in which to house his family. This pioneer farm has been developed by him and William J. Menges into the present magnificent rural property upon which the latter is residing. The little log cabin was in time replaced by a substantial residence that is still used. Other necessary buildings were erected by Samuel Menges, and he lived on this farm until he retired, when, during the spring of 1899, he moved to Angola, and there he died September 10, 1905. His widow survives him and lives at Angola. Their children were William J., whose name heads this review, and Ida, who married Morton Lemon. Samuel Menges was a consistent member of the United Brethren Church of Steuben Township. During the Civil war Samuel Menges responded to the call of his country, and enlisted during March, 1865, his regiment, the One Hundred and Fifty-Fifth Indiana Infantry, being detailed at Wilmington, Delaware, on provost duty.

William J. Menges attended the local schools of his native township and assisted his father in conducting the farm. After his marriage in 1890 he rented the homestead for a few years, and then rented another farm located in Otsego Township, where he lived until 1897, in that year going to Angola, where he was in a draying business until 1901. Selling his business, he rented his present farm of 118 acres, leaving it in 1903 for a farm he bought in Pleasant Township. After the death of his father he sold his farm and bought the old homestead, where he has since resided. In 1907 his neighborhood was visited by a destructive cyclone and all of his buildings except the residence were blown down, but since then he has erected new ones and has improved the house. Here he carries on general farming and stock raising, and is justly numbered among the leaders in his community. He belongs to the Baptist Church.

On October 1, 1890, Mr. Menges was united in marriage with Jennie Stover, a daughter of Isaac and Emma (Tubbs) Stover. Isaac Stover was born in Ohio, and his wife was born in Huron County, of that state. In young manhood Mr. Stover came to Steuben County, Indiana, and became a farmer of Salem Township, where he died in 1869. He and his wife had the following children: George Stover and Mrs. Menges. The children of Mr. and Mrs. Menges are as follows: Zeno, who died when small; L. D., who married Olivia Lacey; and June.

J. H. NYE, M. D. The community of Cromwell in Noble County, has had the able and kindly services of Dr. J. H. Nye as a physician and surgeon for nearly twenty years. Dr. Nye is a man of high attainments in his profession, of thorough training, and experience has brought him a general recognition of his talents.

He was born in Dix, New York, in April, 1870, a son of Ebenezer and Margaret (Sharp) Nye, both natives of New York State. His father was a graduate of the Buffalo Law School and spent many years as a successful lawyer in Schuyler County, New York. He served for a number of years as a justice of the peace and was active in republican politics.

Dr. J. H. Nye was educated in the common schools of Yates and Schuyler counties, graduating from the Dundee High School, and for seven years he earned his living as a teacher in the schools of New York and Pennsylvania. He finally entered the Medical College of Indiana, and after the full course was graduated M. D. in 1892. The following two years he was located at Buffalo, where he practiced medicine with his brother Dr. O. S. Nye. He then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Baltimore and took a post-graduate course, and in 1901 came to Indiana and located at Cromwell, where his work has been greatly appreciated ever since. He has served as deputy coroner of Noble County, and is a member in good standing of the County and State Medical Societies and the American Medical Association. Doctor Nye is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and a Knight of Pythias. In politics he is a republican. Among other local interests he is a stockholder and one of the directors of the Sparta State Bank at Cromwell. Doctor Nye married Miss Pearl Voorhees, daughter of Doctor Voorhees. She is a graduate of the Mansfield Normal School of Pennsylvania and was also a teacher of the public schools of that state and of New Jersey before her marriage.

W. P. STEWARD is a popular figure in business circles in the southern part of DeKalb County, being proprietor of the Steward Lumber & Grain Company at Spencerville.

He was born in Spencer Township, formerly Concord Township, March 7, 1887, a son of L. W. and Cora C. (Barr) Steward. His father was born in Jackson Township of DeKalb County in 1862, and his mother in Spencer Township in 1864. She is still living. L. W. Steward was a sawmill operator and a retail lumberman for many years and died in 1912. He was a Methodist. He and his wife had four children, one of whom was the late Fred Steward, a partner with his brother W. P. in the lumber business. Fred Steward was a graduate of high school and went into the army and died at Camp Taylor in 1918. He married Laura Worley and left one son. The three living children are Arminta, W. P. and Jennie, wife of Roscoe Walters.

W. P. Steward is a high school graduate and from







*Wm Huntsman*

school entered his present business and has carried it on successfully for a number of years. He is one of the leading men of Spencerville, being a director of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank, president of the Town Hall Association, and is a stockholder in a hardware business at Fort Wayne.

He married Hazel Berry of St. Joe, Indiana, March 20, 1909. She is a graduate of the St. Joe High School. They have two children, Ercil and Florence. Mrs. Steward is a member of the Methodist Church. He is affiliated with Concord Lodge of Masons, is a member of the thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Consistory at Fort Wayne, both he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star, and she is a past worthy matron and a member of the Grand Lodge. He is a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias and has sat in the Grand Lodge. Politically Mr. Steward is a republican.

CHARLES A. DOHNER is not only a farmer but regarded as one of the liveliest business men of Troy Township, DeKalb County. He owns 120 acres, all of which he has acquired and made as a result of years of hard work and saving and careful co-operation between himself and his wife. He is also a stockholder in the Arctic Co-operative Livestock Shipping Association and is one of the directors of the Butler Grain Shipping Association.

Mr. Dohner was born in St. Joe Township of Williams County, Ohio, August 20, 1876, a son of Isaac and Rachel (Adams) Dohner. Isaac Dohner was born in Wayne County, Ohio, December 31, 1838, and died in a hospital at Detroit, Michigan, July 7, 1911. He came to DeKalb County in 1859. On November 28, 1860, he married Susan Bratten, of Williams County, Ohio. He left home and on March 28, 1864, enlisted in Company H of the Eighty-Eighth Indiana Infantry and was in active service until wounded at Bentonville, North Carolina, in one of the last battles of the war, on March 19, 1865. While he was in the army his wife died, leaving one child, Clara, wife of Adolph Vogal, a resident of Chicago. On November 1, 1866, Isaac Dohner married Rachel A. (Adams) Johnston, of Wayne County, Ohio, widow of Cyrus Johnston, who was also a Union soldier and died while in the war. Mrs. Johnston by her first marriage had one son, Robert, now deceased. Isaac Dohner and wife were the parents of seven children: William H.; May, wife of Charles Jennings; Etta, wife of William Wilson; Ella, wife of Jacob Cole; Mary, wife of Floyd Hollinger; Charles A., and John, of Williams County. The parents were members of the United Brethren Church at Big Run. Mrs. Isaac Dohner is still living at Butler. Her husband was an active member of the Grand Army Post at Butler and a republican in politics.

Charles A. Dohner spent much of his early life in Steuben County, where he attended the common schools. At the age of fourteen he went to work on a farm and then for five years was employed in a basket factory at Edgerton and Sherwood, Ohio. On coming to DeKalb County he worked on a farm and on September 19, 1896, married Jessie M. Souder. She was born in Troy Township April 19, 1880, a daughter of George B. and Sarah M. (Adams) Souder. Her father was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, June 30, 1846, and in 1859 went with his parents to Richland County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. In 1874 he settled on section 24 of Franklin Township, DeKalb County, and in 1879 moved to Troy Township, where he is still living, the owner of eighty acres of land. Mr. Souder married Sarah M. Adams February 27, 1868, who was

a daughter of Andrew Adams, of Richland County, Ohio, where she was born January 14, 1848.

Mrs. Dohner grew up on her father's farm and had a common school education. For one year after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dohner lived at Butler and since then have been farmers in Troy Township. They have three children: George, born April 28, 1898, is a graduate of the common schools and married Edith Worthington, and they have one child, Howard E. Glen, born June 22, 1899, graduated from the common schools at the age of fifteen; Ross, born September 7, 1902, finished his common school education at the age of twelve. Mr. Dohner is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Butler and he and his wife are members of the Butler Grange. He is a republican and on that ticket was elected a member of the DeKalb County Council November 5, 1918.

WILLIAM H. HUNTSMAN. While much is heard in these days of farming as a business, there are a number of men in Northeast Indiana who at the outset of their careers had practically nothing but experience, ambition and hope, and have managed to rear their families and provide for all their needs and comforts through strict dependence upon the tilling of fields and the raising of livestock. One of these is William H. Huntsman, a prosperous farmer in Greene Township, in section 7, Noble County.

He was born on the farm where he now resides November 25, 1875. His parents were George and Susanna (Hosler) Huntsman, both natives of Ohio. His father was born in Morrow County, that state, grew up and married there, and on coming to Indiana located in Greene Township of Noble County. They spent the rest of their days on the old home farm. They were devout church members and in politics the father was a democrat. They had nine children and five are still living: Elza, a farmer in Noble Township; Alice, wife of D. A. Harlan, of Noble Township; William H.; Cora, who is married and lives in Noble Township; and Anson L., of Greene Township.

William H. Huntsman has spent practically all his life on the home farm and as a boy he attended the local district schools. In October, 1896, he married Miss Emmaretta Ott. She was born in Noble Township of Noble County and had a district school education. Mr. and Mrs. Huntsman started life with no capital, and for eleven or twelve years he worked for his father on the farm. Having saved all he could during this interim and at the same time having provided for the expenses of a growing family, he then bought a half interest in the home farm, and his prosperity has been growing steadily with the passing years.

To Mr. and Mrs. Huntsman were born eleven children, ten of whom are still living: Cleo, Blanche, Fern, Wilda, Lavon, Martha, Hays, Raymond, Lydia and Robert. Cleo is the wife of R. Weber. Mr. Huntsman is a democrat and was the nominee of his party for county commissioner in 1918.

PERRY W. BOWERMAN. Some of the best land of Jackson Township in Steuben County has been developed through the enterprise of members of the Bowerman family, some of whom have been here for over thirty-eight years. After an active career spent on one of the farms there Perry W. Bowerman is now living retired at Flint, but still owns a large farm.

Mr. Bowerman was born in Seneca County, Ohio, July 5, 1856, a son of Simon and Lydia (Spangle) Bowerman. The maternal grandfather was Jacob



Spangle. The paternal grandparents were Jacob and Mary (Ritter) Bowerman, the former a native of New York State, who moved to Seneca County, Ohio, in 1827, and spent the rest of his life as a farmer in that locality, having lived there from earliest pioneer times. Jacob Bowerman's children were Simon, Michael, Henry, John, Jacob, Isaac, Joshua, Charles, Catherine, Susan and Mary. Of this large family, two are still living, Charles and Mary.

Simon Bowerman was born in New York State, January 4, 1820. He was a child when taken to Ohio and after reaching manhood became a farmer in Seneca County. In 1872 he brought his family to Jackson Township of Steuben County, locating in sections 16 and 17, and made the bulk of his prosperity while living there. He acquired the ownership of 240 acres of land. He died April 27, 1903. His wife, who was born in New York State in 1823, died in November, 1907. They were members of the Dunkard Church. The children of Simon Bowerman and wife were: Rachel, who became the wife of William Oury; Cassie, who died in childhood; Joshua; Perry W.; Clarence, who died when a small boy; and Charles, who died in early life.

Perry W. Bowerman was sixteen years old when his parents came to Steuben County. He finished his education in School No. 4 of Jackson Township, and soon afterward began farming there. In 1879 he married Jennie Johns, a daughter of Peter Johns. After his marriage he bought a farm in section 16, adjoining the old Bowerman estate, and for nearly forty years was diligently engaged in its management and cultivation, putting up all the buildings and carrying on his business as a general farmer and stock raiser until the spring of 1918. At that date he moved to a good home in Flint, and his farm of 180 acres is now carried on by a son. Mr. Bowerman is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge in Flint.

He and his wife have four children: William, who married Myrtle Daily and has five sons, named Carrol, Cleo, Willis, Devere and Walter. Lydia, the wife of John Stayner. Branch, who married Fred Seybert and has one son, Howard. Ora B., who rents his father's farm, married Ruth Boyer and has a son, Keith.

**FRANK W. MCWILLIAMS.** One of the most interesting farms in the rural district of Greene Township, Noble County, is widely known as the Old Homestead, an estate that has been continuously in the name and ownership of the McWilliams family for eighty-five years and has been the home of portions of five generations of the McWilliams family. It comprises 190 acres of well cultivated land with modern improvements and is now in the ownership of Frank W. McWilliams.

The land was entered by his grandfather Oliver P. McWilliams as early as 1834. There has never been a transfer of title since that date. Frank W. McWilliams is a son of John P. and Josephine (White) McWilliams. His father was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, and was about eighteen years old when his parents came to Noble County. He lived on the old McWilliams farm and died there. His wife was a member of the Lutheran Church and he was a democrat, and was quite prominent in county affairs. In 1860 he was elected county recorder, serving two terms, and later was county commissioner two terms. He was also assessor of Greene Township. In early life he taught school for several terms. John P. McWilliams and wife had nine children: Alma, wife of Oliver Frederick, of Rice County, Kansas; Frank W.; William

H., who is unmarried and is employed by the Pullman Company of Chicago; Alta, wife of M. D. Brackney, of California; Walter P., of Idaho; Charles, of South Chicago; while the other children are now deceased.

Frank W. McWilliams spent part of his youth at Albion, and afterward returned to the home farm and attended the district school nearby. On October 6, 1881, he married Elzada Hines. She was born in Richland County, Ohio, and came to Noble County with her parents and received her education here.

Mr. and Mrs. McWilliams have two children. Mina M. is the wife of A. L. Budd, of Greene Township. Carlos P. is a graduate of the Albion High School and also attended the Tri-State College at Angola, Indiana. He now lives on the home farm. He married Helen Earnhart, and has two children, John C. and George H.

Frank W. McWilliams is a member of Albion Lodge No. 178, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and also belongs to the Eastern Star. He is a democrat and is a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank and a stockholder and director in the grist mill at Albion.

**ISAIAH SMITH** is a farmer both by inheritance and by choice, and has spent all his life on the old Smith homestead in Spencer Township, DeKalb County. His model country home is located three and a half miles southeast of Spencerville, close to the Allen County line.

Mr. Smith was born on that farm November 23, 1856, a son of Levi and Harriet (Robb) Smith. His father was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, February 22, 1828, a son of Peter and Elizabeth Smith, natives of Pennsylvania, and he grew up a farm boy and shoemaker's apprentice. In 1849 he married Harriet Robb, a native of Ohio, and daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Robb. In the same year he bought land in Portage County, Ohio, and in 1854 removed to DeKalb County, Indiana. He began here with eighty acres of partially improved land, and many years before his death was possessor of a highly improved farm of 320 acres, and possessed ample means for all his needs. He lived on the farm until his death in September, 1900. His wife passed away in April, 1904. They were members of the Methodist Church, and he was for a number of years a leading democrat in his section of the county. He was especially liberal in behalf of his church and always favored public improvements. He and his wife had two sons, Ira E. and Isaiah.

Isaiah Smith grew up on the home farm where he has always lived and had a common school education. In 1878 he married Eliza Sibert. They have two children, Samuel L., who is married and lives in Spencer Township, and Emery R., who lives in the same Township and is married. The mother of these sons died in 1887. June 17, 1888, Mr. Smith married Delilah Kinsley. She was born in Allen County, Indiana, March 12, 1861. To this union were born three children: Effie, born July 20, 1889, wife of James Stewart; Warren, born July 30, 1893, and still at home; Clara, born April 10, 1899. Mrs. Smith is an active member of the Methodist Church. Mr. Smith is a democrat. In addition to his inheritance of 160 acres of the old homestead he bought 150 acres more and has 310 acres under complete and successful operation for general farming and stock-raising.

**SAMUEL HOOK**, present trustee of Stafford Township, DeKalb County, is a farmer on the extreme eastern line of the county and has spent practically all his life in that one locality. His home is in section 16.



He was born there March 17, 1872, a son of Henry and Ursula (Strohl) Hook. Henry Hook was born in Germany, and was eleven years of age when brought to the United States by his parents, who settled in Summit County, Ohio, where his father spent the rest of his life. Henry Hook came to De Kalb County, Indiana, when a young man and after his marriage settled on land in Stafford Township. His first wife was Rachel Miller, who died in 1861. She was the mother of four children: Mary A., wife of John Zimmerman, of Defiance County, Ohio; John J., a prosperous farmer in Stafford Township; Amanda and Sarah, both deceased. Henry Hook married Ursula Strohl for his second wife. She is still living on the same farm with her son. By his second marriage there were seven children, five of whom are still living: William, of Defiance County; Ida, wife of Uri Murphy, in Allen County, Indiana; Irene, Samuel and Rosa. Henry Hook besides being a prosperous farmer was a leader in local affairs and at one time served as trustee of Stafford Township.

Samuel Hook grew up on the home farm and was educated in the district schools. He was a small child when his father died and when he became old enough he took charge of the homestead and at present owns 140 acres, but manages and cultivates 320 acres. This extensive property he uses for general farming and stockraising.

Mr. Hook has always been a democrat. He served four years as township assessor and on November 5, 1918, was elected township trustee. He had a majority of six votes over his opponent though the township is normally republican by about ten. He has also been active as a member of the County Central Committee of his party.

JOHN L. ANSPAUGH. It is the good, honest record of farmers and capable citizens that bring the Anspaugh family frequently into the annals of Steuben County. Several of the name have given good accounts of themselves, including Mr. John L. Anspaugh, who grew up in Steuben County and for a number of years has been one of the chief farmers in the Crooked Lake district of Pleasant Township.

He was born in Williams County, Ohio, September 5, 1860. His grandparents, Jacob and Barbara Anspaugh, were natives of Pennsylvania and settled in Stark County, Ohio, in 1808, and moved to Williams County in 1844, where Jacob Anspaugh died in October, 1857, and his wife in 1874. John Anspaugh, father of John L., was born in Stark County, Ohio, and married Sarah Ann Cain, who was born in Harrison County, Ohio, in 1830. John Anspaugh lived for several years in Williams County, Ohio, and in March, 1870, settled in section 5 of Richland Township, Steuben County, where he acquired a good farm and where he did his duties as a private citizen and a worthy member of the community for many years.

John L. Anspaugh, who was ten years old when the family came to Steuben County, finished his education in the district schools of Richland Township, and began farming in that township when a young man. In 1886 he moved to Pleasant Township and in 1892 became superintendent of the Steuben County Farm. He held that office until he had rounded out a term of twenty years and six months, and had made a record of administration entitled to the highest praise and commendation. He left the County Farm in 1912 and has since been identified with his own business interests in Pleasant Township. In 1915 he built the home where he now lives on the banks of Crooked Lake.

For about ten years he owned seven cottages at Pebble Beach on Crooked Lake, and they were in regular demand during the summer seasons by resorters. He sold this property March 15, 1919. Mr. Anspaugh now owns about 100 acres in Pleasant Township, in section 8, on the north branch of Crooked Lake. That is his home farm, and he also has 160 acres in section 31 of Millgrove Township.

All of this property represents the steady accumulation of years of hard work, thrifty management and successful farming.

September 5, 1885, he married Cora B. Richardson, daughter of Henry Richardson, a well known family of Pleasant Township spoken of more in detail on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Anspaugh have one son, Glenn E., who is a graduate of the Tri-State Normal College at Angola and is now looking after one of his father's farms.

DAVID W. EBERLY is a successful farmer and stockman in Swan Township of Noble County, and for years has been one of the public spirited citizens of that locality, having to his credit a most efficient administration as township trustee for six years.

He was born in Greene Township of Noble County January 1, 1863, son of David D. and Margaret (Kanagy) Eberly, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. After their marriage in Ohio they moved to Indiana and settled in Allen County, later in Whitley County, and from there came to Noble County, where they spent the rest of their days. Both were active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and the father was a republican voter. There were five children, three living; Susanna, wife of John Waterson; Zachariah and Ruanna, both deceased; Emma, wife of Eli Spear; and David W.

David W. Eberly grew up on the home farm, had a district school education, and lived at home to the age of twenty-one, but from the age of seventeen has been self-supporting and by industry and intelligent management has carved his own destiny without particular help from anyone.

He married Miss Dessie Krider. At the time of his marriage he had bought a small piece of land, and he took his bride to that farm and in that one locality has steadily worked toward better fortune and now owns one of the best farms in the township, comprising ninety-one acres devoted to general crops and livestock. Mr. and Mrs. Eberly have two children: Bertha, wife of Frank Fulk, of Swan Township, and Leslie, who is still at home.

The family are members of the Church of God, and Mr. Eberly is affiliated with Churubusco Lodge No. 37, Knights of Pythias, Churubusco Lodge No. 515, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is a member of the Eastern Star lodge of the same place. He is a stockholder in the Exchange Bank of Churubusco. He is keenly interested in local improvements and has served as superintendent of the county stone road, and his term as township trustee from 1908 to 1914 was signalized by many important services in behalf of the public schools and other matters entrusted to his official charge. Mr. Eberly is a republican in politics.

A. FRANK WILSON, a well-to-do farmer of Richland Township in Steuben County, has made the successive years of his active career count for steady progress towards better things and is regarded as one of the most useful members of his home community.

He was born in Otsego Township, on the old Wilson homestead, March 9, 1872, a son of Alexander G. and Mary Ann (Maxwell) Wilson. This

is one of the well known families of Steuben County. Mr. Wilson grew up on his father's farm, attended local schools, and spent the winter of 1893-94 in the Normal School at Angola. For a quarter of a century he has devoted his best efforts to farming. In 1899 he bought forty acres in Richland township and in 1902 he bought the farm of eighty acres on which he now lives. He sold his first forty acres in 1904. He has kept the improvements increasing as a measure of his prosperity. He remodeled the house in 1912 and has a fine barn that was built in 1910.

Mr. Wilson is a republican and served two years as assessor of Richland Township and for four years as a member of the advisory board. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church at Mount Pleasant.

October 30, 1895, he married Miss Mary E. Lint. She was born in Richland Township April 1, 1873, a daughter of John S. and Rebecca J. (Allomong) Lint. John S. Lint has long been a well known resident of Richland Township. He was born in Williams County, Ohio, September 15, 1845, son of Samuel and Elizabeth Lint, natives of Pennsylvania and Ohio. The Lint family settled in Williams county in 1841. John S. Lint and his brother William were both Ohio soldiers in the Civil war, enlisting in September, 1862. They served all through until the Grand Review at Washington, participating in the greatest battles of the Middle West and South, including the Atlanta campaign and the march to the sea. John S. Lint married Rebecca Allomong on August 1, 1869. She was born in Richland Township of Steuben County, March 6, 1847, a daughter of Joseph and Catherine Allomong. The Allomongs were pioneers in Steuben County. Joseph Allomong had the reputation of being the most corpulent man in Steuben County, but that did not interfere with his very successful business career. At one time he owned about 600 acres of land and many fine horses. He died October 11, 1889, and his wife on April 16, 1869. John S. Lint for half a century lived on a farm in section 20 of Richland Township. He and his wife had three children: Flora, wife of John Penrod, of Bryan, Ohio; Mary E.; and Martha, wife of Rev. S. L. Cunningham. Mr. and Mrs. Lint are members of the United Brethren Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have one son, Robert Burns. He was born October 23, 1900, and completed the eighth grade in school work in 1913. He attended high school at Eden, Ohio, graduating in 1918. He spent two summers in the Tri-State College and during the winter of 1918-19 was employed to teach the Alvarado School in Richland Township. He was given a teacher's license for two years and is employed to teach the Bethel School during the year of 1919-20.

OSCAR F. RAKESTRAW. Everyone in Steuben County knows Mr. Rakestraw as the veteran editor of the Steuben Republican. He has been continuously identified with that publication for over forty years and is one of the oldest newspaper men in Northern Indiana.

He was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, October 30, 1849, a son of Caleb and Elezan Rakestraw, who came to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1858. Oscar Rakestraw finished his education at Hillsdale College, Hillsdale, Michigan, and his first important business experience was as general agent for an insurance company of Hartford, Connecticut, working much of the time as general agent in New England. He followed that business for a few years, until 1877, when he entered the Steuben Republican office at Angola, and since then has been connected

with every phase of the business, most of the time as editor and proprietor.

He is, like his paper, republican in politics, is affiliated with the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, and for over forty years has been a member of the Christian Church at Angola. On June 10, 1879, at Angola, he married Melissa Cline, daughter of Michael and Barbara Cline. They have two daughters, Zanna and Dorothy. Dorothy is the wife of S. P. Hull, formerly of Baraboo, Wisconsin, and now living at Montgomery, Michigan. Zanna is organist at the Jefferson Theater in Fort Wayne.

ELI B. GRIFFIN. Food is the great necessity of the next few years and many of the patriotic and far-visioned men of the country, especially those who have had experience in farming, are returning to the soil, realizing that in cultivating it they will be rendering a valuable service to humanity. One of these men who are practically demonstrating their love of country is Rev. Eli B. Griffin of Pleasant Township, Steuben County, Indiana, a man already distinguished in the ministry of the United Brethren faith.

The birth of Eli B. Griffin took place on his present farm in Pleasant Township August 1, 1867. He is a son of Charles and Jane (McBride) Griffin, the former of whom was born in Steuben County, New York, January 12, 1834. The latter was born in Stark County, Ohio, October 6, 1839, a daughter of William McBride, a native of Ireland. The paternal grandparents, Eli and Eliza (Bundy) Griffin, were natives of New York State and Cayuga County, New York, respectively. They came west from New York to DeKalb County, Indiana, settling on a farm near Auburn.

Charles Griffin attended the schools of DeKalb County, and was engaged in agricultural pursuits until he was twenty-two years old, when he met with an accident which resulted in the loss of an arm. He was driving a team operating an old-fashioned threshing machine when it ran away, and so injured him that amputation resulted. It is a remarkable fact that although he was thus crippled he attained a wide reputation as an expert wood chopper. With the loss of his arm, however, he found it necessary to adopt some calling which would enable him to earn a living without too much physical effort, and he became a student at Wayne Seminary, where he prepared himself for teaching. At one time he was professor of mathematics at Fort Wayne, and always was an able instructor. With the salary paid him for teaching he bought and paid for a farm in DeKalb County, which he later sold and purchased a mercantile business at Sedan, Indiana, but in 1867 traded it for a farm in section 33, Pleasant Township, Steuben County. When he took possession of it the only building then standing was a log cabin, and only six acres of the land were cleared. Immediately he began improving the place, erecting suitable buildings and installing appliances, and here he spent the remainder of his life, at the time of his death owning 182 acres of land. He and his wife had the following children: Emma J., who died at the age of twenty years; John N.; Eli B., whose name heads this biography; Ida, who married Walter Ward; and Byron. The parents of these children were consistent members of the United Brethren Church.

Eli B. Griffin attended the public schools of his native township, and then took a three years' course at the Angola Tri-State College. A United Brethren by inheritance and inclination, Mr. Griffin entered the ministry of that church and continued to serve as such continuously until October, 1917. He



is now on an inactive leave for one year, and is making good use of his vacation by operating his fine farm of fifty-five acres. Mr. Griffin has been very active in his church, serving for twelve years as presiding elder of the Michigan Annual Conference of the United Brethren Church. For twenty successive years he has been elected as a member of the General Conference of the church.

On June 23, 1892, Mr. Griffin was united in marriage with Nettie May Dirrim, a daughter of Hugh W. Dirrim, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this volume. Mr. and Mrs. Griffin became the parents of the following children: Charles Wesley, who married Zana Oberst; Etta May, who married Clarence Munger; Elcie Fae, who married Paul Irvin; Wilhelmina Daisy; and Henry L. Mrs. Griffin died October 2, 1918, having been a devoted wife and mother and true Christian, and her loss is mourned by her many friends.

Mr. Griffin is a man who has always given bountifully of his gifts to his people, and has exerted a wonderful influence for good in his community. He is not one to be readily deceived in men or misled in measures, and so has naturally been chosen as a leader. His work has been carried on capably and effectively. Always accessible and sympathetic to those who seek his help, sincere and unselfish, he has always been an inspiration for activities of the best sort.

JAMES A. STEWART is proprietor of one of the good farms in Noble County. His home is near Laotto, where for a number of years a goodly tract of 115 acres has responded to his wise and intelligent methods of cultivation, and where he has gained prosperity sufficient for his own needs and at the same time has provided liberally for those dependent upon him.

Mr. Stewart was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, March 19, 1857, a son of John W. and Susanna (DeHoff) Stewart. His parents were natives of the same county and state. John W. Stewart was a son of Samuel Stewart and a grandson of Mathias Stewart, a native of Scotland who came to the United States and settled in Maryland. Samuel Stewart was born in Maryland, January 30, 1793, and was one of the pioneers to Columbiana County, Ohio, where he spent his life as a farmer and died in 1872. Samuel Stewart married Elizabeth Long, who was born June 10, 1790. John W. Stewart and wife came to Indiana and settled in Allen County, where he died. She died February 15, 1919. Both were active members of their church, and he was a democrat in politics, being quite radical in his beliefs. There were five children: Benjamin, of Holmes County, Ohio, who died May 20, 1919; James A.; David D., of Avilla, Indiana; Elizabeth, wife of Robert Teare; and Belle, wife of John Wilken.

James A. Stewart came to Allen County in 1884, and on December 20, 1884, married Miss Rittie DeHoff, of Noble County. She was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, January 19, 1855, a daughter of Anthony and Elizabeth (Hampshire) DeHoff. Anthony DeHoff was born in Columbiana County September 10, 1824, and died May 19, 1876. In 1862 he moved to Noble County, Indiana, locating in Swan Township, and cleared up a farm from the midst of the woods. Mrs. Stewart was reared in Swan Township and was educated in the common schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Stewart rented land for some years, and removed to their present farm in 1900. They have two children: W. Edward, born June 3, 1888, a graduate of the common schools and still at home, unmarried, and Alice H., wife of Virgil Harter of Swan Township.

The family are members of the United Brethren Church, and Mr. Stewart is one of the trustees and superintendent of the Sunday school. In politics he votes as a republican.

NOAH V. ZUMBRUN is one of the best known farmers and citizens of Green Township, Noble County, being proprietor of the Fairmount Farm, comprising 134 acres in section 29 in Green Township.

Mr. Zumbrun was born on a farm in Thorn Creek Township of Whitley County, Indiana, October 9, 1871, a son of Christian K. and Louisa J. (Ott) Zumbrun, the former a native of Montgomery county and the latter of Preble County, Ohio. Both were reared in Indiana, and after their marriage they moved to a farm in Whitley County, and for three years Christian Zumbrun was in the nursery business at Columbia City, Indiana. He then returned to a farm in Whitley County, lived there about six years, traded that property for a place in Thorn Creek Township, and finally moved to a farm in Noble County, where he lived until his death in 1916. His widow is still living. Christian Zumbrun was an active member and minister of the Church of the Brethren, and his long life was spent in industry and in honorable relations with every community where he lived. Of their ten children eight are still living: Noah V.; Charles W.; Jeremiah F.; Mary E., wife of Howard Harter, of Kosciusko County; Elsie, wife of Winfield Gaertie, of Noble County; Clara, wife of William Norris; Omer O., of Green Township; and Laura, widow of E. Frick, and living at home with her mother.

Noah V. Zumbrun grew up in Whitley and Noble counties and had the advantages of the common schools. He lived at home to the age of twenty-one. In 1893 he married Miss Della Anspaugh, a native of Whitley County. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Zumbrun lived on the old home farm one year and they then moved to another place in Noble County and were for fourteen years on one farm in Green Township. Selling that place, they moved to their present home, the Fairmount Farm, where they have found their ambitions as home owners and farmers thoroughly realized and have so provided that their future years are secure with every comfort. Mr. Zumbrun is a stockholder in the Albion Grist Mill.

He and his wife have four children: Wildah, a graduate of high school and now a teacher in the Merriam school of Noble Township; Hearl, a graduate of the common and high schools, was for one year in North Manchester College and is now a student at the I. B. C. at Fort Wayne; Obra and Loetta R. are the youngest of the family. The family are members of the Church of the Brethren, and Mr. Zumbrun is a republican.

CHRISTIAN M. BORINTRAGER has had the good fortune to call LaGrange County his home from birth to the present time, and his life's activities have been chiefly expressed through the business of farming, of which he has made a notable success. His home is in section 4 of Eden Township, where he was born February 5, 1884.

He is the ninth child in the family of eleven born to Manassas and Lydia (Yoder) Borintrager, early settlers in LaGrange County. The Borintrager family was established in the American colonies in 1767, and many generations have proved their useful citizenship and fidelity to the best interests of their communities.

Christian Borintrager grew up on the home farm in Eden Township, attended the district schools in winter and worked for his father in the summer.



February 9, 1905, he married Mary Ann Miller. She was born in Elkhart County December 6, 1882, a daughter of Joseph J. and Susana (Keim) Miller, the former a native of Holmes County, Ohio, and the latter of Eden Township, LaGrange County, Indiana. Joseph Miller came to LaGrange County and was married February 5, 1882, and is now living in Elkhart County. Mr. and Mrs. Borntrager have eighty acres of land in their farm, and both are active members of the Amish Mennonite Church. They had four children: Edna May, deceased; Ina, Elizabeth and Alice.

ADAM D. BOYER is a progressive and enterprising farmer. His farm home is in Salem Township, and he has spent all his life in Northeast Indiana, having come to Steuben from DeKalb County. Mr. Boyer is one of the pleasant gentlemen in Salem Township, is father of a fine family, and has worked hard to provide for them and meet his obligations as a citizen and member of a farm community.

Mr. Boyer was born in Smithfield Township, DeKalb County, October 20, 1866, a son of Balis H. and Susan (Oberlin) Boyer. His mother was a native of Franklin Township, DeKalb County, daughter of David Oberlin. Balis H. Boyer was born in Stark County, Ohio, a son of Adam and Rebecca (Houlten) Boyer. Adam Boyer was one of the early settlers of DeKalb County, and spent his active life as a farmer in that locality. His children were: Elmina, who married Andrew Dunkin; Balis; Mary Ann, wife of Royal Fisk; Irene, who married Archie Smith; and Ira, who died when eighteen years old.

Balis H. Boyer when a young man bought eighty acres of wild and uncleared land in Smithfield Township of DeKalb County. He had to clear away a place in which to erect his first log cabin, and all his children were born in a log house. Eventually he had good improvements and most of the land under cultivation. Finally this first farm was sold and he moved to another in Franklin Township, where he died eight years later, on June 1, 1907. His wife passed away April 6, 1897. Their children were: Warren J.; Mary Minnie, wife of Martin Smurr; Adam D.; and Francis M., who died on his eighteenth birthday.

Adam D. Boyer had the advantages of the district schools in his native township, and his first experiences as a farmer were in the same locality. He rented for two years and then bought forty-seven acres in Franklin Township of DeKalb County. In 1897 he traded this DeKalb County farm for the place he now owns in Salem Township. He has a larger farm, comprising 110 acres in section 20, has built a new barn, remodeled the house, and there is hardly a foot of the ground which is not under cultivation and put to some useful purpose. He keeps a good deal of grade livestock, and in his farm work now has the assistance of some of his children who are at home.

September 21, 1887, he married Blanche Conrad, daughter of Demn and Margaret (Linsey) Conrad. Mr. and Mrs. Boyer have nine children: Grace, Ralph, Bruce H., Ruth, Bertha B., Ruby, Naomi, Amy and Merritt. Grace is the wife of Carl Leas, had two children, Ross, dying in childhood, and the other being Marjorie. Ralph married Delphia Martin and has two children, Donald and Robert. Bruce H. served in the United States Marine Corps during the war, being stationed along the eastern coast. Ruth is the wife of Ora Bowerman and has a son, Keith Harold. Bertha B. is married to Harvey Wilson.

WILLIAM S. BRYAN of Swan Township, Noble County, is a young man upon whom enterprise has evidently set every mark of approval and commendation. He is one of the younger men in the agricultural field, alert to every opportunity, and has made a most satisfactory record of progress in the years that his career has been in full swing.

Mr. Bryan was born in Hancock County, Ohio, July 17, 1884, son of J. A. and Martha (Dice) Bryan. His father was born in Hancock County, Ohio, in 1850. His mother was born in Pennsylvania, and came to Ohio before her marriage. In 1893 J. A. Bryan brought his family to Indiana, and settled in Whitley County. The parents are now living in Churubusco, Indiana. He is a past master of the Knights of Pythias Lodge and is a republican in politics. There are six children in the family: Blanche, wife of Newton L. McGuire; Linne and Letta twins; Earl; George; and William S.

William S. Bryan was nine years old when his parents came to Indiana, and in Whitley County he completed his education in the common schools. He also had one year in high school. His active career on his own account began at the age of nineteen. At Erie, Pennsylvania, he learned the trade of stove plate molder, and worked at it three years. Returning to Indiana, he was a resident of Fort Wayne two years. He then married and settled on his present farm of 120 acres in Swan Township, where since then he has been working hard and has much to show for his labors. He raises Duroc hogs and the Leghorn poultry, and besides his farm interests is stockholder in a local nursery. Mr. Bryan is a republican voter. He and his wife have one son, Darwin R., born July 5, 1908, and now in the fifth grade of the public schools.

EDWARD M. KALB is one of the live and progressive citizens of Washington Township, and for a number of years has done much to contribute to the volume of agricultural production in Noble County. He has a splendid farm in sections 4 and 8, and while his individual ownership comprises eighty-one acres, he cultivates and handles altogether about 200 acres.

Mr. Kalb was born on the old Kalb homestead in Washington Township, March 31, 1872. He is a son of Peter and Sarah (Haning) Kalb. Peter Kalb, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1837, is still living in Noble County, one of the venerable and highly respected citizens. He and his wife had eight children: Amanda, wife of Sam Shoupe; Wesley, Steward and Mary, all deceased; Phoebe, wife of Adam Stump; Millie, wife of Marshall Draim; and Charles E. and Edward M., twins, the former now deceased.

Edward M. Kalb grew up on the old farm and made good use of the advantages supplied by the local district schools. After leaving home at the age of twenty-one he worked out for a year, and he and his twin brother then rented a farm and worked it together for three years.

March 23, 1898, Mr. Kalb married Lestie Schlabach. She was born in Sparta Township of Noble County in 1881, and is the daughter of Samuel Schlabach. Mr. and Mrs. Kalb have three children: Shirley L., born in 1901; Orris M., born in August, 1907; and Orpha E., born in July, 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Kalb also have two grandchildren.

The Kalb family are active members of the Christian Church. Mr. Kalb is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Kimmell and is a past grand of his lodge. He is also active in the republican party in his section of the county.





JOHN S. FRISKNEY AND FAMILY



JOHN S. FRISKNEY, one of the prominent farmers of Greene Township of Noble County, has long occupied an enviable position in local affairs, and his popularity and the confidence in his judgment has been such that he was able to overcome the normal democratic majority and is the second republican to hold the office of trustee in the township. He is now serving his second term.

Mr. Friskney was born in Ashland County, Ohio, March 3, 1862, son of John and Jemima (Jesson) Friskney. His father was a native of England, grew up and married there, and his first wife died in England. Later he came to the United States and settled in Richland County, Ohio, where he married his second wife and where he spent the rest of his years. He was a quiet, unassuming man, a devout Baptist, and faithful to all the duties and responsibilities of life. Of his eight children five are still living: Jemima, unmarried and a resident of Ohio; Allie, widow of Elias Carpenter; John S.; Thomas, a farmer in Whitley County, Indiana; and Elizabeth, wife of Daniel Lowe, of Ashland County, Ohio.

John S. Friskney grew up on his father's farm in Ashland County and received his education in the common schools. He came to Indiana in 1880 and in 1881 he married Mary M. Harlan, whom he had known from childhood. She was born in Ashland County, Ohio, February 24, 1855, and her parents moved to Indiana in 1865. Mr. and Mrs. Friskney started out with no capital, and by their own exertions have builded toward independence until they now have a well proportioned farm of 160 acres.

They are the parents of a family of five children: John Arthur, a farmer in Greene Township, married Vanice Smith. Bessie and Dessie are twins, the latter unmarried and living at home. Bessie, who like her sister is a graduate of the Albion High School, was a teacher until her marriage to Chauncey Baughman and they now live in Noble Township. Archie married Clara Ott. Frank R., the youngest, married Iva Sinderson.

The family are members of the Baptist Church and Mr. Friskney is a deacon and trustee, is a charter member of the church and has served in past years as superintendent of the Sunday school. He is a member of the Ancient Order of Gleaners. He has long been active in local affairs and was re-elected for a second term as trustee of Greene Township in 1918.

HENRY GURTNER, an honored veteran of the Civil war, has for half a century been a factor in the farming and community life of the vicinity of Hamilton, and is now enjoying a well earned retirement and the comforts gained by a life of industry. He was born in Crawford County, Ohio, February 14, 1845, a son of Peter and Sarah (Tiernans) Gurtner, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Stark County, Ohio. Peter Gurtner died in Ohio in 1853, when his son Henry was only eight years old. The widow and her family of three sons and two daughters came to Steuben County in 1855, and she spent her last days near Hudson.

Henry Gurtner grew up in Jackson Township, had a public school education, and in 1863, at the age of nineteen, enlisted in Company C of the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry. He saw some of the hard fighting and scouting service of the cavalry branch until the close of the war. In 1866 he and his father-in-law, David Cummings, bought the David Morgan farm of ninety acres, and he lived there about nine years. Selling his interests, he moved to DeKalb County and bought eighty acres, and successfully farmed it for about twenty-five years. He also

owned ten acres in DeKalb County near the railway depot at Hamilton, and he lived on that place for ten years. Since selling it he has bought a comfortable house and lot in Hamilton village.

Mr. Gurtner has always been a staunch republican and is a member of Griffith Post No. 648, Grand Army of the Republic, and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His wife is a Methodist.

In 1866 he married Sarah Cummings. Their five children were named Adelbert, Minnie, Ella May (wife of Warren Arnold, a merchant at Flint, Indiana), David and Harriet Elizabeth.

After the death of his first wife Mr. Gurtner married Joanna Clark. They had two daughters: Rena and Ina, the latter the wife of Professor Forney, superintendent of the Waterloo schools. For his third wife Mr. Gurtner married Mrs. Lucretia (Casper) Clark, of Hamilton.

PETER CROWL. Americans have been accused of being too unstable, too much inclined to go from one locality to another and experiment with different callings, thus wasting valuable time and making no permanent location. It is stated that such action tends to do away with a proper pride in one community, and destroys concerted co-operation. That such conditions do prevail with a few is true, but the great agricultural regions, especially in Indiana, give many instances of men who have spent their lives in the neighborhood in which they were born, and who have concentrated their efforts upon making themselves perfect in the business of farming. One of these men who is now living on the farm acquired by his father when he was but an infant, and on which he has spent practically all of his life, is Peter Crowl of Steuben Township, Steuben County.

Peter Crowl was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, June 9, 1863, a son of William and Nancy (Freed) Crowl. William Crowl was born in Virginia, but was brought to Ohio in his boyhood, and there he was reared and married to the daughter of Peter Freed, who was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, following which he began farming. In the fall of 1863 he brought his family to Steuben County, and for a year lived in Salem Township, but then bought a farm of 120 acres on section 4, Steuben Township, on which he spent the remainder of his life, dying in February, 1907, his wife having passed away in 1904. Their children were as follows: Lina, who married Addison Feifer; Peter, whose name heads this review; Ida, who married William Ensley; Cora, who died at the age of nine years; and Edward, deceased.

Peter Crowl attended the public schools of his district, and has always been engaged in conducting his present farm, first for his father and later on his own account. He has 120 acres of exceedingly valuable land, on which he carries on general farming and stockraising, and as he understands his business thoroughly he has been deservedly successful in his operations.

On December 25, 1887, Mr. Crowl was united in marriage with Cora Wolf, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Menges) Wolf. Mr. and Mrs. Crowl have one son living and one deceased. Glenn, who, after being graduated from the Pleasant Lake High School, attended Angola Tri-State College one year, and then began teaching school. After two years' experience in the educational field he returned to the farm, and is occupied in working with his father. He was married to Minnie Sturgis, and they have a son, Richard L. Peter Crowl and his son are rightly numbered among the good, substantial farmers of Steuben County, who are doing their part

in maintaining the agricultural supremacy of this region.

CHARLES W. SLOFFER, owner and proprietor of a well improved farm in Swan Township of Noble County, started his career as a renter and has used his opportunities to such good purpose that he now possesses an enviable prosperity and is one of the influential men of his community.

He was born in Eel River Township of Allen County, Indiana, December 7, 1862, son of William and Rebecca (Miller) Sloffer, the former a native of New York State and the latter of Ohio. Their respective families came to Indiana in early days and located in Allen County. William Sloffer and wife were married in that county, and were farmers there the rest of their lives.

Charles W. Sloffer grew up on a farm two miles east of where he now lives in Allen County, and received his education from the district schools. On October 21, 1886, he married Miss Edith Bowman. She is a native of Noble County and received her education in the common schools there.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Sloffer rented land for several years, and then bought the eighty-six acres in the present home farm. They have done much to improve this, and conduct it as a general farm and stock proposition.

They have two children: Glenn, a graduate of the common schools and a teacher in Swan Township; and Leah, who was born November 12, 1896, and is a graduate of the Laotto High School.

Mr. and Mrs. Sloffer are members of the Church of God, and he is one of the church trustees. He is affiliated with Churubusco Lodge of Masons and in politics is a republican.

CHARLES S. McLOUTH. The place he owns, the extent of his acreage, its improvement and general management indicates that Charles S. McLouth is one of the leading farmers of Steuben County. His home is in Clear Lake Township, and he is today cultivating the same land which his father cultivated when the son was born.

Mr. McLouth was born November 24, 1864, and is a son of Benjamin Mason and Sophia (Duguid) McLouth and a grandson of Benjamin and Patience P. (Ashley) McLouth. His grandparents were both natives of Massachusetts. Benjamin McLouth, who was born in 1806, came to Clear Lake Township of Steuben County in 1854. He had lived for ten years in New York State. He was a good business man, a man of high principles, and besides managing his property he gave much of his time to the work of the Baptist ministry. He had preached for several years in New York State, and after coming to Indiana he continued preaching as a member of the Baptist Church. In Clear Lake Township he acquired 480 acres of land and lived on the farm and supervised its management in connection with his ministerial engagements. The last two years of his life were spent in Branch County, Michigan, where he died in 1868. His children were Mary, Benjamin, Adelia, Ellen, Jennie and Wilbur.

Benjamin Mason McLouth, who was born in Massachusetts, was partly reared and attended schools in New York State, took up the work of the farm in Steuben County in early manhood, and continued farming where his son Charles now lives until 1876. He then retired, moved to Ray, Indiana, and during the rest of his life was devoted to the ministry of the Baptist Church. For two years he had a circuit, and after that did local preaching. The death of this honored old time minister and farmer occurred September 5, 1912. His widow, who is still living, was born in Fremont Township of

Steuben County, a daughter of John and Ellen (Stewart) Duguid. She was the mother of eight children: Elmer E., Luella, Charles S., John A., Arthur, Edith, George and Edna. Only three are now living, Charles S., John and Edna. Luella died in 1918 and the rest in early childhood.

Charles S. McLouth as a boy attended the district schools of his native township, also attended school at Fremont and for three years was a student in the college at Hillsdale, Michigan. He was a member of the Phi Delta Theta college fraternity. On completing his education Mr. McLouth spent six years as a farmer in Branch County, Michigan, taught school three years, was a salesman of agricultural machinery in Steuben County for about seven years, and in 1905 moved to Fremont in order to give his children the advantages of better schools. In the spring of 1912 Mr. McLouth moved to a farm on the line between Fremont and Clear Lake Township, and from there in the spring of 1919 moved to the farm where he was born. Besides his holdings in this county he owns 500 acres of land in Mississippi.

Mr. McLouth married Anna Vance, September 24, 1891. She is a daughter of Alexander and Mary (Barnhill) Vance. They have four children, Lisle, Ruth, Donald and Janet. The daughter Ruth is the wife of J. O. Hochstedler. The son Donald enlisted in the United States Navy July 6, 1918. He was still in service in the early summer of 1919. His first duty was on the battleship New Jersey, with which he made one voyage to Europe. Since then he has been with the Liberator, and on that vessel made three trips to Europe.

JOHN H. STRONG. In view of the fact that this country has today so many young men just, or about to be, discharged from the army, it is interesting to note that the majority of the soldiers of the Civil war, after their return to civil life, developed into prosperous business men, giving their government just as efficient service as private citizens as they did during the dark days of the war. The strict discipline and rigorous training of army life brings into being qualities which make for the best type of citizenship, and for some decades past the people of every community have been proud of their old soldiers. One of these veterans of the conflict between the states, now living in retirement at Pleasant Lake, Indiana, is John H. Strong, who after a gallant service as a soldier for many years carried on an extensive contracting and building business at Pleasant Lake.

John H. Strong was born at Fort Wayne, Indiana, April 3, 1843, a son of Henry and Angeline Strong. Henry Strong was born in Holland April 5, 1812, and died in 1896, his wife having passed away in 1857. He brought his wife to the United States in 1838, and after some months in New York City came west as far as Fort Wayne, Indiana, where he spent the remainder of his life, being engaged in business as a shoe merchant. He and his wife had the following children: Clara, William, Henry, Lena, John H. and Louisa, all of whom are now deceased except John H. Strong.

Until he was eighteen years old John H. Strong attended the public schools of Fort Wayne, Indiana, but at that time he enlisted as a private, on August 28, 1861, in Company C, Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry for service during the Civil war, and was honorably discharged January 3, 1864. During this period of service he participated in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Perrysville, Stone River, Chickamauga and many skirmishes, and had the remarkable record of not only never being wounded



but also of keeping in such excellent health that it was not necessary to administer to him a single dose of medicine. There are few of the soldier boys of today who can truthfully say the same thing. His gallantry in action earned him successive promotions and he was discharged as a second lieutenant.

Following his discharge Mr. Strong returned to Fort Wayne, where he worked as a carpenter, but the confines of the old home town did not offer him the opportunities his ambition sought and in 1877 he moved to Pleasant Lake, where he has since remained, growing with the place and expanding into a contractor and builder. Some of the most important contracts have been executed by him. It has been characteristic of him that he not only lived up to the letter of these contracts, but the spirit as well. For forty years he has lived in the same house, to which he is deeply attached.

In 1864, after his return from the war, Mr. Strong was united in marriage with Elizabeth A. Bower, a daughter of John and Mary Bower, and they had the following children: William F.; Edward and Harry, both of whom died in childhood; Lillie, who was married June 30, 1903, to Worthy E. Tuttle; and Claude, who died at the age of eleven years. Mrs. Strong died April 18, 1915, having been a devoted wife and mother and a kind neighbor, and she was deeply mourned by all who had the pleasure of her acquaintance. Mr. Strong is a devout member of the Lutheran Church, to which he gives generous support. Having lived at Pleasant Lake for forty-two years, he is one of its oldest residents, and has seen many interesting and important changes, in some of which he has taken an important part. Never caring for public life, he has not sought political honors, but has always been willing and ready to render aid in forwarding any movement which in his estimation would work out for the benefit of his community and the betterment of its people.

GUY W. SANDERS, whose active career has identified him with Pleasant Township in Steuben County, where he owns one of the well improved farms, was at birth an interesting factor in the life and affairs of the little community of Steubenville in Glenn Township. On March 29, 1874, when he came into the world, he was hailed as the first boy born in the village.

His father was William Henry Sanders, a son of Samuel Sanders. William Henry was born December 26, 1847, and died December 20, 1917. He was an early merchant in the hardware business at Wolcottville and Hudson, Indiana, and on selling his store moved to a farm near Angola and followed agriculture until he retired in 1915. He married Loretta Wickwire, daughter of George W. and Loretta (Lemmon) Wickwire.

Guy W. Sanders, oldest of his father's children, attended district schools in Pleasant Township, also the Angola High School, and took a commercial course in the Tri-State Normal College. His career as an agriculturist began on a rented farm in Pleasant Township, and in 1907 he bought his present place of 162 acres, part of which lies in section 17, though the building improvements are in section 16. Mr. Sanders has worked not only to the end of producing good crops and getting the most profit out of his soil, but also to give his farm permanent improvement and increased value from year to year. He has repaired the buildings, and the farm stands as one of the good ones in that locality. He does general farming and stock raising, is a breeder of blooded Duroc Jersey hogs, and is one of the largest stock feeders in the county.

Mr. Sanders married March 10, 1897, Jennie Smiley, a daughter of George and Catherine Smiley. Mrs. Sanders taught school in the district schools of Steuben County for about seven years before her marriage. She was educated in the public schools of Steuben County and in the Tri-State Normal. Mr. and Mrs. Sanders have two children, Mark C. and Hugh George. Mr. Sanders is a Knight Templar Mason, a trustee of the Knights of Pythias Lodge, and Mrs. Sanders is worthy matron of the Eastern Star Chapter at Angola. Both are members of the Christian Church.

CARY R. FRISBEY. It is difficult to estimate and value properly the life and character of such a man as Cary R. Frisbey of Clay Township, LaGrange County. He is the type of man to whom his fellow citizens give honors and responsibilities gladly. Everyone knows where and how he stands, and that he could be relied upon. Mr. Frisbey and his good wife have lived on one farm for over half a century, and that long residence is of itself characteristic of the solid and enduring qualities of this honored couple.

Mr. Frisbey was born in Morgan County, Ohio, February 2, 1836, but has lived in LaGrange County since early youth. His grandparents were William and Ruth Frisbey. His father, John Frisbey, was born in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, and in June, 1817, married Mary A. Van Clief, a native of Washington County, Ohio, and a daughter of Peter Van Clief. John Frisbey brought his family to LaGrange County in 1844, spent a year in Clay Township, was then in Lima Township until 1855, in which year he returned to Clay Township, and was there until his death on November 1, 1858. He and his wife had a family of ten children: James, Jane, Daniel, Ephraim, Peter, Mary Ann, Ruth, Cary, Sarah and John.

Cary R. Frisbey was eight years old when his parents came to LaGrange County. He attended his first school at Chester Hill, Ohio, and later attended the district schools of Lima township. He finished his education in the Ontario Collegiate Institute in Indiana.

September 30, 1861, Mr. Frisbey enlisted in Company H, of the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry. On July 17, 1862, he was mustered out on account of disability. In the meantime he had been a part of General Grant's army in the capture of Fort Donelson. On September 30, 1864, he re-enlisted in Company D of the One Hundred Forty-Second Infantry of Indiana, and remained until the close of hostilities. During the battle of Nashville his regiment formed a part of the reserves.

After the war Mr. Frisbey at once entered upon a busy career, one productive of much service to his community. He taught public school for fifteen winters and for over forty years was a veteran singing master, being a leader in many singing schools. On April 2, 1864, he married his first wife, Julia Osborn, who died September 22, 1864. On October 27, 1867, he married Elizabeth Boyd, daughter of James and Catherine (Engle) Boyd. They moved to their farm in 1868, and probably no couple in Clay Township had lived longer in one home and one locality.

For a period of forty-eight years Mr. Frisbey has been a writer of the local news for Clay Township, and probably knows the history and the people of that community better than any other man. He served as deputy county treasurer under Treasurers Hoff, Preston, Anderson, Halbert, McCally and Musser, altogether a period of twenty-four years. He was county coroner by election and appointment four years; jury commissioner one year;



was census enumerator in 1890; spent thirty-five days on a jury; was justice of the peace for Clay Township by appointment and election for seven years, and re-elected for another four year term; served as township assessor two years; was deputy real estate appraiser under Lampman and Schermerhorn two years; has been superintendent of the Ridge, Pointer and Clay Sunday schools for fifteen years; was deacon of his church three years and township president of the Sunday School Association twenty-nine years. He has been a popular member of the Grand Army of the Republic and has attended both the State and National Encampments. He has had some active relations with practically everything that has taken place in his township for the past half century.

Mr. and Mrs. Frisbey had three children: Erie S., who married Olive Crowl and has two children, Roger and Audrey; Minnie May, who married Edward Pyle and has three children, Beth, Juanita and Edith; and Frances, wife of Henry Frank, and mother of a daughter, Phyllis. Mr. and Mrs. Frisbey celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1917.

James Boyd, father of Mrs. Frisbey, was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, in 1801. His wife, Catherine Engle, was a native of the same county. This family moved to Noble County, Indiana, in 1842, living near Wawaka, and in 1855 established their home in Clay Township of LaGrange County, where they spent the rest of their lives. James Boyd died in 1877. He was the father of a numerous family of seventeen children, their names in order of birth being Delilah, Eston, Arion, Harrison, Edward, John, Charles, Elizabeth, James, Mary, Peter, Jacob, Douglas, Urias, Samuel, Daniel and Corinda.

MOSES P. MILLER is a LaGrange County citizen whose part has been played laboriously and efficiently in agricultural affairs. He has lived here for half a century, has endured the vicissitudes as well as the fortune of this long period of time, and is still able to take his part in management and farm work at his home place in Clay Township.

Mr. Miller was born in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, July 28, 1845, a son of Joseph D. and Nancy (Yoder) Miller. His grandparents were Daniel and Mary (Mast) Miller. Joseph D. Miller and wife were both natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, the latter being the daughter of Yost Yoder. Joseph D. Miller was a Pennsylvania farmer until 1857, when he went to Eden Township, LaGrange County, Indiana. Here he farmed until 1871, when he moved to Hickory County, Missouri, and lived there until 1873. He and his wife had the following children: Daniel, Frances, Moses P., Elizabeth, Jacob, Nancy and Samuel.

Moses P. Miller was twelve years old when brought to LaGrange County, and he finished his education here in the public schools. For three years of his early manhood he farmed in Newbury Township and in 1860 sought a new home in Hickory County, Missouri. He remained there three years, but in 1872 returned to Eden Township, was there four years, and in 1876 moved to his present farm in section 3, Clay Township. He owns 108 acres, has gathered crops from the land for forty years, and practically all the good buildings represents his investment and labor.

In 1865 Mr. Miller married Eva Hostetler, a daughter of Moses J. Hostetler. To their marriage were born a family of eleven children, noted briefly as follows: Betsey Anna, who died September 4, 1896; Josiah; Nancy M., who died June 16, 1898;

Moses M.; Uriah M.; Polly E., who died December 4, 1903; Fannie Jane, who died January 30, 1896; Minnie May, who died March 3, 1903; Eva Adaline; Samuel, who died March 3, 1919; and Katie, who died in 1903. Mr. Miller is a member of the Menonite Church.

Samuel Miller, a son of Moses P. Miller, married Katie Bontrager. After his marriage he lived at home and farmed the old place for his father until his death. Since then his widow and her children have remained with Moses P. Miller and have carried on the operations of the home farm. Samuel and Katie Miller had seven children, named Fayma Irene, Maud Adaline, Martha Lydia, who died July 21, 1912, Freeman, Oscar Moses, Orpha Catherine, who died January 8, 1918, and Mary Elizabeth.

SAMUEL F. LONEY came to man's estate thirty-five years ago and since then has made many changes in his circumstances and every change for the better. He started farming with very little capital and very little land, and now owns one of the most complete and best adapted farms in Pleasant Township of Steuben County.

Mr. Loney was born in Pleasant Township March 4, 1862, a son of Hugh and Mary (Freighley) Loney, of an old and well known family of Steuben County. He grew up on his father's farm and soon after leaving public schools went to work as a farm hand. In fact he was only fifteen years old when he earned his first wages, \$8 a month. He continued in this way for several years, later started farming on his own account, and bought his first place of sixty-four acres in Otsego Township. He sold that, bought another farm of eighty acres in the same township, and after holding it four years came to his present place in Pleasant Township in February, 1918. Mr. Loney's farm comprises 130 acres with good improvements, and is only three miles from Angola, the county seat. All the property he has represents his individual work and good management spread over a number of years.

Mr. Loney is a democrat and has never asked for a political office.

March 20, 1890, he married Miss Mary Jane Hutchins, member of the well known and prominent Hutchins family of Steuben County. She was born in Scott Township June 26, 1866, a daughter of John Riley and Waty Ann (Sowle) Hutchins. Her father was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, in 1832, and her mother was born in the same state in 1834. Her mother was a daughter of Joseph T. and Mary (Brown) Sowle, the Sowle family having furnished several pioneer settlers to Steuben County. Mrs. Loney was one of five children: Joseph, deceased; John R.; Mary Jane; Cora Dell, deceased; and Fred.

Mr. and Mrs. Loney had two children: Montgomery G. died January 18, 1904. Ethel May, born March 24, 1895, is the wife of Jay Bollinger and has two children, Opal Ilene, born June 22, 1916, and Donald S., born July 22, 1918.

Mrs. Loney has a nephew, Lewis Hutchins, son of her brother John Hutchins and wife, Lottie V. Hutchins, who enlisted at Toledo while serving as a brakeman with the New York Central line and joined the noted Railroad Engineers' Division. He went into the service in April, 1918, and after some training at Camp Laurel, Maryland, was sent overseas in June and had some of the interesting experience of the Railroad Engineers' Division, which made a splendid record and introduced some of the efficiency of American railroad management into the handling of transportation facilities in France.

**EDWARD G. CRAIN.** For over sixty-five years one farm in Otsego Township has responded to the labors and care of the Crain family, and most of the land contained in it has probably produced at least sixty crops. The present possessor, Edward G. Crain, son of the late Lucius H. Crain, settled on the land in 1853.

The Crain family has a long and honorable record in American history. Edward Crain's great-grandfather, Elijah Crain, was a Revolutionary soldier and was a participant in the battle of Bunker Hill. He died in Chautauqua County, New York, in 1848, in the ninety-ninth year of his age. The grandparents of Mr. Crain were Lucius and Paulina (Frink) Crain. The former visited Steuben County, Indiana, as early as 1836, when most of the land was a wilderness and still owned by the Government. He bought part of section 36 in Steuben Township and in September, 1837, moved his family there. The following year they returned to New York and settled permanently in Steuben County in 1840. Lucius Crain died August 31, 1848.

Lucius H. Crain was born at Eden in Madison County, New York, June 6, 1827, and was thirteen years old when the family settled permanently in Steuben County. On January 29, 1851, he married Nellie Aldrich, who was born in Vermont in 1830, a daughter of Isaac T. and Lovina Aldrich. Her parents settled in DeKalb County, Indiana, in 1837. For a brief time after his marriage Lucius H. Crain lived in DeKalb County and in 1853 he settled on a tract of wild land in section 31 of Otsego Township. He built a log house in the midst of the timber and began clearing around it, and in course of years had eighty acres cleared and the greater part under cultivation. He was one of the good farmers and good citizens of that locality and lived there until his death in 1912. His wife died in 1904. He was reared in the United Brethren Church and his wife was a Methodist, and in politics he was a democrat. Lucius H. Crain and wife had four children, Jane, who died at the age of eleven years, Charles T., Mary P. and Edward G.

Edward G. Crain was born on the farm where he now resides in Otsego Township June 15, 1873. He attended district schools and for a number of years was working with his father and since 1898 has been farming for himself on the old homestead. He has increased its area to about ninety-nine acres and devotes his land to general agriculture. Mr. Crain is a member of the Methodist Church. In 1904 he married Pearl Harris, daughter of James and Mary (Zedekar) Harris. Two children were born to their marriage, Charles Clair and Ivan Carl.

**ABRAHAM A. YODER.** One of the substantial farmers and a very highly respected citizen of Clay Township, LaGrange County, is Abraham A. Yoder, who belongs to an old family of this section that has lived and prospered in this county for over seventy years. Mr. Yoder was born in Newbury Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, July 16, 1871.

The parents of Mr. Yoder were Aaron T. and Magdalena (Kauffman) Yoder. The father was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, February 12, 1845, a son of Tobias C. and Maria (Swartsen-tooker) Yoder, who came to Newbury Township, LaGrange County, in 1847, bought 160 acres of land and added forty acres, and a part of this old farm is yet in the family. The mother of Abraham A. Yoder was born April 14, 1848, and died April 16, 1907, survived by the father until January 21, 1908. The maternal grandparents were John J. and Katherine (Miller) Kauffman, who were pioneers in Newbury Township. The grandfather operated a

sawmill until he removed to Douglas County, Illinois, but later returned to Newbury Township and died there, the grandmother dying in Elkhart County.

Aaron T. Yoder remained on his father's farm and was a farmer all his life, owning 440 acres of well developed land. Both he and his wife belonged to the Amish Church. They had the following children: Rudolph, born April 17, 1867; John, born June 1, 1868; Barbara, born November 27, 1869; Abraham A.; Daniel, born February 17, 1873, died January 4, 1875; Peter, born August 20, 1874; Amos, born December 6, 1876, living on the old home farm; Aaron, born April 17, 1879; and Tobias, born January 6, 1882.

Abraham A. Yoder had country school advantages and grew up on the home farm with his brothers and sisters. His father was a man of practical good sense, one who trained his sons to be industrious and useful. In 1894, when Mr. Yoder came to his present farm, he found himself well qualified to operate it economically and profitably, and is considered one of the most successful general farmers and stockraisers in Clay Township. In 1904 he bought the farm in Clay Township and has made all the improvements on the place and erected all the buildings except the barn. Mr. Yoder has always taken great interest in his work as a farmer, and his undertakings have usually turned out satisfactorily.

On January 15, 1893, Abraham A. Yoder was married to Miss Lydia Miller, a daughter of Isaac D. and Mary (Hostitler) Miller, who still survive and reside with Mr. and Mrs. Yoder. The latter have the following children: Amos, born October 7, 1893, died July 8, 1912; Martha, born December 20, 1894; Mary, born August 30, 1896; Ezra, born May 28, 1898; Joseph, born June 27, 1900; Katie, born April 12, 1902, died November 9, 1918; William, born February 17, 1904; Susie, born January 7, 1906; Polly, born February 16, 1908; Tobias, born April 2, 1910; Amelia, born February 18, 1912, died September 13, 1912; and Lydia, born September 7, 1913. Mr. Yoder and his family all belong to the Amish Mennonite Church, and follow the quiet peaceful teachings of this faith.

**MARION A. OBERST** is proprietor of a valuable and productive farm in Clear Lake Township of Steuben County. He has spent practically all his life in that county and represents several family names that have had much to do with the development of the county from pioneer times.

He was born in York Township, January 17, 1865. His father, Christopher Oberst, who was born in Ottawa County, Ohio, August 26, 1841, died July 10, 1919. His parents, John and Barbara Oberst, were natives of Germany and came to America about 1830, living for three years at Rochester, New York, and then moving to Ottawa County, Ohio, where Barbara Oberst died in 1856 and her husband in 1877. Christopher Oberst was the youngest of eight children, and he grew up and received his education in Ottawa County. He was honored among other things for his record as a soldier in the Civil war. He enlisted in 1861 in Company A of the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry, and was in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River and Chickamauga. He was wounded at Chickamauga in September, 1863, lay on the battlefield ten days and fell into the hands of the enemy. After his parole he was sent to a hospital and did not rejoin his command until May, 1864. After being mustered out of the army in November, 1864, he came to Steuben County and bought a farm in Clear Lake Township and was identified with that community for over half a century. On September 3, 1861,



Christopher Oberst married Mary M. Lord. Her parents, Henry A. and Catherine (Flora) Lord, came to Steuben County in 1789 and were early settlers in Clear Lake Township. Mrs. Mary Oberst died in April, 1901. On March 30, 1903, Mr. Oberst married Mrs. Elvira Fletcher, widow of Milton Fletcher. She still makes her home on the farm in Clear Lake Township. Christopher Oberst by his first marriage had two sons, Marion A. and George A. George A. Oberst, who died September 16, 1914, married Linnie McElhenie.

Marion A. Oberst acquired his education in the district schools and worked on the farm with his father for a number of years. In 1886 he married Miss Addie Laughlin, daughter of Robert and Kate Laughlin. Since his marriage he has given his time to farming, and for over thirty years has lived in sections 31 and 32 of Clear Lake Township, where he has 102 acres, the buildings and other improvements representing his personal labor and investment.

Mr. and Mrs. Oberst had two children: Zana and Walter Keith, the latter still at home. Zana is the wife of Charles Griffin, and three children were born to their marriage, Marvin, Thelma and Velma, the last two, twins. Marvin and Thelma are now deceased.

Robert Laughlin, father of Mrs. Oberst, was for many years a farmer in Camden Township of Hillsdale County, Michigan. He died September 25, 1905, and is survived by his widow. They had four children: Addie, Mabel, who died at the age of five years, Earl and Pearl, twins, the latter the wife of O. V. McFadden.

THEODORE McNAUGHTON, who for many years has been prominent as a banker, grain merchant and farmer in the Ray community of Steuben County, is a member of a family that has been in Steuben County for over fifty years.

Mr. McNaughton was born in Fremont Township February 13, 1854, son of Joseph and Jeanette (Duguid) McNaughton. His father was a native of New York State, while his mother was born in Steuben County, a daughter of James and Eleanor (Jones) Duguid. Joseph McNaughton was a farmer in Fremont Township from early manhood until his death. He owned eighty acres there. By his first wife he had five children, Theodore, Louisa, John B. (who died in childhood), Eleanore and Robert. Later he married Mrs. Robert Duguid, and by that marriage had four children, French, Leslie, James and Nettie.

Theodore McNaughton acquired his education in the district schools of Fremont Township and acquired his early knowledge of farming in the same locality. At the age of twenty-five he bought eighty acres in California Township of Branch County, Michigan, and spent four years in that country community. After selling his Michigan property he bought his present farm of eighty acres in section 13. He has sold off portions of this land until he now retains only about fifty acres.

He still makes his home on his farm, though for thirty-one years he has operated the elevator at Ray, part of this time in partnership with his brother Robert. About 1904 Mr. McNaughton was instrumental in establishing the Ray Bank, and has been president and directing head of that sound financial institution ever since.

In 1877 he married Edith Fulton, a daughter of J. R. and Ellen (Reynolds) Fulton. Five children have come into their home: Earl, who married Pearl Ford; Ruth, who died March 4, 1919; Foye, who

married Cecille McMillin; Dean, who died in 1912; and Miriam.

ROBERT C. McNAUGHTON is one of the oldest business men of the village of Ray in Fremont Township. Associated with other members of the McNaughton family, who were prominently identified with the pioneer settlement of this section of Steuben County, he had been a grain merchant and dealer for a quarter of a century or more.

Mr. McNaughton was born in Fremont Township November 17, 1865, a son of Joseph and Jeanette (Duguid) McNaughton. His father was born in New York State in 1830, a son of Alexander McNaughton, and of Scotch and Irish ancestry. The McNaughton family came to Steuben County in 1836 and were among the first settlers of Fremont Township. They were prominent in the early organization of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in that section of the county.

Robert McNaughton, who was one of the four children of his father's first marriage, grew up on the home farm, attended the district schools and the high school at Fremont. As a young man he did farming and has owned several different farms in the county. About 1890 he engaged in the grain business with his brother Theodore. Since 1905 he has been associated with his half brother, Leslie, in the lumber business at Ray. Mr. McNaughton is independent in politics, was reared in the Reformed Presbyterian Church but he and his wife are now members of the Methodist denomination.

In March, 1899, he married Miss Elnora Griffin, a daughter of Edward and Mary (Magnus) Griffin, a well known old-time family of Steuben County. Her father is still living. Mr. and Mrs. McNaughton have four children: Brock Waldo, born March 27, 1900, a graduate of the Fremont High School, now in the sophomore class of DePauw University; Geraldine Pearl, born in 1904, a sophomore in high school; Rosamond Fern, born in March, 1905; and Frederick Lavern, born in March, 1916.

HOMER WATKINS. There is one farm in Otsego Township, Steuben County, that has been continuously occupied by its owner, Homer Watkins, for over forty years. Mr. Watkins is a successful man in the agricultural field, and is also widely known to many appreciative patrons as owner and proprietor of one of the most attractive summer resorts in Steuben County.

He was born in Richland Township of Steuben County June 23, 1855, a son of Simpson Watkins. Simpson Watkins was born in New York State and was a pioneer in Northeast Indiana, coming to Steuben County in 1836 and entering a tract of land in Richland Township. In 1840 he brought his family west and settled permanently on his farm. In 1870 he moved to Otsego Township, and after some years of residence in Michigan spent his last days in Otsego, where he died December 23, 1901. Simpson Watkins married Adelia Thompson, and they reared a large family of children. Some further references to the Watkins family are made on other pages of this publication.

Mr. Homer Watkins grew up on the home farm in Richland Township, attended the district schools, and worked for his father. He has lived in section 14 of Otsego Township since 1871. For many years he has owned a good farm of ninety-six acres, has developed the land, constructed good buildings, and carries on a large business as a general farmer and stock raiser. Mr. Watkins entered the resort business in 1897 when he built a hotel on Fish Lake.







CHRIS CHRISTENSEN AND FAMILY

Every season it has enjoyed a large patronage and in 1913 it was necessary to construct an addition to the hotel. This is known as the Cold Springs Resort, and is located on the Watkins farm two miles north of Hamilton.

Mr. Watkins is a member of the Masonic Order. August 28, 1880, he married Emily Haughey, daughter of Timothy Haughey. The Haughey family has long been a part of the history of Steuben County and many of its members have intermarried with other well-known families. Frequent references to the name appear on these pages. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins have four children: Josie, wife of Charles Chard; Roscoe, who married Georgia Todd and has three children, named Lyle, Marjorie and Robert; Odie, a school teacher at Boyne City, Michigan; and Harold.

**CHRIS CHRISTENSEN.** A native of Denmark, and with all the sturdy characteristics of the Danes, Chris Christensen is an example of a man of foreign birth who came to the United States without means and with no knowledge of American traditions, and by hard work and good management has achieved a prosperity such as few native born Americans surpass. He is one of the leading farmers and stock raisers in Swan Township, near Laotto, Indiana.

Mr. Christensen was born in Denmark, May 12, 1862, son of Jesse and Margaret (Bodter) Christensen. His parents spent all their lives in Denmark. They had seven sons, six of whom are still living. Two of these sons were compelled to give their services to Germany during the great World war. Their names are Hans and Peter. The other four are residents of the United States. Nels is in Montana, Christian, in Illinois, and Christopher is also in this country.

Chris Christensen spent the first nineteen years of his life in Denmark and was educated in the Danish schools. In April, 1882, he landed at New York City and soon went to Petersburg, Illinois. He reached there with only \$2.00, and owed \$50 for his passage money. He was soon working as a farm hand in Illinois for \$10 a month, putting in fourteen to sixteen hours a day of hard labor and he kept that up for several years, gradually getting some capital and acquiring a working experience of American farming conditions.

Mr. Christensen married Anna Hansen, also a native of Denmark. She came to the United States in 1894. For several years Mr. Christensen was a renter and in 1909 he came to Noble County and moved to his farm on March 1, 1910. He went in debt \$7,400 for 160 acres of land, but has paid that and has also made a good living, chiefly by raising hogs and cattle. He sold forty acres of his farm in 1918.

He and his wife had four sons: Elmer, Harvey, Walter and Cicero. The family are members of the Lutheran Church and he is a republican in politics. Mr. Christensen acquired his second citizenship papers March 1, 1890, and is one of the most thoroughly loyal Americans in Noble County.

**MIL0 H. ROWAN.** Of such great importance are the agricultural interests of the United States at the present time that people not only of our own but of other lands anxiously watch our crop reports and market conditions. The farmer today is the most valuable man in the country, for when the world is hungry it is to the tillers of the soil it must look for relief. There are many experienced farmers and stockmen in LaGrange County, a substantial representative being found in Milo H. Rowan, whose well cultivated acres, lying in Clay and

Clear Spring townships, thoroughly demonstrate his efficiency as an agriculturist.

Milo H. Rowan was born in Clay Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, July 26, 1864. His parents were Jacob and Anna (Carr) Rowan, the former of whom was born in Pennsylvania and was motherless when he accompanied his father, Jesse Rowan, to LaGrange County. He grew up in Clay Township, attended the early schools, became a prosperous farmer and at the time of death, in 1877, owned 200 acres of land situated one-half mile west of his son's property. He married a daughter of David and Sarah Carr, who were early settlers in Noble County, Indiana. She died in 1901, the devoted mother of a large family of children, six of whom are living. The parents of Mr. Rowan were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The father gave his political support to the democratic party.

Milo H. Rowan was reared in Clay Township and had educational advantages in the country schools. He worked for his father and neighboring farmers through early manhood and then went to Kansas, where he spent sixteen years as a farmer. When he returned to LaGrange County he bought a tract of eighty acres in Clay Township, to which he later added eighty acres, continuing to add as circumstances favored until he now has 327 acres, situated in both Clay and Clear Spring townships. A practical and experienced farmer, he has given intelligent attention to the proper development of his land, choice of standard stock, and may justly be numbered with the successful agriculturists of the county. Mr. Rowan keeps well posted on all matters pertaining to his line of business, and in his farm operations makes use of improved machinery. He has adequate and substantial buildings and all his farm undertakings prosper because of his good judgment and the close attention he gives them.

In 1892 Mr. Rowan was united in marriage to Miss Ella Beaty. Her parents were Samuel and Eliza (Mosier) Beaty, very early settlers in Clay Township who entered land from the government and in the course of time acquired 500 acres. Samuel Beaty died in 1897 and his wife in 1909, aged respectively eighty-nine and eighty-two years. Of their eight children four are living. Mr. and Mrs. Rowan have three children, namely: Samuel, who is a graduate of the LaGrange High School, married Pearl Scott and they live on the old Beaty farm on which his mother was born; Noel, who was educated in the public schools and assists his father on the home farm; and Fern, who is a graduate of the high school at LaGrange. Mr. Rowan is broad-minded in his political views and casts an independent vote.

**J. E. RARICK, M. D.** A physician and surgeon at Wolcottville since 1906, Dr. Rarick has found his time and talents fully engaged in a busy professional practice. He is a prominent member of the community, has a high standing as a physician, and is also active in local business and civic affairs.

He was born on a farm in Rock Creek Township of Huntington County, Indiana, April 25, 1881, a son of Samuel W. and Cornelia (Cupp) Rarick. He was the only child of his parents, and during his boyhood he engaged in the diversions and work of the home farm in his native township. He attended the public schools at Markle, graduating from high school, and took his college work in Heidelberg College at Tiffin, Ohio. He graduated there with the degree Bachelor of Science and pursued his medical studies in the Indiana University School of Medicine, from which he received the Medical Doctor degree. Before taking up private



practice he spent a year as interne at Hope Hospital in Fort Wayne. Dr. Rarick began his professional career at Wolcottville December 11, 1906. He is a member of the County, State and American Medical Associations and for three years served as health officer of Wolcottville.

He is a stockholder in the Wildman State Bank. Fraternally he is affiliated with Wolcottville Lodge of Masons, the Knights of Pythias at LaGrange, is a democrat, and still retains his membership in the Reformed Church in Rock Creek Township, Huntington County.

**CASSIUS M. BARR.** The farming element of any section of the state is justly included among the most representative and important of its citizens, for not only is the vocation of farming one of the leading branches of industry, but the men engaged in it are essentially of the highest type of mankind. Steuben County is contributing some of the best of these progressive agriculturists, one of them being Cassius M. Barr of Otsego Township. He was born in Otsego Township April 4, 1877, a son of Henry K. Barr.

Henry K. Barr was born in 1828, and he was married in Ohio to Almeda Souders, born November 6, 1836. They came to Steuben County in 1870, settling on a farm in Otsego Township, where they resided for many years, but after their retirement from farming they moved to Hamilton, where he died June 17, 1918, aged ninety years, she surviving him until September 15, 1918, when she passed away, aged eighty-two years. Politically he was a democrat. The United Brethren Church held his membership, while she was an equally earnest member of the Christian Church. Their children were as follows: Marcella, who is the widow of George McNeal; Berdella, who is the wife of John Dargue, of Hamilton; Hattie, who is the wife of Lewis Hagerty of Hamilton; Alta, who is the wife of George S. Malone, of Chicago; and Cassius M.

Cassius M. Barr attended district school No. 1, of Otsego Township, and was reared on his father's farm. In 1903 he bought his present farm of eighty acres in Otsego Township, to which he later added more land until he now has 113 acres of valuable land. He erected the comfortable modern residence on this property and made other improvements, and here he carries on general farming and stockraising. By inheritance and inclination he is a democrat, and is faithful in his adherence to the principles of his party.

On June 4, 1902, Mr. Barr was united in marriage with Myra Cary, born in Salem Township December 12, 1877, a daughter of George and Elmira (Shaff-stall) Cary, early settlers of Salem Township, Steuben County. Several brothers of George Cary, David, Henry and Phineas Cary, were soldiers during the Civil war, one of them dying during General Sherman's march to the sea, and the other two soon after the close of the war from the effects of their military service. Adam, Frank and Nathaniel Shaff-stall, the maternal uncles of Mrs. Barr, were also soldiers of the Civil war. Mr. Cary died August 10, 1911, having been a farmer and prominent citizen. Mrs. Barr attended the public schools, the Tri-State College at Angola and the Epsworth Hospital Training School for Nurses, from which she was graduated July 9, 1901. Mr. and Mrs. Barr have three children: Henrietta, who was born October 30, 1905; Marguerite, who was born March 29, 1913; and Georgiana, who was born January 18, 1916.

The circle of friends Mr. and Mrs. Barr have gathered about them numbers some of the leading

people in this part of the county, and all enjoy at frequent intervals the delightful hospitality of the rural home of the Barrs, where they are always made cordially welcome. While Mr. Barr has never sought political honors, his popularity and fitness for office would doubtless result in his securing many votes if he cared to devote the time to such matters, but so far he has been so occupied with the farm and house affairs that he has not wished to go before the people for their suffrage.

**DORILAS L. TEEGARDIN**, who since the age of seven has been a resident of Steuben County, has been a well satisfied and prosperous agriculturist of Otsego Township for more than thirty years. At one time in his early manhood he had an ambition to achieve success as a homesteader in the far West, but a brief experience convinced him that there was no country better than Steuben County.

Mr. Teegardin was born in Allen County, Ohio, October 18, 1862. His father, Josiah Teegardin, was born in the same county January 3, 1839, and was a son of Joseph and a grandson of William Teegardin. Records of this interesting family are noted on other pages of this publication. Josiah Teegardin and other members of his family came to Steuben County in 1869, and Josiah became one of the extensive farmers and land owners in Otsego Township.

Dorilas L. Teegardin grew up on his father's farm in Otsego Township, worked in the fields and attended school, and made his pioneer adventure to the Northwest in 1885. He went to South Dakota, which was then Dakota Territory, and prospected for a homestead, but soon became convinced that the country was not to his liking and in December returned to Steuben County and accepted the forty acres given him by his father for a start in life. He put all the buildings and other improvements on that land, and gradually expanded his scope of enterprise to include 186 acres, devoted to general farming and stock raising. Mr. Teegardin inherits the skill of his father as a cabinetmaker and woodworker. The son has in fact displayed some rare ability in this line and if he had followed it as a profession would undoubtedly have made a great success. As it is he has exercised his skill on the furniture in his own home and has produced a number of pieces of splendid art and equalling the fine lines of the famous masters.

December 20, 1885, Mr. Teegardin married Sarah Adelia Baker, daughter of Christopher and Roseman (Watkins) Baker. They have had six children: Elmer Clinton, deceased; Clarence B., who married Laura Decker and has one child, Hollis; Izola E., wife of Harris Dirrim and the mother of a daughter, Henrietta; Lester L., Prentice and Verald. Mr. Teegardin and family are members of the Methodist Church and he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Grange.

Christopher Baker, father of Mrs. Teegardin, was born in Virginia April 18, 1836. His father, Samuel Baker, came to Steuben County in 1850, locating in Otsego Township, where Christopher Baker followed farming for many years. August 28, 1859, Christopher Baker married Roseman Watkins. She died February 13, 1876, the mother of three children, Samuel, Adelia and Frank. On May 24, 1877, Mr. Baker married Annie J. Fox. They had two children, Leno C. and Leora E. Christopher Baker died January 23, 1893.

**GEORGE F. ESHELMAN**, whose career as a farmer brought him substantial success as fruitage of long years of toil and well directed effort, is now living retired at Wolcottville, and moved to that village

in April, 1907, at that time building the beautiful modern home of native stone in which he and his family reside. Mr. Eshelman is widely known in LaGrange County, which he served as a county commissioner.

He was born in Orange Township of Noble County January 21, 1864, a son of Levi and Nancy (Newman) Eshelman. His father was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1837 and died in 1906. His mother was born in Noble County, Indiana, in 1839. They were married in Johnson Township of LaGrange County and a year later moved to Orange Township of Noble County, where they had their home about six years. Returning to Johnson Township, they lived on the southeast bank of Adams Lake two years, then for several years the home was on the north of that lake, and from there the parents moved to Wolcottville, where they spent their last years. They were members of the Evangelical Church and Levi was a republican. In the family were seven children: George F.; Leroy, of LaGrange; Henry of Seattle, Washington; Harvey G., of Noble County; John J., the only member of the family now deceased; Mary E., wife of Riley Case, of Johnson Township; and Nellie, widow of Garland Case.

George F. Eshelman grew up and spent his childhood chiefly in Johnson Township, where he acquired his education in the common schools. After reaching his majority he had the interesting experience of life in Montana for one year and then returned to LaGrange County, and on March 14, 1888, married Emma S. Hall. She was born in Springfield Township of LaGrange County, April 9, 1866, a daughter of Charles G. Hall and received her education in the local schools of Indiana.

After his marriage Mr. Eshelman began as a farm renter and at the end of four years was able to buy a place of his own. His accumulations have mounted rapidly since then and now includes 390 acres of good farm land, nearly all of which he has made himself. He and his wife have two children: Eva is the wife of Sabin Austin, living on the home farm. Hilda, who is a graduate of high school and spent two years in the State University became a teacher in the high school at Albion, Indiana. She was married July 9, 1919, to Glode Ruppert, of Albion, Indiana.

Since coming to Wolcottville Mr. Eshelman has been interesting himself in local affairs and is a director of the Cement Products plant there. His service on the board of county commissioners was for six years, between 1908 to 1914. He is an active republican, is a member of Tonic Lodge No. 380, Free and Accepted Masons, and is past noble grand of Aldine Lodge of Odd Fellows, and has sat in the Grand Lodge. Mrs. Eshelman is active in the Eastern Star and Rebekahs, and has filled the highest chairs in the latter.

**FRANCIS F. WOLF.** With the problem of feeding the destitute of Europe in addition to supplying the needs of our own country before us, we have come to appreciate more thoroughly the work accomplished by our farmers, and to accord them the credit they have long deserved but not oftentimes received. The farmer has always been a very important factor in the life of his country, because if he did not labor people could not eat. All have not appreciated him until through the pressure of circumstances brought about by the late war the demand for foodstuffs increased in so remarkable a manner as to make the production of food of paramount importance, and will result in the future of bringing back to the soil many who have left it, thinking to gain much by gathering in the more

congested regions. There are a number of intelligent men, however, who did not need any such rousing, having long ago adopted farming as their life work, and kept at it until they have accumulated a fair proportion of this world's goods. One of these representative men of northeastern Indiana is Francis F. Wolf of Steuben Township, Steuben County, who is now operating the homestead of his family.

Francis F. Wolf was born in Ashland County, Ohio, December 26, 1856, a son of William and Catherine (Fetterhoof) Wolf, and grandson of Adam Wolf. Adam Wolf was a pioneer of DeKalb County, Indiana, he having located near Hamilton when the county was undeveloped, although he was then of advanced age. William Wolf was born in Loudon County, Virginia, August 6, 1805, and his wife was born in Pennsylvania, December 31, 1812, she being a daughter of Jacob Fetterhoof. Until 1864 William Wolf was engaged in farming in Ashland County, Ohio, but in that year he came to Steuben County, Indiana, locating on the farm now owned by his son, Francis F., in Steuben Township. This farm contains 160 acres, and at the time he bought it there were but few improvements upon it, and he had to work hard to put it in prime condition. Here he lived and was engaged in farming until his death in 1889, his widow surviving him many years, dying in 1902, when about ninety years old. They had the following children: John, Susanna, Andrew, Jacob, Adam, Joseph, Mary Ann, Catherine, Magdalena, Sarah Ann, William, Amos, Lydia, Francis F., Phoebe and two who died in infancy.

Francis F. Wolf grew up on his father's homestead amid ideal family relationships, and assisted him while attending the district school and after he had completed his schooling. In 1880 he went to Leadville, Colorado, where he spent six months in a mining camp, and then went into Kansas. Preferring Indiana to these western states, in 1882 he drove a team back to his old home. The year following he was married, March 10, 1883, to Eliza J. Shoemaker, a daughter of John and Amanda Shoemaker, and they had two children, Bert C. and Earl F. Mrs. Wolf died November 21, 1894. After her demise Mr. Wolf was married to Emma Hughes, a daughter of John and Martha Hughes, and they became the parents of the following children: Hazel, Waldo, Wayne, Estol and Leo. Of these children Hazel is a member of Company D, 132d Machine Gun Battalion of the Thirty-Sixth Division, American Expeditionary Forces, and went to France in September, 1918. He is one of the brave boys of Steuben County who have helped to make the name of the "Yanks" a synonym for bravery and clean living.

Six months after his first marriage Francis F. Wolf moved to the family farm, and here he has since resided, carrying on general farming and stock raising, in which he is pre-eminently successful. His farm is a model one, and his buildings, fences and machinery show that he is a man who knows how to take care of things and is proud of his place. Mr. Wolf is a Mason, and lives up to the ideals of his order. His interest in his community is of such a character as to inspire wholehearted endeavor on the part of others in the direction of securing improvements for the township and county.

**JOSEPH ROBINETT.** The year 1919 marks the seventieth anniversary of the residence of the Robinett family in Steuben County. As a family they have been distinctive not only for their long residence but by very unusual ability and other substantial qualities. They have been large land owners, have



built up several extensive tracts from wilderness conditions and many of them are still tillers of the soil and recognized as splendid citizens of their community.

The first generation to settle here were Samuel and Julia (McDonald) Robinett. The former was born in 1802 and died May 3, 1893. The latter was born in 1800 and died September 9, 1888. When they came to Richland Township in 1849 they acquired 233 acres of land, and there lived the rest of their lives as farmers.

Their son, Thomas Robinett, who was born in Ohio August, 19, 1827, was a young man when he came to Steuben County with his parents. He lived on 225 acres known as the old homestead, and later bought 326 acres. As these ample possessions indicate, he was a very successful farmer. He was a man of special note in his community. He had strength, skill and endurance much beyond that of the average man. He especially excelled as a grain cradler at a time when the cradle was the only known implement for cutting and harvesting grain. He never met a man who could keep up with him in swinging the cradle hour after hour. He established a record when he cut seven acres of oats in one day. He and another man cut and put into shocks fifty-five acres in eleven days. While his services were naturally in great demand in harvest time, he spent a considerable part of the year following his trade as a carpenter. He was a democrat and though liberal in religious views was a thoroughly moral man and his parents had been strict Baptists. Thomas Robinett died November 18, 1901. He married Helen Buell, who was born in Vermont July 7, 1837, and died May 6, 1872. She was the mother of nine children: Samuel, deceased; Elnora; Elijah, Joseph, Juliette, Thomas, Myrtie, James, Byron, also deceased; and Dolly. Thomas Robinett married for his second wife Elizabeth Rosenberry, and their six children are still living, named Germ Oliver, Vada, Jennie, Alta, Florena and Fern.

Joseph Robinett was born on the old homestead of his father March 14, 1863, and as a boy attended the local public schools. In 1894 he bought his present farm of 110 acres in Richland Township. He still lives there and has done much to improve it with good buildings. He now rents out his land and is practically retired. In politics Mr. Robinett is a democrat.

January 1, 1887, he married Miss Etta E. Brunner of Troy Township, DeKalb County. She died in 1901, the mother of three children. Ethel, the older, was educated in the public schools and is the wife of Galon Campbell, and had four children, only one of whom Mary Janette, is living. The three deceased were named Helen, Clifton Dale and Joseph. Mary B., the second daughter of Mr. Robinett, is a graduate of the Edon High School in Ohio, and the teacher's training course at the Tri-State College, after which she taught school, and then attended business college at Fort Wayne, and during the period of the war has been a typewriter in Government offices at Washington.

In 1903 Mr. Robinett married Miss Sarah Somerlot. They have a daughter, Sevilla Irene, who graduated from the eighth grade in 1919. Mr. Robinett has been a member of the Liberal United Brethren Church since he was twenty years of age and has been a trustee of the church for over ten years and was treasurer when the new church was built in Troy Township of DeKalb County. His first wife was a member of the same church and joined it when a little girl. Their daughter Mary was the youngest child ever formally admitted as a member

of the church, being only nine years old at the time. The present Mrs. Robinett is also a member of this congregation.

J. H. Metz has spent forty years as one of the progressive and practical farmers of Otsego Township in Steuben County. The farm occupied by him and his family is situated in section 10, and is land that has been in a state of improvement for over half a century.

Mr. Metz, who has long been one of the valued citizens of Steuben County, was born in Morrow County, Ohio, March 14, 1856. His father, Christopher Metz, was born in Baden, Germany. He married in February, 1842, Eva Katharine Gretchman. She was born in Baden April 2, 1822, daughter of Carl and Marguerite Gretchman. Christopher Metz brought his family to America in 1854. They were 103 days on the ocean. One of their sons died in Germany, they buried a daughter at sea, and another son was buried in New York. When they embarked on the ship they carried with them supplies of clothing and other goods, but all these possessions were lost in New York. The family went on to Ohio and about 1860 came to Otsego Township of Steuben County, where with the exception of two years Christopher Metz spent the rest of his life. His children besides those above mentioned were: Catherine, who was born in Germany; Joshua, who was also born in Germany and was a soldier in the Civil war; J. H., William, Martha and Nathan.

J. H. Metz attended district school in Otsego Township, and his people being in modest circumstances he went out to work when a boy and has found prosperity after traveling a long road of diligent effort.

April 13, 1879, he married Mary Teegarden, daughter of Aaron W. and Katie Ann (Tharp) Teegarden. The year following their marriage they moved to the farm they still occupy. Mr. and Mrs. Metz have 100 acres, all thoroughly cultivated, and with improvements of the best. Practically all of the buildings have been constructed under Mr. Metz' ownership. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias and belongs to the Methodist Church. He and his wife have two children. Bertha is the wife of George Mortoff and has two children, Nova and Wayne. Virgil married Hazel Kissinger and their one child is named Wilodine.

Aaron W. Teagarden, father of Mrs. Metz, was born in Pennsylvania in 1812. His wife, Katie Ann Tharp, was born in Ohio in 1819. William Teagarden, father of Aaron, moved from Pennsylvania to Pickaway County, Ohio, and spent the rest of his life in that state. He was the father of eleven children, five sons and six daughters. In order to give his numerous family opportunities of land ownership he entered extensive tracts in Allen County, and bestowed upon each of his children 160 acres.

Aaron Teagarden went to Allen County and personally cleared up his quarter-section and made a good farm. He lived there about twenty-five years and in 1864 came to Steuben County and settled in Otsego Township. He bought an improved farm and owned 420 acres of land, part of which is now occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Metz. Aaron Teagarden died in Steuben County in 1896 and his wife passed away in 1901. He was a democrat in politics and he and his wife were active in the Christian Church. The Teagarden children were: Eliza, Susannah and Abram, twins, Margaret, George, Lucinda, Jacob, Elizabeth, Elias, Mary M. and Thomas W. The son Abram was killed in the Battle of Bull



Run while a Union soldier. George and Lucinda both died in infancy and Elias is also deceased.

CHARLES W. REED has been a well known figure in the business and agricultural community of York Township for a number of years, and in 1918 was elected trustee of the township for the regular term of four years, an office which of itself is sufficient proof of the esteem in which he is held by his fellow citizens and of the many enviable qualities he possesses.

Mr. Reed was born in Sparta Township of Noble County, August 23, 1870. He grew up in Sparta Township, attending the district schools there. When only thirteen years old he started out to make his own way in the world, and the success and position he today enjoys is entirely the product of his own aims, ambitions and industry. He worked at wages paid by the month and by the year for farmers, and at the age of twenty-one had saved a considerable sum and at the age of twenty-eight he established a home of his own by his marriage to Ida D. Secrist, of Kosciusko County. Mrs. Reed was born in Noble County, but was reared in Kosciusko County.

After their marriage they located at Cromwell, where for ten years Mr. Reed was connected with the Moore & Company lumber yards, being yards foreman most of the time. He then located on his present farm, where he has fifty acres and is proving his ability to get results from a small farm well and intelligently handled.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed have two children. Hugh is a graduate of the common schools and is now in the third year of the Cromwell High School. Lenora was born in 1910. The family are active members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church at Cromwell. Mr. Reed is past chancellor of Cromwell Lodge No. 408, Knights of Pythias, and is a past noble grand of Lodge No. 787 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has represented both orders in the Grand Lodge. In politics he is a republican.

CARL E. TUTTLE. During the days of reconstruction following the great war the greatest problem to be solved is how to secure sufficient food to supply the world. Not only have millions of men been sacrificed in this titanic struggle, but vast areas have been devastated to such an extent that it will be several decades before they can again be devoted to agricultural purposes. Therefore it is but natural that the world looks to America for food, and upon the farmers of this country devolves the meeting of this legitimate demand. As never before, in consequence of this pressure of circumstances, the work of the farmer has become a dignified and necessary calling, and the men who are devoting their energies and capabilities to this line of endeavor are displaying patriotism and sound business sense. One of the men now numbered among the successful agriculturalists of Steuben County is Carl E. Tuttle of Steuben Township, who comes of a long line of ancestors who tilled the soil and helped to develop this part of Indiana.

Carl E. Tuttle was born in Steuben Township, June 19, 1868, a son of Chester V. and Tillie (Belles) Tuttle, and grandson of that stalwart pioneer woodsman, Lemmon Tuttle. Lemmon Tuttle was a native of New York State, where he was born in 1813, but did not spend many years there, as his parents moved to Ohio when he was still a small boy. In 1838 the spirit of adventure led him to walk from Clyde, Ohio, to Indiana in search of a suitable location, which he found in 1840, when he

settled permanently in Steuben County. Here he secured fifty acres of land from the Government, and a little later bought forty acres more, and worked the remainder of his life developing and improving it, having when he died in June, 1881, one of the best farms in his neighborhood. He married Filora Gould, born in Cayuga County, New York, in 1818, a daughter of Kiah and Mehitabel (Sturges) Gould, who died December 25, 1880. The children born to Lemmon Tuttle and his wife were as follows: Lorana, Emeret, Chester V., Frank M. and Alpha, all of whom lived into old age; Adesta, who died in 1880; and Sylvester, Arad and Byron, all of whom died in infancy.

Chester V. Tuttle was born in Steuben Township in July, 1847. Like the young men of the present period, when his country had need of his services he responded and enlisted in 1863, in the Seventh Indiana Cavalry, and served until the close of the Civil war, participating in a number of important battles which took place in the territory covered by the Department of the Mississippi, to which his regiment was assigned. After having done his duty as a soldier Mr. Tuttle returned home and was equally useful as a private citizen, first in the mercantile field at Pleasant Lake and later as an agriculturalist of Steuben Township, where he was fortunate enough to own eighty acres of land in section 26. Still later he was called upon to serve his county as treasurer for two terms, and when these responsibilities were acceptably discharged he retired and spent the remainder of his life in his comfortable home at Pleasant Lake, where his widow still resides. His death occurred December 7, 1902. Mrs. Tuttle is a native of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and she is a daughter of George and Caroline (Bridinger) Belles. Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle became the parents of the following children: Earl, Carl E., Worthy and Harry. Mr. Tuttle was both a Mason and Odd Fellow.

Carl E. Tuttle was reared in Steuben Township and attended its schools. From boyhood he has worked at farming, and it was but natural that he should adopt agriculture as his life work. He carries on general farming and stock raising, and is a breeder of blooded Spotted Poland China hogs. His 100 acres of land are kept in a magnificent condition, his buildings are adequate and the premises indicate that a capable man is in charge and one who takes a justifiable pride in his farm.

On March 22, 1894, Carl E. Tuttle was united in marriage with Lotta Hanver, a daughter of Henry and Adoline (Brandeberry) Hanver. Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle have the following children: Winnefred, who was born September 8, 1896; Hanver, who was born November 16, 1897; and James Warren, who was born January 10, 1910. Hanver Tuttle served during the great war in the aviation branch of the army, being a member of the 294th Aero Squadron, stationed at Mather Field, Sacramento, California. He has to his credit a flight of one hour and ten minutes, on which he served as the mechanic. Carl E. Tuttle is a member of the Pleasant Lake Baptist Church, and his wife belongs to the Metz Christian Church. They are fine people and are held in high esteem by all who know them.

GEORGE L. MISHLER. In order to measureably realize the agricultural wealth of Indiana, the observing and interested traveler should make a lieriously journey among the finely cultivated farms of LaGrange County, stopping, perhaps, to partake of hospitality often generously proffered by many of the fine people of Newbury as well as of other townships. Here he may find George L. Mishler, who

owns many acres of improved land and many head of standardized swine and other stock. Mr. Mishler came to LaGrange County in 1879.

George L. Mishler was born in Pennsylvania, November 15, 1857, and is a son of Joseph C. and Rachel (Livingston) Mishler. The mother died in 1877, aged forty-nine years and six months. Her first marriage was to Simon Miltenberger, and a daughter, Elizabeth, survived her father. In 1878 Joseph C. Mishler came to LaGrange County, where he died in 1916, aged eighty-six years, two months and nineteen days, having spent the last thirty-five years of his life with his son George L. His children were as follows: Lucy, James, George L., Jacob, Susan, Sarah, John and Moses, all of whom survive. They are a religious people and some hold church offices, James being a deacon in the Mennonite Church; Jacob, a deacon in the Dunkard Church in California; John, a minister in the Dunkard Church; and Moses, a minister in the Dunkard Church at Newton, Kansas.

George L. Mishler had country school advantages in Pennsylvania, and until 1879 worked on a farm there and then came to LaGrange County, Indiana. In 1880 he bought eighty acres of land in Newbury Township, upon which he lived until 1905, then sold and bought the farm of 120 acres on which he resides. This was the old Eash farm and belonged to the parents of Mr. Mishler's wife, who settled here in 1864. Mr. Eash put good improvements on the place, to which Mr. Mishler added when he bought it in the way of a silo and new and modern buildings. It is well kept up and is one of the most valuable properties in the country. Mr. Mishler carries on general farming and is an extensive breeder of Ohio Improved Chester White hogs.

In 1880 George L. Mishler was united in marriage to Miss Polly Eash, who was born in Pennsylvania, August 21, 1856, a daughter of Jonathan and Catherine (Miller) Eash. They were highly respected people in Newbury Township, where they settled in 1864. The father of Mrs. Mishler died in 1907, when aged seventy-three years, and the mother in 1914, aged seventy-five years. Mr. and Mrs. Mishler have four children, namely: Della, who is the wife of Jesse Brandeberry, and they have six children, Viola, Roy, George R., Gertrude, John R. and Floyd; Levi, who married Georgia Haines, has one son, Don Le Roy; Joseph, who married Bernice Hulbert, has one son, Joseph; and Katie, who is the wife of Emmon J. Yoder. They are rearing a boy, Jacob Miller by name. Mr. Mishler and his family are members of the Mennonite Church, and all are people who stand high in the estimation of their neighbors far and near.

FRED KANKAMP, owner of two good farms in Steuben County, has spent all his life in that section of Northeast Indiana, and is rated as one of the men in the farming industry who know how to get the best results and the largest profits consistent with good management and conservation of the resources of the soil.

Mr. Kankamp, whose home is in Pleasant Township, was born at Angola June 25, 1875. His father, Henry Kankamp, was a native of Germany and was brought to this country when a boy, spending most of his life in Steuben County. For a number of years he was well known in Angola as a teamster and drayman, but for the last four or five years lived with his son Fred and died at the latter's home in Steuben Township in 1913. Henry Kankamp married Martha Brown, who was born in New York State and is a sister of George M. Brown of Steu-

ben County. Fred Kankamp was the older of two sons, his brother being Frank.

Mr. Kankamp attended public schools in Angola, and since early manhood has been farming. The first place where he made his labors productive as a farmer was in section 36 of Pleasant Township, where he owns his present home. After about three years he moved to another farm in sections 1 and 2 of Steuben Township, but in the summer of 1918 returned to the Pleasant Township farm, where he owns ninety acres. His other farm in sections 1 and 2 of Steuben Township comprises 157 acres. Both farms are well improved with good buildings and are devoted to general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Kankamp married July 13, 1895, Etta Hayden, daughter of John and Elizabeth (Boyls) Hayden, the latter still living. John Hayden, who died March 18, 1918, was for a number of years a farmer in Hillsdale County, Michigan. His children were Lawrence, Mary Ann, Etta, Michael James and Clyde. Mr. and Mrs. Kankamp have two children, Harry and Ettafred. Mr. Kankamp is affiliated with the Loyal Order of Moose.

JUSTIN F. FAUX is a prosperous farmer of Noble County who has spent nearly all the days of his life in one locality in Orange Township, and now has a good farm and home five miles west of Kendallville.

He was born in Morrow County, Ohio, February 23, 1871, son of Charles and Maria (Stockdale) Faux. His father was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, and his mother in Morrow County, Ohio, where they were married. In 1874 the family came to Orange Township of Noble County, and the parents spent the rest of their days there. They were active members of the Baptist Church and the father was a democrat and at one time served as a trustee and as a justice of the peace in Morrow County. These parents had a large family of children, fourteen in number, seven of whom are still living: M. B. Faux, of Orange Township; Sadie, wife of Josiah Ziegler, of Rome City; Charlotte, wife of John Spice, of South Milford, Indiana; Alpheus K., of Allen Township; Wallace, a bachelor living with his brother Justin; Justin F.; and Estella, wife of John W. Harvey, of Jefferson Township.

Justin F. Faux was three years old when his parents came to Noble County, and he grew up on the old farm and received his education in the local schools. He has always continued to live in the home locality and was with his parents until his marriage.

October 17, 1908, he married Charlotte A. Gretzinger. Mrs. Faux was born in Swan Township of Noble County and was only three weeks old when her mother died, after which she was reared in the home of her uncle, George Gretzinger. She has made her own living since she was thirteen years of age and for eleven years she was employed in the home of her husband's mother. Mr. and Mrs. Faux have two adopted children, Harvey E. Stiver and Helen Louise Stiver. They now have the names Robert Fulton Faux and Helen Marie Faux.

Mrs. Faux is an active member of the United Brethren Church at Zion. Mr. Faux has maintained a steady interest in local affairs and is a democrat in politics. He has sixty acres of the old homestead and in 1916 erected a modern home. He uses his land for general farming and stock raising.

ROBERT A. LACEY. Farming is a business and one which requires long experience and a natural in-







EDWIN DITMARS AND FAMILY

clination for it if the one engaged in this line desires to do something more than "just make a living." Land values have materially increased since the days when our forefathers could obtain large grants of land from the Government for the entry fee in such magnificent agricultural states as Indiana. Then, perhaps, there might have been some excuse for a farmer being something of a slacker, but not today, when every acre is needed to produce the amount of food required for our own country and starving Europe as well. However, the progressive farmers, especially those of Northeast Indiana, knew of the importance of their undertaking long before the great war opened the eyes of others to the necessity of production and conservation. They have held on to their land, improved and developed it, and today as a result of their industry, thrift and broad vision stand among the most useful citizens of their nation. One of these men whose family has long been established in Indiana, and who is now living on the farm entered by his father from the Government, is Robert A. Lacey of Steuben Township, Steuben County.

Robert A. Lacey was born in Steuben Township, Steuben County, Indiana, March 21, 1849, a son of Thomas M. and Nancy (McGaughey) Lacey, and grandson of William Lacey. The latter died when his son, Thomas M., was a small boy, after coming to Eastern Ohio from Virginia. Thomas M. Lacey was born in Virginia in 1803, and his wife was born in Washington County, Maryland, in 1807, a daughter of William McGaughey, who came to Eastern Ohio when his daughter was a child. Growing up in Belmont County, Ohio, Thomas M. Lacey was there married, and following that event he came to Steuben County, Indiana, but later returned to Ohio and lived for a time in Seneca County. In 1837 he came back to Steuben County and entered 240 acres of land in Steuben Township, he paying \$1.25 per acre for it, and then returned to Ohio once more. Having thus provided a home for his wife and six children, he brought them to it, and the first cabin he erected was only sixteen feet square. There were two rooms, one upstairs and the other below. Not a nail was used in this primitive home, and the furnishings were quite as pioneer in character as the house. Here three more children were born, making nine in the family. The land was entirely undeveloped and much hard labor was required to put it in shape to yield crops that made farming worth while. Thomas M. Lacey lived here until his death, which occurred in 1860, his widow surviving him until 1890. Their children were as follows: William, Nathan, John, Mary, James, Thomas, Rosanna, Marian, Robert A. Of these children John and Thomas are veterans of the Civil war. Thomas M. Lacey and his excellent wife were consistent members of the Baptist faith.

Robert A. Lacey attended the district schools and for eight terms was a student of the Angola school. For the succeeding four or five years he was engaged in teaching school, but for the past forty years has been engaged in farming and owns 106 $\frac{2}{3}$  acres of land. He carries on general farming and stock raising, specializing in breeding Jersey cattle and Duroc hogs. He has erected practically all of the buildings on the farm, and made numerous other improvements, and has one of the best rural properties in his part of the township.

On January 4, 1877, Mr. Lacey was united in marriage with Sarah C. Gramling, a daughter of Henry and Sabilla (Foltz) Gramling, and they had three children, namely: Mabel S., who married Chester Klink; Nancy Madge, who married Carl Ingals; John Mark, who married Alice Shachford.

Mrs. Lacey died in 1884, and Mr. Lacey was subsequently married to Margaret Wills, a daughter of Elmus and Sarah Clingerman. By his second marriage Mr. Lacey has two children, Hazel Lynn and Florence. The latter married Leonard Rohm. Mr. Lacey belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, and gives it a generous support. Having spent practically all of his life in Steuben Township, his interest is centered here and he has been instrumental in securing some improvements for his neighborhood. He is a friend of the public schools and an advocate of good roads, and in his farming uses modern methods and lives up to the sanitary regulations of his state.

ISAAC W. MCCONNELL is one of the most progressive factors in the agricultural, livestock and business community of Green Township, Whitley County. He is still a young man, has a great deal of concentrated effort and achievement to his credit, and the promise of many years of continued and enlarged usefulness.

Mr. McConnell was born in Putnam County, Ohio, January 1, 1881, a son of William J. and Louisa E. (Hallabaugh) McConnell, both of whom were natives of Ohio, the father born in Putnam County and the mother in Hancock County. Both were educated in the common schools, and after their marriage settled on a farm in Putnam County, four miles north of Leipsic. In the spring of 1888, when Isaac was seven years old, they sold their Ohio possessions and moved to a farm near Ligonier, Indiana. In 1898 they bought a farm in Whitley County, Indiana, where the father is still active as a farmer and stock man. They are members of the Christian Church, in which he is serving as a deacon, and he is affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees and in politics is a republican. There are five children in their family: Bertha, wife of Volney King, of Whitley County; Isaac W.; George, a graduate of the common schools and a farmer in Whitley County; Ross, who graduated from the Churubusco High School; and Mary, wife of Sidney Ortt, who at the close of the war was a second lieutenant in the army at Atlanta, Georgia.

Isaac W. McConnell acquired his education in the public schools of Ligonier, and graduated from the high school at Churubusco May 3, 1901. He spent five years working at the carpenter's trade, and was a building contractor for three years. On May 3, 1906, Mr. McConnell married Oma Diffe-daffer. They have two children: Wildean, born November 12, 1907, and Leo, born May 14, 1910.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McConnell began farming at their present location. He started with eighty acres, and by an unusual display of energy, good judgment and careful management has acquired a fine farm of 220 acres, well improved. As a stockman he specializes in Shorthorn cattle and Poland China hogs. Mr. and Mrs. McConnell are active members of the Church of God at Sugar Grove, and he is secretary and treasurer of the church and is superintendent of its Sunday school. In politics he is a republican.

Besides his private interests as a farmer Mr. McConnell has taken an energetic part in the co-operative movement of his locality. He is secretary and treasurer of the Churubusco Livestock Shippers' Association, Incorporated. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank of Churubusco and a member of the Advisory Board.

EDWIN DITMARS, of Swan Township, Noble County, has lived a most useful life, is a prosperous farmer and citizen of his community, and has been



known in that section of Noble County from earliest boyhood to the present time.

Mr. Ditmars was born in Ashland County, Ohio, December 10, 1850, a son of Henry and Catherine (Lybarger) Ditmars, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Ashland County, Ohio. Henry Ditmars was a son of Abram and Cornelia (Striker) Ditmars, who were pioneer settlers in Holmes County, Ohio, where they spent their last days. Henry Ditmars was one of a family of eight sons and two daughters. From Holmes County he moved to Ashland County, married there, and in 1853 brought his family to a farm in Swan Township, Noble County. In that community he and his wife spent their last years. Both were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he was one of the local leaders in the republican party. Of eleven children six are still living: Elizabeth, wife of William Lawrence; Cecelia, wife of Henry Bloxson; Edwin; Henry, of Churubusco; Elmer E., a farmer of Swan Township; and Emmett, of Fort Wayne.

Edwin Ditmars grew up on the old farm in Swan Township and secured those advantages to be had in the local district schools. His life was at home and with his parents to the age of twenty-three. Then, on December 25, 1873, he married Sophia Simon. Mrs. Ditmars was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, January 30, 1845, a daughter of Peter and Louisa (Fair) Simon. Her mother was born in Frederick County, Maryland, and her father in Columbiana County, Ohio. They were married after they came to DeKalb County, Indiana, and settling in Butler Township they lived there the rest of their lives. They were members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Mrs. Ditmars was reared in that faith.

Mr. and Mrs. Ditmars started life on a scale of utmost simplicity. They built a house in the midst of the woods and added to their comforts and conveniences as they could afford them. Farming has been his lifelong pursuit, and besides raising crops for forty years or more he has cleared away many acres of land and developed a good farm. His present place comprises 100 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Ditmars had five children. Four are still living: Silas G. owns part of the old Simon farm in DeKalb County; Sidney also lives in DeKalb County; Treat S. is a farmer at home; and James T. farms in DeKalb County. Mr. Ditmars is a member of the United Brethren Church and a republican in politics.

FRED HUTCHINS. Some of the best farms and some of the best farmers in Steuben County are found in Otsego Township. One of them is Fred Hutchins, a renter of a place of 300 acres where he does an extensive business in producing crops and livestock. He is well qualified for the responsibilities he enjoys, his experience since early youth having been identified with practical agriculture.

He was born in Scott Township of Steuben County December 15, 1873. He is a son of John R. and Wadie Ann (Sowles) Hutchins, and member of the well-known Hutchins family that came to Steuben County over three-quarters of a century ago. Further reference to this family will be found on other pages. John R. Hutchins followed farming in Scott Township until his death in 1888. He and his wife had five children: Joseph, John, Jane, Cora and Fred. Joseph died in early childhood.

Fred Hutchins attended public school in his native township, and was only a youth when he began cultivating crops on his own responsibility. In

1912 he moved to his present place in Otsego Township. Mr. Hutchins married, September 4, 1898, Melinda Ann Zimmerman, daughter of John and Netta (Stevens) Zimmerman. They have a family of five children: Frances, Paul, Leon, Lawrence and Lewis. Frances is a graduate of the Hamilton High School and is now a teacher in Otsego Township. Mrs. Hutchins is a member of the Methodist Church and he is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Masons.

JAMES L. MACHAN. One of the families well and favorably known in agricultural circles in LaGrange County is that of Machan, represented by James L. Machan, who after a number of years of work at a mechanical trade retired to a farm in Johnson Township, and is enjoying both the comforts and the profits of rural life.

He was born in Bloomfield Township of the same county, December 15, 1869, a son of Samuel and Nancy (Preston) Machan. His father was a native of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and his mother of the same state. Their respective families came to Indiana in early days and located in LaGrange County, where Samuel and Nancy were married. Samuel died in 1909 and his widow is still living in Clay Township. Both were active members of the Presbyterian Church at LaGrange. There were four children: Harry, who lives in Bloomfield Township and married Viola Alwatter; Lawrence S., deceased; Garfield A., a Bloomfield Township farmer; and James L.

James L. Machan grew up on his father's farm in Bloomfield Township, and received his public school education in LaGrange. For a time he was employed in a LaGrange grocery store, and then learned the trade of carriage ironing. That trade furnished him his regular occupation for a period of twenty-one years, and for eight years he was foreman of the shop.

May 4, 1892, in Johnson Township, he married Catherine M. Hallett. She was born on the farm where she now resides and is a graduate of the LaGrange High School. Mr. and Mrs. Machan retired to their farm in 1907. They have 147 acres and it is devoted to general farming and stock raising. They have one daughter, Wilma J., now a student in the public schools of LaGrange. Mr. and Mrs. Machan are members of the Presbyterian Church at LaGrange and both are very active in the Rebekah Lodge, Mrs. Machan being a past grand. He is a past grand and past chief patriarch of the Lodge and Encampment of Odd Fellowship and has sat in the grand lodge. Politically he is a republican, and on November 4, 1918, was elected a member of the LaGrange County Council.

CURTIS SHONTZ is one of the fortunate young men whose experience and mature powers were developed in time to share in the generous prosperity now accorded the agricultural class in America. Mr. Shontz began his career as a farm hand, and today owns one of the high class farms in Steuben Township in the county of that name.

He is a native of Northeast Indiana, having been born at Sedan in DeKalb County, October 23, 1880, a son of Ferdinand and Rachel (Lidge) Shontz. His mother was a native of Ohio, daughter of Adam and Elizabeth Lidge. Adam Lidge was a pioneer in Fairfield Township of DeKalb County, going there when all the country was wild, clearing a farm and rearing a family of five children. Ferdinand Shontz was a young man when he arrived in DeKalb County. He was an expert blacksmith, conducted a shop at Fanselers Mills on the Ashley and Auburn road, later was a blacksmith at



Sedan, and finally ran a shop at Steubenville and continued the work until his death in 1890. His widow is still living at Ashley. Their five children are named Henry, Mary, Elizabeth, Sarah Jane and Curtis.

Curtis Shontz received most of his education in the California School House of Steuben Township. Then followed a period when he was earning his own living and getting valuable experience as a farm hand at monthly wages, and on May 13, 1908, he married Martha M. Dahuff, a daughter of Simon Dahuff. In 1909, the year following his marriage, he bought a farm of ninety-five acres in section 19 of Steuben Township. His industry brought him a comfortable living on the farm from 1909 to 1916. In March of the latter year he bought the farm which he occupies today, comprising 126 acres, known as the old Mountz place. His home improvements and eighty acres are in section 19, while forty-six acres lie across the road in section 30. For a time Mr. Shontz farmed both places, but in 1918 sold his first farm of ninety-five acres and with his home place is doing a successful business in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Shontz is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 257 at Hudson.

NOAH M. BONTRAGER besides being one of the prosperous agriculturists of Eden Township in LaGrange County is prominent in the Amish Mennonite Church as bishop and supervising head of that congregation in this section of the county.

Mr. Bontrager was born October 27, 1881, on the farm where he now lives in section 4 of Eden Township, four miles north and four miles west of Topeka. He is the son of Manassas and Lydia (Yoder) Bontrager, of a prominent family in Indiana, his earliest American ancestor having come from Germany to this country in 1767. Manassas Bontrager was a native of Pennsylvania, his wife of Holmes County, Ohio, and he was brought to Indiana when five months old, while his wife came here when a girl. After his marriage he settled in section 4 of Eden Township. Manassas Bontrager and wife had twelve children, eleven of whom are still living, Noah being the eighth in order of birth.

The latter grew up on the home farm and attended the district schools in winter sessions, working for his father in the summer. On February 1, 1906, he married Katie Glick, who was born in Eden Township February 18, 1887, and was educated in the common schools. Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Bontrager have always lived on the Bontrager homestead. They have three children: Mahlon, born December 21, 1906; Rosa, born November 26, 1911; and Enos, born October 10, 1917.

Mr. Bontrager owns 160 acres in his home farm and has forty acres more in another part of the township. As bishop of the Amish Mennonite Church he has the supervision of the two churches known as the East Side and West Side churches in the Honeyville district. He is the man responsible for making the rules of the church, and, as is customary in that denomination, he gives all his services without remuneration, depending on his farm for his material prosperity.

EBER J. WILLIAMSON. For over fifty years the Williamson family has been identified with Steuben County, chiefly as farmers, and always as good citizens and people who neglect none of their responsibilities to their community.

Representing the third generation in this county is Eber J. Williamson, owner of one of the fine farms in York Township. He was born in York

Township January 12, 1860, and is a son of Peter and Hannah (Gamble) Williamson, both natives of New York State, his mother being a daughter of Solomon Gamble. The grandparents, Cornelius and Elizabeth (Singer) Williamson, the former a native of New York State, came to Steuben County some years prior to the Civil war and spent the rest of their days in York Township. They reared a family of children named Jacob, John, George, Arthur, Cornelius, James, Peter, Mary and Annett.

Peter Williamson was an arrival in York Township about 1857, coming direct from New York State. He had a farm and was busily engaged in its cultivation until late in the Civil war. About 1865 he went into the army and died while still in service, on September 2, 1865. His widow remained on the farm, reared her children, and died July 17, 1894. She was the mother of three, Debbie, Eber J. and Izora.

Eber J. Williamson hardly remembers his father at all. He grew up in the home of his mother, enjoyed such advantages as could be obtained from the local schools in the intervals of his own employment, and has always worked the home place since reaching manhood. Mr. Williamson owns a good farm of ninety-seven acres and is engaged in general cropping and stock raising. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias lodges at Metz.

In October, 1883, he married Emma Betzer, a daughter of Jacob and Anna Betzer. They have two children. Lottie is the wife of Arthur Morison and has three children, named Sidney, Wilbur and Inie. Vertie married Sylvia Kentigh.

JOHN F. HOLSINGER. For many years the name Holsinger in LaGrange and Noble counties has been synonymous with extensive holdings of land. The Holsingers are farmers and business men, and their practical energy has enabled several of the family to overcome the handicaps of initial poverty and achieve such material success as few men can equal. The same has been true of John F. Holsinger, as it was of his father. The son is an extensive land owner and farmer in Noble County, and is one of the directors of the State Bank of Wolcottville and identified with other business organizations there.

He was born in Orange Township of Noble County, October 16, 1850, a son of John and Sarah (Stroman) Holsinger. His father was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1817, and his mother was a native of Summit County, Ohio. After their marriage they moved from Ohio to LaGrange County, Indiana, settling on a farm, and from there moved to Orange Township of Noble County. John Holsinger spent his last years in Kendallville, but his wife died on the farm. They were members of the Evangelical Church and the father was a republican. John Holsinger came to Northeast Indiana with practically all his goods and possessions in a wagon, and by hard work and constant exercise of good judgment achieved a striking success. He owned at one time 733 acres of land. He was a popular member of the Masonic Lodge. Of eleven children by three marriages the following are still living; Dora, who lives in Los Angeles, California; Frank, of Wolcottville; Walter, of Indianapolis; John F.; Ida, wife of Martin Fanning, of Angola; and Adrin, of LaGrange.

John F. Holsinger grew up on his father's farm, had a district school education, and lived at home until nearly the age of twenty-two. He worked for his brother William for one year, rented his father's farm four years, managing it in association with his brother, and later farmed by himself. After his experience justified it, he adventured upon farm

owning independently and made his first purchase of 122 acres. He went in debt for a considerable part of it, but paid out, then bought another 100 acres, then 60 acres, then 40 acres, later 222 acres, and 46 acres, these various purchases giving him a splendid body of land 622 acres in extent, all in the northwest part of Orange Township.

March 30, 1879, Mr. Holsinger married Sarah Raber. She was born in Orange Township July 28, 1854, a daughter of David and Susanna (Dice) Raber, the former a native of Stark and the latter of Trumbull County, Ohio. Her parents after their marriage in Ohio came to Indiana in 1853 and located in Orange Township of Noble County, where they spent the rest of their days. Of the ten children in the Raber family four are still living: David; Elias, whose home is in the State of Washington; John, of Elkhart, Indiana; and Mrs. Sarah Holsinger. Mrs. Holsinger had a good common school education. She is the mother of three children. Olive M. graduated from the common schools and is the wife of Garfield Eschelman, living at Wolcottville. Clark graduated from high school, has his home in Orange Township and married Bessie Rowe. Ellis is a high school graduate and married Marie Eschelman, of Orange Township.

Mrs. Holsinger is a member of the Evangelical Church. Mr. Holsinger was one of the first directors of the State Bank of Wolcottville. He and his family have had a town home in Wolcottville since the fall of 1912, but they still retain their rural residence in Orange Township of Noble County. Mr. Holsinger is a director in the Cement Products Factory. He has been a stock buyer for about fourteen years, and does an extensive business in that line, buying and feeding cattle by the car-load lots.

JAMES SKELLY is the fortunate owner of a good farm in Salem Township of Steuben County. His farm contains a group of handsome buildings and in every way is adapted for comfort and for maximum efficiency in every department of its management. Mr. Skelly started life on a modest scale, beginning with a very small amount of land under his ownership, and has made steady strides during the different years to the possession of what he enjoys today.

A resident of Steuben County for many years, he was born in Millersburg, Ohio, October 1, 1855, a son of William and Sarah (Steele) Skelly, the former a native of Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Holmes County, Ohio, where her father, James Steele, was a farmer. James Skelly is a grandson of James Skelly, who spent his active life as a farmer in Holmes County, Ohio. William Skelly acquired his early knowledge of agriculture in the same county, but about 1875 came to Salem Township of Steuben County, acquiring a farm near Hudson. That was the scene of his activities until the last year of his life, when he moved to DeKalb County. He and Sarah Steele Skelly had four children, named Martha, wife of John Calhoun, James, David and Leander. When the mother of these died the father married Mrs. Ellen (Baughman) Buckmaster. By that union there were also four children: Mary, wife of Hiram Towns; Elizabeth, who married Amos Myers; Robert; and Olive, wife of George Putt.

James Skelly was about twenty years of age when his father came to Steuben County. He began farming about the same time on his own account and about 1879 was able to buy thirty-four acres three-quarters of a mile west of Hudson. He made good as a farmer there, remained about nine years, and in 1888 traded for his present farm in section

19 of Salem Township. Here, with his wife, he owns 175 acres besides fifty acres across the road in Milford Township of LaGrange County. The building improvements all represent his own planning, labor and investment.

In 1879 Mr. Skelly married Flora A. Gonser, daughter of Moses and Louisa (Wright) Gonser. Her father, an old time resident of Northeast Indiana, was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, January 14, 1829, a son of David and Catherine (Miller) Gonser. He came with his parents to DeKalb County in 1848 and in 1869 moved to Steuben County. He acquired a large property of 250 acres in sections 35 and 36 of Salem Township and across the line in Fairfield Township of DeKalb County built a fine two-story brick home in 1880 and owned much other property, all of which represented his thrifty and industrious career from early youth to mature years. He filled several offices in his communities and at one time was a county commissioner of Steuben County. He cast his first vote for the whig candidate of 1852, and became an original republican. He and his wife had six children, Amanda, Albert, Flora A., Marietta, Robert M. and Martha L.

To Mr. and Mrs. Skelly were born four children: Grace, Elsie Maude, Willis R. and Esther.

Grace is the wife of Clyde Perkins, and has four children: Dorothy, Mildred, Ralph and Donald. Maude married Dr. C. C. Wright and has one child, Louise, and Esther is the wife of Professor Charles G. Hornaday.

Willis R. Skelly is an expert agriculturist and is giving much energy to the management of the home farm, he and his father being associated in the business. He was graduated in 1911 with the Bachelor of Science degree in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, in 1914 received his degree Bachelor of Science in agriculture from Purdue University, and in 1916 was awarded the Master's degree by the same institution. For three years he had the valuable experience of working in connection with the Purdue University Agricultural Department as instructor in farm crops. Willis Roy married Arvilla Hornaday, of Lafayette, and they have one daughter, Virginia Mae.

HENDERSON M. RICHEY is a young man whose abilities and services have been much appreciated by the City of Auburn. He is the present city treasurer, having been appointed by the City Council on May 1, 1919, as successor to E. E. Shilling, who resigned.

Mr. Richey, who served the Government during the period of the war, is by profession a newspaper man. He was born at Angola, Indiana, September 20, 1894, a son of David H. and Luella A. (Moore) Richey. When he was a year and a half old his parents moved to Auburn, where his father was a buggy manufacturer and where he spent the rest of his life with the exception of several years in the newspaper business in Monroe, Michigan, and Fostoria, Ohio. Henderson Richey's mother is still living.

He was educated in the common schools of Auburn, graduating from the senior class of high school in 1915. He had already made considerable progress in a business way, having worked in newspaper offices carrying papers before and after school. On leaving high school he was given a regular place as reporter with the Evening Star at Auburn, and is the present city editor of that well known journal of DeKalb County.

February 5, 1918, Mr. Richey enlisted in the Spruce Production Division of the Air Service, and for thirteen months was employed in that work in



the states of Washington and Oregon. He was discharged with the rank of master electrician in the Air Service, the highest non-commissioned rank in that branch. He returned home March 16, 1919, and has found an abundance of civil and business duties to employ him.

Mr. Richey, who is unmarried, is a member of the Phi Delta Kappa Fraternity, is treasurer of the Men's Class of the Presbyterian Church, and is a member of the Red Cross Committee of DeKalb County.

**WILLIAM METZ.** For thirty consecutive years William Metz has planted and cultivated crops on his farm in Otsego Township of Steuben County, and he has properly earned and deserves all the generous prosperity he now enjoys.

Mr. Metz was born in Morrow County, Ohio, March 13, 1858, a son of Christopher and Eva Catherine (Gretchman) Metz. His parents were both natives of Baden, Germany, and came with their family to America in 1854. They had a long and tedious ocean journey of over 100 days, and one of their daughters was buried at sea. About 1860 the Metz family came to Otsego Township, and Christopher Metz spent the rest of his days there.

William Metz was only an infant when brought to Steuben County and as a boy he attended the district schools of Otsego Township. He left home in order to make his own way in the world and for about twelve years was a farm hand whose steadiness and industry commended him to all his employers.

On March 14, 1888, he married Lucetta Davis, and they at once began farming independently in section 14 of Otsego Township. Mr. and Mrs. Metz own eighty acres of land, and the buildings have been placed under their ownership. Mr. Metz does general farming and stock raising, keeps good grades of all live stock and takes splendid care of it. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

**EMMET FULGHUM** was born and reared in Wayne County, Indiana, in one of the fine old Quaker communities of that section of the state, and became identified with Northeast Indiana as a station clerk with the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad. He finally resigned that position to become cashier of the State Bank of Wolcottville, duties in which he is engaged at the present time.

Mr. Fulghum was born in Wayne County, Indiana, August 23, 1886, a son of Calvin and Margaret (Woodruff) Fulghum. His father, also a native of Wayne County, was a farmer and for many years was active in public affairs, being one of the leaders of the republican party in his county. He served two terms as trustee of New Garden Township, and also served as county assessor of Wayne County. He died in 1905 and his wife in 1907. They were prominent members of the Friends Church at New Garden and the father was a Mason and Knight of Pythias. Of their family of six children three are now living: Florence received a liberal education in high school and Earlham College, and was a teacher before her marriage to Harry Wooters. George B. is a high school graduate and a train dispatcher at Fort Wayne for the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad.

Emmet Fulghum grew up on his father's farm and finished his education in the high school at Fountain City. He then returned to the farm and worked a year, learned telegraphy, and was given his first position with the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad, and served that company faithfully at

Wolcottville and LaGrange. Since August 1, 1917, he has been cashier of the State Bank of Wolcottville.

He married Miss Lottie Taylor, daughter of S. P. Taylor, of Wolcottville. She was educated in the grammar and high schools. They have one son, Ralph. Mr. and Mrs. Fulghum are members of the Methodist Church and in politics he is a republican.

**GEORGE K. WISEL.** One of the names most frequently met with in Salem Township of Steuben County is that of Wisel. As a family they were among the earliest settlers, and the second child born in the township was Daniel R. Wisel, whose birth occurred March 9, 1837.

The late George K. Wisel was a son of Otis Wisel. The Wisel family for many generations lived at Providence, Rhode Island. Otis Wisel was a son of David Wisel, who was born in 1777 and was the seventh son in the seventh generation of seven sons. The name of each of this particular number in each generation was David, and all of them prior to the David that came to Steuben County operated a foundry in Rhode Island. David Wisel with his family, consisted of his wife and three youngest children and his two oldest sons and their families, settled in Salem Township, October 25, 1836. He entered the southwest quarter of section 10 from the Government, erected a log house and improved twenty acres, and lived there until his death in 1844. The five children to come with him to Indiana were David, Otis, Ira, Phoebe and Laura, while his other five children subsequently came from New York and joined him in that county.

Otis Wisel was born at Watertown, New York, in 1810, and was twenty-six years of age when he came to Indiana. He bought fifty acres from his father, and improved that and lived on it until the spring of 1853, when he bought a quarter section in section 22. He improved a large amount of land and was one of the leading farmers of his locality for many years. He married Betsey Van Pelt, who was born in Montgomery County, New York, in 1811. Their children were: Otis, Jr., Daniel R., mentioned above, Elizabeth and George K.

George Wisel was born in Salem Township, March 23, 1850. He acquired his education in the district schools and as a young man began farming in section 22 and remained on the same farm for more than fifty-five years. He was a man of fine qualities, successful in his affairs, was a charter member of Lodge No. 376 of the Knights of Pythias at Salem Center, and in many ways played a useful part in his community. He died May 17, 1908.

On February 10, 1873, he married Annie Coombs. She was born in Livingston County, New York, March 22, 1853, a daughter of William and Mary (Wheeler) Coombs, both natives of England. George K. Wisel and wife had five children. Elsie is a well known educator, has taught exclusively for over twenty years in Salem Township and is now a teacher in the grammar grades at Salem Center; Tellie was also a successful teacher for ten years and is the wife of Amos Grady; the third child is George O. Wisel, now proprietor of the old home-stead; Anna was a teacher for one year, married Charles Twitchell, and for the past thirteen years has been a nurse; Sabrina spent four years as a teacher in the primary grades at Helmer and is the wife of Ray Teeters and lives on a farm east of Pleasant Lake.

**CORNELIUS ALTLAND,** a leading farmer of Van Buren Township, LaGrange County, has lived in this county since early boyhood, and his early life was one of much struggle and hard work, while his later



years have brought him an enviable degree of prosperity and the highest esteem of his community.

Mr. Altland was born in York County, Pennsylvania, September 27, 1843, a son of Jacob and Elizabeth (Chamberlain) Altland. His father was a native of York County and his mother of Maryland. They were married in York County and in 1854 moved to White Pigeon, Michigan, buying a farm a mile east of that old town. Jacob Altland farmed there for many years and finally moved to Waterloo, Iowa, buying a farm in Blackhawk County. He died there in 1875, at the age of sixty-three. His widow subsequently returned East and died at White Pigeon in 1885, also about sixty-three years of age. Jacob Altland was a republican and a member of the Dunkard Church. His children were Edward, Sarah, Maria, Cornelius, Jacob, Elizabeth, William, Catharine, Jane, Anne and George.

Cornelius Altland received a limited education in the public schools, having attended school for about two months in Pennsylvania. When about fifteen years old he came to LaGrange County and worked for his uncle, Peter Altland. Later he was on a farm in Michigan for a year, and for over half a century has occupied his present location. This was the farm of John Dalton, and Mr. Altland leased it for twelve years, and subsequently he and his wife acquired possession. This homestead was originally 347 acres, but Mr. Altland has sold off fifteen acres. He built a fine house and other buildings and has followed general farming and has done much buying and selling of livestock. His farm has always been notable for its good stock. He raised one horse that was later sold to Theodore Roosevelt as a driving horse. Mr. Altland is a republican but has been a quiet citizen and without any aspirations for political office. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church.

In 1866 he married Frances Dalton. She was born on the farm where she now resides January 27, 1847, and has spent all her life in LaGrange County except for one year. Her parents were John and Anna (Hayner) Dalton, of an old and prominent family of LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Altland had six children, Inez, Zelda, Walter, Anna, Mortimer and Merle. The first two died in infancy and Merle died when five years old. Walter, who was born November 3, 1874, was educated in the public schools at Scott, and married Myrtie Reed, their one daughter, Verna, having been born November 11, 1905. Anna, who was born October 26, 1878, was educated in the Scott schools, was a teacher for one year, and is now the wife of Samuel Rehm. Mortimer attended the public schools and is a resident of Kalamazoo, Michigan, being superintendent of an enamel works in that city. He married Mary Miller.

WILSON CRAIN. No history of Steuben County would be complete without considerable mention of the Crain family, for it is one of the oldest as well as most important of those established in this part of Indiana during the pioneer period. By marriage the members of the Crain family are connected with other old families, among them being that bearing the name of Frink, and all have contributed much toward securing the present prosperity of this locality. One of the best representatives of these two old families is Wilson Crain of Steuben Township.

Wilson Crain was born on his present farm in section 36, Steuben Township, August 14, 1875, a son of James Madison Crain and grandson of Lucius Crain and Selah Frink. Lucius Crain, born in Connecticut, was reared in New York State, where he was married to Paulina Frink, a daughter of

Selah Frink. Word of the fertility of the Indiana farming land came to the people along the Atlantic Coast, and the Crains and Frinks decided to migrate. Selah Frink came first, locating in Otsego Township, Steuben County, and in 1837 Lucius Crain followed. The latter selected land in section 36, Steuben Township, in the same county, but after he had erected a log cabin and cleared off about five acres he became discouraged on account of the prevailing ill health of his neighbors, and went back to his old home. Learning of bettering conditions a little later, after two and one-half years absence, he came back and lived on his farm until his death in 1849, and here he reared his five children.

James Madison Crain, father of Wilson Crain, was born in Madison County, New York, in 1830, and so spent practically all of his life in Steuben County. When his father died he took charge of the homestead, and this property has descended to his two sons and daughter, Lucius, Wilson and Arvilla. James Madison Crain was married to Margaret J. Renner, a native of Pennsylvania, a daughter of John P. Renner, and they had three children: Arvilla, Lucius and Wilson. When James Madison Crain died in 1896 he was justly numbered among the prosperous farmers and substantial men of Steuben County.

Wilson Crain was brought up in a moral atmosphere, being watched over by careful parents, who believed in teaching their children how to become useful to themselves and their neighbors. During the formative period of his life he attended the Windfall School of District No. 7, and at the same time assisted with the work of the homestead. With his brother and sister he inherited the family property of 276 acres lying along the township line between Otsego and Steuben townships, Wilson Crain living in the last named township and his brother in the former. The brothers operate their land together and have never been separated in their business operations.

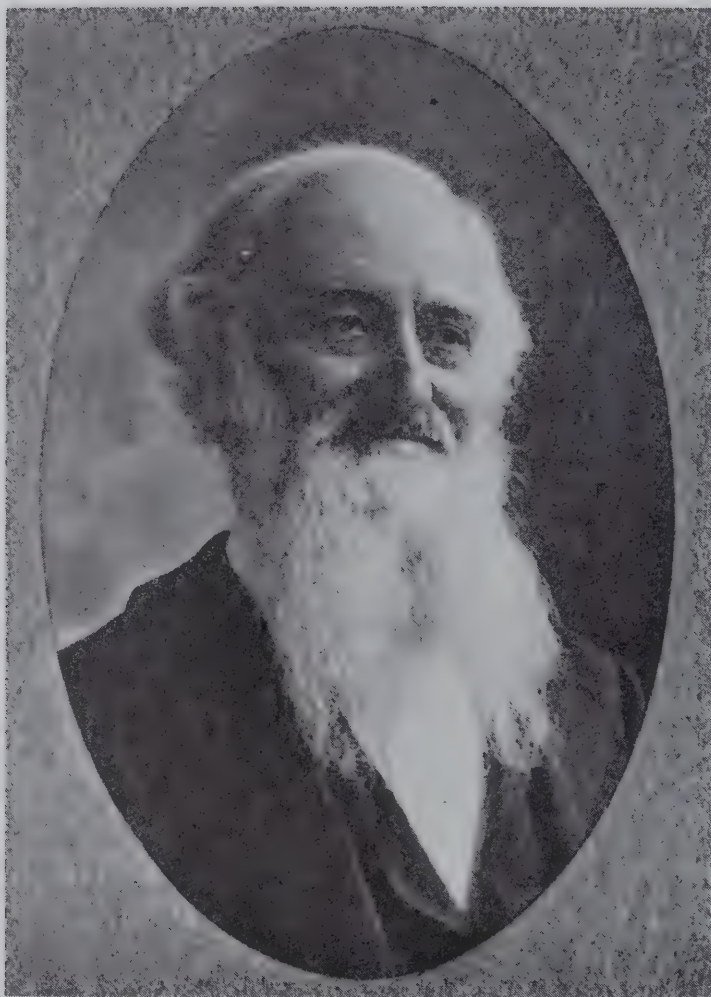
On August 16, 1918, Wilson Crain was united in marriage with Helen Renner, a daughter of Samuel and Kate Renner. Mr. and Mrs. Crain have no children. Mr. Crain belongs to the Knights of Pythias. Both he and his brother are representative men, who take an interest in public affairs and the advancement of their neighborhood. They are engaged in general farming and breeding Shorthorn cattle, and their farm equipment is of the finest, they recognizing that in order to produce the best results it is necessary to have modern buildings and machinery, and their success proves that they are right.

GEORGE C. MORGAN, cashier of the Wildman State Bank at Wolcottville, has been a prominent factor in LaGrange County affairs for many years, is a former clerk of the Circuit Court, and was long identified with the newspaper business. Mr. Morgan still makes his home at LaGrange.

He was born in South Wales, November 20, 1859, a son of Henry and Martha (Parry) Morgan. His parents were also natives of Wales, and on coming to the United States in 1873 settled in Pennsylvania and later moved to LaGrange, Indiana. Henry Morgan followed the business of gardening, and that was his first trade throughout his life in the United States. His wife was a member of the Protestant Episcopal Church and he was a Methodist and a democrat. Of six children only two are now living. Mary E. is the widow of George Shapland and lives at LaGrange.

George C. Morgan was only thirteen years old when he came to this country and up to that time





*W. L. King*



his education had been acquired in the private and public schools of Wales. He also attended school in LaGrange, and as a boy went to work in the offices of the LaGrange Standard. He learned printing and the newspaper business with that paper and served it in various capacities. From 1900 to 1903 he was associated with Carl H. Rerick in the ownership of the Standard. Mr. Morgan in 1903 was appointed clerk of the LaGrange Circuit Court, and in 1904 was regularly elected for a four year term on the republican ticket. He gave all his time to the duties of the office until January, 1909. In October, 1910, he bought a half interest in the Saturday Call from W. D. Rheubottom, and continued with that paper until he sold out four years later to the LaGrange County Democrat. From 1914 to August, 1918, Mr. Morgan conducted a profitable general insurance business at LaGrange. At the latter date he was elected cashier of the Wildman State Bank at Wolcottville.

In 1880 he married Emma E. Speed. They have one daughter, Leda S., who is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and is the wife of Adolph Gaertner, of Toledo, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Gaertner have three children, named Morgan, Carl and Martha.

Mr. Morgan and family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a past grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and was financial secretary of his lodge for twenty-five years, until December 31, 1918. He is also a Mason and a member of the Encampment of Odd Fellows, being past chief patriarch and district deputy grand patriarch, and is a member of the LaGrange Rebekahs. In politics he is a republican, and served five terms as a member of the LaGrange school board, having been a member of the board for fifteen years.

CHARLES A. GRIFFITH spent several years as a railroad man, but recently resumed farming, the occupation to which he was reared and trained in youth. He operates some of the most productive land in Steuben Township, with home at Pleasant Lake.

He was born in Steuben County, December 15, 1870, son of John and Mary (Crandall) Griffith and a grandson of John Griffith, one of the pioneers of Steuben County. Grandfather John Griffith was born in Ohio in 1813 and came to Indiana in 1850, locating in DeKalb County and some years later acquired business interests that brought him to Steuben County. He died in 1860.

Charles A. Griffith grew up on the home farm and was educated in the public schools of Otsego Township. In early years he began working for monthly wages, later rented a farm, and from that went into the railroad service, in the building department, as a carpenter. That was his work and employment for about seven years, at the end of which time he returned to farming. In the fall of 1917 Mr. Griffith bought a farm adjoining Pleasant Lake, and in addition to that he also rents a place of 157 acres a mile from Pleasant Lake. His time and energies are therefore fully taken up with the business of general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Griffith is a republican in politics and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Pleasant Lake and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Hamilton. He and his wife are identified with the Baptist Church.

July 1, 1894, he married Miss Ella King. She was born in Richland Township, September 9, 1874, a daughter of Samuel and Martha (Heller) King. Her parents came from Pennsylvania to Steuben County when children. Samuel King was a son

of Peter and Elizabeth King, the former of whom died in 1880, at the age of eighty-one, and the latter in 1884. Samuel King spent his active life as a farmer, was a republican and a member of the Lutheran Church, and died in March, 1911, at the age of seventy-four. Mrs. Griffith's mother is still living at the age of eighty. There were nine children in the King family, six of whom are still living.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffith have four children, all living. Weir Eugene was born August 18, 1895, is a graduate of the Pleasant Lake High School, and in 1913 married Lucile Matson, a daughter of James Matson and a granddaughter of Lewis Matson, of a prominent family elsewhere referred to. Weir E. Griffith and wife have three children, named Maurice, Naomi and Johan. Ford Lauren Griffith, the second child, was born June 24, 1897, graduated from the Pleasant Lake High School, attended the Tri-State Normal College, and at the age of seventeen went west to Montana and has spent several years as a teacher in that state. When the war closed he was in an officers training school at Camp Taylor, Kentucky. The two younger children are Edith Lyle, born April 6, 1902, now a junior in the Pleasant Lake High School, and Gertrude Luella, born September 3, 1908.

BERNARD F. HAINES represents the thrifty and progressive element of the agricultural citizenship in Allen Township of Noble County. He has a good farm, one well tended and productive, and has made himself a factor in that rural community. His home is two miles north of Avilla.

Mr. Haines was born in Adrian, Michigan, August 28, 1890, son of Frank J. and Alice (Fowler) Haines. Frank J. Haines was born at Albany, New York, September 11, 1867, and when he was three years of age his parents moved to Adrian, Michigan. There he married Alice Fowler, who was born in Adrian, August 30, 1865. Both had attained educations in the local schools, including high school, and Alice Fowler had also attended Adrian College. After they married they located on a farm, and Frank J. Haines still cultivates 200 acres of the fine soil of Southern Michigan. His first wife died in 1902 and he then married his wife's sister. Bernard F. Haines was the only child of his father's first marriage.

He spent his boyhood days on the farm, attended the public and high schools of Adrian, and in 1910 graduated Ph. B. from Adrian College. He received a license to teach school but never used it, and has found farming more to his liking and more profitable withal.

A fellow student with him in Adrian College was Orpha A. King. They were married September 10, 1911. Mrs. Haines was born on the farm where she now lives in Noble County, Indiana, March 9, 1888, the only child of Hiram L. and Margaret A. (Brundige) King. Further reference to her honored father, one of the old timers of Noble County, is made in a later paragraph. Mrs. Haines was educated in the public schools before she attended college, and was a student in that institution three years. Mr. and Mrs. Haines have one child, Ruth Alice, born August 8, 1916.

Mr. Haines is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge No. 276, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, with the Royal Arch Chapter, with the Council, Royal and Select Masters, and with the Knight Templar Commandery at Kendallville. Both he and his wife are members of the Chapter of the Eastern Star at Kendallville. Politically, like many young men of modern times, he votes independently. Mr. Haines has 200 acres in his farm and has discharged his

responsibilities as a farmer and stock man with a high degree of success. He breeds Shorthorn cattle, and feeds a large number of cattle and sheep every year. He also has a farm in Michigan.

Hiram L. King, father of Mrs. Haines, was born in Perry Township of Geauga County, Ohio, October 2, 1826, and was a child when his parents moved to Portage County, Ohio, and later to Carroll County, and in May, 1837, established their pioneer home in Swan Township of Noble County, Indiana. Hiram L. King was a son of Hiram and Catherine (Lowe) King. Hiram King, Sr., was born in New York State July 13, 1799. Catherine Lowe was born in the same state May 4, 1803. Soon after their marriage they moved to Ohio and then more than eighty years ago chose a homestead in Noble County, in section 3, Swan Township, where they lived and labored and where their lives came to a close, Hiram King on April 16, 1866, and Catherine King December 14, 1883. Both were active members of the Presbyterian Church. In their family were six children.

Hiram L. King was eleven years of age when brought to Noble County, and he finished his education in the common and subscription schools here of the early days. He early made a hand on his father's farm of 400 acres. He was at home to the age of twenty-three and eventually bought his father's place of 400 acres and took his young bride to that as their first home. June 7, 1859, Hiram L. King married Frances A. Mumford. She died October 9, 1864, the mother of two children: Herbert H., who died October 21, 1884, and Helen F., born June 29, 1862, and died in June, 1893. On May 9, 1886, Hiram L. King married Mrs. Margaret (Brundige) Craig, widow of William N. Craig. Mr. and Mrs. King had one child, Orpha A., now Mrs. B. F. Haines. Hiram L. King for many years was one of the leading citizens of Noble County, a progressive and broad-minded farmer, and equally open minded and open hearted in all his public views and actions. He was a republican in politics. He died in Noble County October 23, 1907, and his widow passed away January 4, 1914.

LEWIS FETCH started into the world empty handed so far as inheritance was concerned, had only his native industry and intelligence to rely upon, and for several years was known in LaGrange County as a farm laborer and day workman. He had determination, thrift and unlimited energy, and for many years there has been a steady progress in his material circumstances. He is regarded as one of the best farmers and has one of the best farms in Van Buren Township.

Mr. Fetch was born in Prussia, Germany, July 13, 1857, but has been an American since infancy. His parents were Henry and Caroline (Walter) Fetch, both natives of Germany. They came to America in the spring of 1859, locating at White Pigeon in St. Joseph County, Michigan. Henry Fetch moved to Van Buren Township in 1861, and in December of that year his first wife died. Two years later he married Carolina Enderly. Henry Fetch showed his patriotism by enlisting in the Fourteenth Michigan Infantry in 1864, and was with his regiment in all its engagements until the close of the Civil war. He then returned home to Van Buren Township and lived there the rest of his life, becoming the owner of a farm of sixty-eight acres. He died in 1882, at the age of fifty-two. Lewis Fetch was the only child of his first marriage. By his second wife he was the father of Lena, Henry, William, Richard, Anna and Albert.

Lewis Fetch acquired all his education at the Stone

Lake School in Van Buren Township. He was working to pay his own way in the world when only a boy and for six years he was employed by different farmers and accepted any work that would afford him an honest living. He realized his ambition to become a land owner by a very modest start, his first purchase being eleven acres. With that as a nucleus he has gradually increased his property until he now owns 311 acres in Van Buren Township. This land comprises three farms, with a complete set of buildings. The building improvements represent his individual investment with the exception of one house and part of another. He has this land well equipped for general farming and stock raising.

In May, 1884, Mr. Fetch married Lavada Kline, a daughter of Reuben and Mary Ann (Snook) Kline. Her father was a farmer in St. Joseph County, Michigan, and died in 1911. The children of Reuben Kline were Viola, Lavada, Fred, Curtis and Ada. Mr. and Mrs. Fetch have two sons, Homer Charles and Oliver Lewis. The former married Mary Blair and has two children, Helena Opal and LeRoy Homer. Oliver married Myrtie Dunker, and their family consists of Lewis, Lorema and Loretta May. Mr. and Mrs. Fetch were reared in the Lutheran Church.

FRED CHADWICK. The Chadwick family is one of the old-established ones in Steuben County, where its representatives have made the name synonymous with integrity and public spirit. For many years there have been Chadwicks engaged in developing the fertile land of Northeastern Indiana, their efforts being directed toward gaining a living from tilling the soil, so that they are intimately associated with the agricultural history of this region. Other members of this family have achieved distinction along commercial and mercantile lines, and all of them are 100 per cent Americans and loyal citizens of the highest type.

One of the members of the Chadwick family living in Steuben County is Fred Chadwick, who owns eighty-seven acres of farm land in Steuben Township. He was born at Angola, Indiana, August 22, 1856, and he is a brother of Frank H. Chadwick, who is on the advisory board connected with the issuance of this history.

Growing up in Steuben Township, Fred Chadwick was reared by careful parents and given the educational advantages offered by the excellent rural schools of his neighborhood. His natural inclinations made him a farmer, and he has been engaged in this calling all of his life, his field of operation being Steuben Township with the exception of the years between 1880 and 1886, inclusively, when he was in the State of Kansas. Upon his return to Indiana Mr. Chadwick acquired his present farm of eighty-seven acres, on which he carries on general farming.

In April, 1886, Mr. Chadwick was united in marriage with Elнора Shaver, a daughter of Franklin and Fila Shaver. Mr. and Mrs. Chadwick have the following children: Fern, who married Charles Cook; Harry, who is one of Steuben County's soldier boys, is serving in the Eighth Replacement Unit, Section Five, Base Hospital Seven Hundred and Sixteen, American Expeditionary Forces; Merle, who married Roland Gramlin; Mildred; Carl; Olga and John. Mr. Chadwick belongs to the Masons and Gleaners, and his son Harry belongs to the Knights of Pythias.

SOLOMON NICHOLS is proprietor of a particularly fine farm in Scott Township, valuable and productive, and of especial interest to members of the



Nichols family, since it has been part of the family possessions in Steuben County through three generations. The land was acquired in its virgin state by Mr. Nichols' grandfather in the year 1852.

Solomon Nichols was born in Scott Township April 27, 1866, a son of Benjamin and Mary (Reek) Nichols. His grandparents were Samuel and Patience (Wellington) Nichols, both natives of Ohio, the former born in 1796 and the latter in 1801. They came to Steuben County about 1840, settling in Scott Township, near Scott Center, and later on the land where Solomon Nichols lives. Samuel Nichols died there September 18, 1861, at the age of sixty-five years, six months and thirteen days. From the time of his death the farm was owned by his son Solomon until 1890, and was bought by Benjamin Nichols and he in turn passed it on to the present owner, Solomon Nichols. Samuel and Patience Nichols had the following children: Perry, Esther, Nancy, Martha, Lucinda, Solomon, Benjamin and Betsey.

Benjamin Nichols was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, in 1834, and was a small boy when brought to Steuben County. He received a public school education and became an expert mechanic, a stone mason, a painter and a carpenter, and lived at Fremont and worked at his trade for a number of years. After twenty-one years of residence in Fremont he bought in 1890 the old homestead of eighty acres, and with the aid of his son Solomon made many improvements in his buildings and general equipment and also purchased thirty-five acres of adjoining land. He left the farm in 1904, and with his wife moved to Angola, where he spent his last days and where he died September 2, 1906, at the age of seventy-two. He was a republican in politics, and he and his wife were liberal in their religious views. Benjamin Nichols was widely esteemed as a veteran of the Civil war. He enlisted in Company C of the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry, and served during the last eighteen months of the war. He was a member of the Masonic Order at Angola.

July 31, 1865, Benjamin Nichols and Miss Mary Reek were married. Mrs. Benjamin Nichols, who is still living at Angola, was born in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, three miles from McKeesport, June 26, 1843, daughter of George and Nancy Jane (Mahood) Reek. George Reek was born in Germany and his wife was born in Pennsylvania in 1827. In 1852 George Reek came to Pleasant Township and bought a farm in Otsego Township of forty acres. John Mahood, maternal grandfather of Mrs. Benjamin Nichols, put up what was known as the old Davis sawmill and was a prominent pioneer miller in the county. He also ground meal in this mill on a stone burr that he made from a large native rock. He arrived in Steuben County about 1854. Mrs. Nichols' parents after selling their farm in Otsego Township bought eighty acres in Pleasant Township, in the midst of the woods, and later sold that and bought a farm in Scott Township, where they spent their last years. In the Reek family were the following children: Mary, Mrs. Benjamin Nichols, William, Martha Jane, Margaret Ann, Sarah, Emaline, George and John. Benjamin Nichols and wife had three children: Solomon, Samuel, of Fort Wayne, and Lottie, widow of Jacob Raber, also of Fort Wayne.

Solomon Nichols spent most of his youth and early manhood in Fremont, was educated in the public schools there and became a skilled carpenter and mason, trades which he followed until he began giving all his time and attention to the farm. Since his father left the farm he has kept its improvements going forward, and has both the land and the equipment required for his business as a farmer

and stock raiser. He keeps a number of grade Shorthorn cattle. Mr. Nichols has also taken a public spirited part in local affairs, serving as a member of the advisory board when the Scott High School was built. He is a republican in politics.

Mr. Nichols married Miss Etta Burch, January 12, 1896. They have two children, Ardith, a junior in the Scott High School, and Arthur, in the first year of the local high school. Mr. Nichols is a member of the Angola Co-operative Shippers Association.

Mrs. Nichols is a daughter of Chester and Jane (Maxton) Burch. Her father was born in Otsego Township of Steuben County, July 29, 1848, and died in Scott Township, May 24, 1904. His father, Chester Burch, Sr., was born in Vermont in 1810, son of Oliver Burch. He grew up in New York State and in Washington County, Ohio, and in 1831, in the latter locality, married Polly Davis, who was born in 1812. Chester Burch, Sr., came to Steuben County, Indiana, in the pioneer year of 1837, settling in Otsego Township and some years later buying eighty acres in section 10 of that township, where he lived until his death in 1879. He and his wife had seven children. Chester Burch, Jr., was an active farmer for many years, was a republican, an Odd Fellow, and he and his wife were members of the Christian Church. On June 28, 1868, Chester Burch married Jane Maxton, Mrs. Nichols being their only child. Jane Maxton was born in Richland County, Ohio, May 6, 1847, and is now living with her daughter. Her parents were John and Christina (Ralston) Maxton, both natives of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. From Pennsylvania they moved to Richland County, Ohio, lived there many years and in 1860 came to Steuben County, Indiana, settling in Otsego Township, where John Maxton died January 8, 1901, at the age of eighty-seven, and his wife on October 23, 1902, aged seventy-nine.

GEORGE SHUMAKER is one of those fortunate men who have never been obliged to go far from home and birthplace to secure their opportunities for useful labor in the world. He is living today on the farm where he was born in Steuben Township, and for many seasons has helped produce the generous crops on a farm that was formerly owned by his father.

Mr. Shumaker was born November 30, 1876, a son of John and Amanda (Chard) Shumaker, the former born in Virginia December 31, 1824, and the latter in Ohio in 1833. John Shumaker was a pioneer settler of Steuben County. He came to this section of Northeast Indiana a poor man, seeking opportunities to better his condition, and his hard work and his ability in handling livestock and in all other branches of agriculture brought him a striking success. He first settled east of Pleasant Lake four miles, on a farm that he later sold to Lewis Fifer. Subsequently he bought the farm occupied by his son, George, and lived there until his death in 1887. Besides the 166-acre farm where his son George lives he owned 160 acres in Salem Township and another place of eighty acres in the same township. He was a democrat in politics and his wife was a member of the United Brethren Church. Their children were: Cyrenus, born in 1853; Dolly, born in 1855; Sylvester, born in 1858; Eliza, born in 1862; John, born in 1864; Ella, born in 1867; Elijah, born in 1870; and George, born in 1876.

George Shumaker, the youngest of the family, is joint owner with his brother Elijah of the old homestead. As a boy he attended the Parsell school,



and he learned habits of industry from his father. He was about twelve years old when his father died, and his share of the inheritance was forty-six acres of the homestead. He soon after went to work for himself and subsequently rented some of his brother's land. Gradually his efforts have borne fruit and he is one of the substantial property owners of Steuben County. The substantial house in which he lives was built by his mother after his father's death. The barn represents one of Mr. Shumaker's many improvements.

He is independent in politics and attends the Trinity Reformed Church, of which his wife is a member.

In 1900 Mr. Shumaker married Miss Rosa Parker. She was born in Marshall County, Indiana, a daughter of William and Pena Parker, who lived in Steuben County for a few years but afterward returned to Marshall County, where her father died in 1918. Her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Shumaker have three sons, Harry, born March 19, 1901; Oscar, born May 16, 1902; and Ora, born September 2, 1905. These boys have all received good advantages both at home and in the public schools.

ULYSSES S. WILLARD, who for many years has been one of the familiar and popular figures in the State Bank of Lima at Howe, is a member of an old LaGrange County family, though he was born in Morris County, Kansas, May 2, 1873. His parents are Ransom J. and Susan M. (Horner) Willard, whose careers are noted on other pages of this publication.

Mr. Willard was a small child when his parents settled at Pleasant Lake in Steuben County and in 1884 they removed to Ontario, where Ulysses S. Willard completed his education in the public schools. He graduated in 1892 from the Lima High School at Howe, and then for a period of six years was a teacher. Since 1899 he has had his home continuously at Howe. For a year and a half he worked in a local hardware store, then for one year was a rural mail carrier, delivering mail over one of the first routes established in LaGrange County, and in 1903 entered the service of the State Bank of Lima, with which he has been identified ever since.

Mr. Willard is a republican and for the past four years has served as trustee of Lima Township. He is affiliated with Howe Lodge No. 698, Free and Accepted Masons., LaGrange Chapter No. 102, Royal Arch Masons, Council No. 50, Royal and Select Masters, at Kendallville, and is a member of the Scottish Rite bodies at Fort Wayne. He is also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Howe and he and his wife belong to the Episcopal Church. They own the old Will Block in LaGrange.

Mr. Willard married Miss Harriet R. Schaeffer on April 29, 1896. She is a daughter of James W. Schaeffer of Howe. To their marriage were born three children: Ruth S., who has completed the work of the Lima High School at Howe; Paul, a senior in the Lima High School; and Kenneth S., who is in the junior year of his high school work.

CLARENCE F. DALLY. Members of the Dally family have been residents of Steuben County for over half a century. They have been known as farmers, intelligent and public-spirited citizens, and people of the utmost personal and community worth.

One of them is Clarence F. Dally, who now has a well-ordered farm in Otsego Township, where he was born September 27, 1882. His grandfather, Vincent Dally, was born in Vermont, May 24, 1812, and died October 25, 1888. On March 17, 1842, he

married Hannah Mumper. She was born in Pennsylvania January 4, 1821, and died March 26, 1888. Vincent Dally came to Steuben County and settled in Richland Township about 1863, and lived there the rest of his life, for twenty-five years. The record of his children is: Margaret, born March 24, 1843, was married to Silas Shoup on March 22, 1865; Marion, born November 14, 1846, died March 21, 1902; Mary Jane, born January 16, 1849, became the wife of Hortie Lamport on May 27, 1875; Sarah, born August 25, 1851, married Richard Burrell February 15, 1881; Lovine Ellen, born January 15, 1856, married Frank Metzler August 20, 1876; Emma, born September 2, 1858, died December 8th of the same year; Relifa Alice, born February 26, 1863, married on April 10, 1881, Elsworth Cary.

Marion Dally, father of Clarence, was born in Ashland County, Ohio, November 14, 1846. He married, April 25, 1875, Miss Jennie Bland, a native of Seneca County, Ohio, and daughter of William Bland. As a young man he began farming in Richland Township and after his marriage moved to Otsego Township, where he spent the rest of his life and where he acquired the ownership of a good farm of 120 acres. His first wife died October 17, 1882, the mother of two children, Clyde F. and Clarence F. He married for his second wife Rhoda A. Bland, sister of his first wife. They have one daughter, Elsie B.

Clarence F. Dally after attending the public schools of Otsego Township went to work on his father's farm and continued to work the fields after his father's death. At the age of twenty-one he rented the home place for three years, and in 1905 came to his present home, where he bought sixty acres. Since then he has bought thirteen and one-third acres, and now has his land in fine condition. His farm is in sections 1 and 12 of Otsego Township, and is devoted to general crops and stock raising.

January 6, 1904, Mr. Dally married Ethel J. Parrott, a daughter of Orson and Mary Parrott. They have two daughters, Mabel, born August 27, 1910, and Marjorie, born April 3, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Dally are members of the Christian Church at Metz.

WILLIAM LEPLEY is proprietor of one of the valuable small farms of Salem Township, a place where he has spent practically all his life, and which his father took and improved from the woods more than half a century ago.

Mr. Lepley was born in Huron County, Ohio, February 7, 1862, and was about two years of age when his parents came to Indiana. He is a son of Samuel and Catherine (Hender) Lepley, the former a native of Greenfield Township, Ashland County, Ohio, and the latter of the same locality. His grandparents were Peter and Catherine (Dick) Lepley. Peter Lepley, a native of Pennsylvania, moved from there to Huron County, Ohio, and spent the rest of his active life on a farm there. His last two or three years were spent in Salem Township at the home of his only son, Samuel. He had one daughter, who was the wife of Levi Ludwig. Samuel Lepley came to Salem Township in 1864, and at that time bought seventy acres in section 15, the land being covered with heavy woods. He cleared away a considerable part of it and lived there the rest of his industrious life. He and his wife were active members of the Reformed Lutheran Church. They had two children, Ella and William.

William Lepley acquired his education in the public schools of Salem Township, and even as a boy took some heavy responsibilities in the field and in the other work around the farm. He also learned the carpenter's trade, and has used his skill not

only at home but in the service of a large community. In connection with farming he has done more or less carpenter work during the past twenty years. He has been the responsible manager of the old farm since 1889, and today owns fifty-five acres. He and his wife are active members of the Lutheran Reformed Church.

July 4, 1888, Mr. Lepley married Deborah Conklin. She was born at the village of Salem, September 2, 1861, a daughter of Ensign and Elizabeth (Hollister) Conklin. Mr. and Mrs. Lepley have a family of six children: Guy, who married Gladys Spangler and has three children, Udell, Winifred and Oneta; Hazel, Cecil, who during the war was a member of Battery A of the Third Regiment of Field Artillery at Camp Jackson; Herbert, who sailed overseas in March 1918, as a member of Company A of the Twenty-Fourth Engineers, and was part of the American Expeditionary Forces; Sheldon; and Katheryn.

Ensign Conklin, father of Mrs. Lepley, was born in Ohio, son of David Conklin and a grandson of Isaac Conklin. The Conklins were among the first families to settle in Steuben County. Isaac Conklin arrived here in 1842. David Conklin came to Steuben County in September, 1844, locating in section 15 of Salem Township. He was born in New York State in 1803 and married Polly Van Vleet. They were the parents of seven children. Ensign Conklin spent his life as a farmer in Salem Township. His wife, Elizabeth Hollister, was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Artemus and Clarissa Hollister. Artemus Hollister, also a native of Pennsylvania, came from there to Salem Township in the early days and had to cut a road four miles between Pleasant Lake and the place of his settlement. He lived on a farm in Salem Township the rest of his life and reared a family of three sons and three daughters.

Ensign Conklin, who was the oldest of the family of seven children, had the assistance of his brothers in clearing up a good farm of 160 acres. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Church at Salem Center and he was a democrat in politics. Their children were six in number, George, Dora, Estella, Guy, Deborah, and Flora. Dora and Estella are both deceased.

**THEODORE F. WOOD, M. D.** If it were the purpose to single out the physician whose service has been longest and whose work has been most representative of the high character of the medical profession in Steuben County, choice would inevitably fall upon the veteran Theodore F. Wood, who handled his first cases in this locality while the Civil war was in progress, and rounded out a full half century of effective work in his profession and in behalf of his fellow men.

He is not the only member of the Wood family conspicuous in the medical profession in Steuben County. He was one of four brothers and all of them adopted medicine as their career and all of them practiced in Steuben County.

His forefathers were English people, and his grandfather was born in Canada and moved from there to New York State, where he reared his family. The father of Dr. Wood was Joseph Wheeler Wood, who was born in New York State in 1801. His first wife died young, the mother of one daughter. He married for his second wife Sarah Farnham, who was born in Connecticut in August, 1804. She was of Welsh ancestry. They had eight children: Warren Alphonso, Elizabeth, Sarah, Phedima, Hugh D., Melvina, Theodore F. and Frederick B. In 1843 the Wood family moved to Williams County, Ohio, and in 1846 settled in

DeKalb County, Indiana, where Joseph Wheeler Wood died in February, 1851, and his wife in 1859.

Of the four physician brothers the oldest, Warren Alphonso, began practice in 1850 at Metz in Steuben County and later moved to Angola, where he died in 1868, at the age of forty-two. Hugh D., the second brother, was born in 1836, worked his way through college by teaching and farming, studied medicine under his brother Warren A. and later in college, and began practice at Metz in 1861. In 1869 he moved to Angola to succeed to the practice of his deceased brother, and was engaged in his professional work there until his death, December 17, 1918, at the advanced age of eighty-three. He was one of the prominent men of Steuben County in many ways. He was one of the founders of Fort Wayne Medical College, held a chair in its faculty, was president of the County Society, of the Northeast Indiana Medical Society, and otherwise widely known in medical circles. He was the first secretary of the County Board of Health, and led in the organization and was the first president of the Tri-State Normal College Association at Angola. The youngest of the four brothers, Frederick B., began practice at Big Rapids, Michigan, in 1866, later moved to LaGrange, Indiana, and finally to Garrett, Indiana, and spent his last days with his brother, Theodore, at Angola. He had a record of service as a soldier during the Civil war.

Of the sisters of Dr. Wood Elizabeth married Dr. Solomon Stough, of DeKalb County, and both are now deceased. Sarah died in DeKalb County when a young woman. Phedima became the wife of Leveret Williams and died in DeKalb County. Melvina is the wife of David Ferrier, of Steuben County, later moving to Kansas, where he died. Dr. Theodore F. Wood was born in Chenango County, New York, June 2, 1840, and was three years old when his parents moved to Ohio and six when they settled in DeKalb County. After the death of his father he lived with his sister, Mrs. Stough, and while there attended district schools and did chores at home and around his brother-in-law's office. This early association with Dr. Stough was the primary influence leading to a career as a physician. Like his brothers he paid for his preparation by his own earnings. He was a farm hand and also a teacher, and by the earnings of these occupations paid for four years at Hinsdale College in Michigan. He also studied medicine with his brother, Warren A., at Metz, and for six consecutive terms taught school in Otsego Township. During the winter of 1863-64 he attended Rush Medical College at Chicago and then began practice at Metz with his brother. He remained in the practice there when his brother moved to Angola in 1865. Progressiveness has always been a feature characterizing the professional careers of the Wood brothers. Dr. Wood never neglected an opportunity to improve his skill and experience. Though well established in private practice, he took additional courses in the Charity Hospital Medical College at Cleveland in 1868-69, where he received his Medical Doctor degree, again spent some time in Rush Medical College, and in 1872-73 attended lectures in New York and Philadelphia. In 1887 he and his brother, Hugh, went abroad and spent much time in the hospitals of London and the Continent. His reputation as a physician brought him an extensive practice not only over Steuben County, but over DeKalb County and Williams County, Ohio. Dr. Wood has served as president and secretary of the County Medical Society, also as president and in other offices of the Northeast Indiana Medical Society, and has long been a member of the Indiana State and the American Medical associations. He



was made a Mason in 1861 and an Odd Fellow in 1863, and is one of the oldest members of these orders. He is affiliated with Angola Commandery No. 45 of the Knights Templar and Fort Wayne Consistory of the Scottish Rite. Dr. Wood is liberal in his religious views, but has assisted financially in building churches in a number of localities in this part of Indiana and also in Ohio. He was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Angola, and has always been on its Board of Directors. Among property interests he owns two good farms a mile and a half from Angola.

April 12, 1863, Dr. Wood married Miss Elizabeth Powers, who was born in Steuben County in January, 1842, daughter of Calvin and Emeline Powers, well known farming people of Steuben County. Mrs. Wood died May 5, 1908. They were the parents of three children: Lillie, the oldest, died at the age of fourteen months. Edna B. is the wife of Dr. Thomas J. Creel of Angola.

Alphonso Calvin Wood, the only son of Dr. Wood, chose the profession of law as his life work and is one of the leading attorneys of the Steuben County bar. He was born in Richland Township of this county, January 23, 1874, and lived at Metz to the age of eighteen. While there he attended the public schools and on July 7, 1895, graduated in the classical course from the Tri-State College at Angola, and on June 22, 1899, received his LL. B. degree from the law department of the University of Michigan. Since then he has been in active practice, having been admitted to the bar in April, 1897. Mr. Wood is a democrat, served as town clerk, is a member of the Congregational Church, and is a Knight Templar and Scottish Rite Mason.

June 28, 1899, he married Miss Mayme Moffett, daughter of Thomas R. and Mary (Moffett) of Angola. They have one son, Theodore Thomas, who represents the fourth generation of the Wood family in this part of Indiana, and was born February 2, 1905, and is now a high school student at Angola.

THOMAS J. CREEL, M. D. Recently Dr. Creel concluded a quarter of a century of steady practice as a physician and surgeon in Steuben County. His work has been attended with every degree of success and attainment, and he is easily one of the leaders in his profession in Northeast Indiana.

Dr. Creel was born at Parkersburg, West Virginia, April 5, 1868, son of John N. and Calista D. (Parmenter) Creel, the former a native of West Virginia and the latter of New York. Dr. Creel's mother died in 1873 at Parkersburg. John N. Creel spent his last days in Steuben County, where he died in 1895. There were seven children: Hattie V., Kate, Emma, Anna, Gilly, Lorenzo D. and Thomas J.

Dr. Creel attended district schools near Parkersburg, and in 1886, at the age of eighteen, came to Angola, Indiana to enter the Tri-State College. He first graduated in the commercial course and later in the normal course and prepared for teaching. After two years of teaching he entered upon the study of medicine in 1888 at Metz with Dr. Theodore F. Wood whose daughter he later married. In 1889 he entered Rush Medical College at Chicago, from which he graduated in 1893. He at once located at Angola, and has long been associated with Dr. Wood. He is a member in good standing in the County and State Medical societies and the American Medical Association. Dr. Creel is a democrat and at one time served as mayor of Angola. He is active in Masonry, being affiliated with Angola Commandery No. 45, Knights Templar, Fort Wayne Consistory of the Scottish Rite, and

the Mystic Shrine. He and his family attend the Congregational Church.

March 31, 1891, Dr. Creel married Miss Edna B. Wood, daughter of Dr. T. F. Wood. They have two children: Joyce V. and Donald W., the latter now a student in the Angola High School. Joyce after graduating from the local high school attended Belmont College for Girls at Nashville, Tennessee, was two years in St. Mary's Academy at South Bend, and prior to her marriage was a successful teacher of domestic science in the high school at Angola and also the Tri-State College. She is now the wife of Martin Eastburn of Indianapolis. Mr. Eastburn during a portion of the war was training as a soldier in one of the camps in Kentucky.

DAVID E. WRIGHT. The fine record of a family through four generations in Steuben County is properly considered in the individual career of David E. Wright, one of the leading farmers and citizens of Salem Township.

This record goes back to his great-grandfather Jephtha A. Wright, who was born in New Hampshire in June, 1788, and married in that state Betsey Emerson. From New Hampshire they went to New York, all their children were born there, and Jephtha Wright followed the trade of blacksmith and later bought a farm in Orleans County. In 1837 he made a further stage of his western journey, going to Southern Michigan and buying a farm of eighty acres near Ypsilanti. The following fall he came to Steuben County to get land for his sons, several of whom had reached manhood. Acquiring 133 acres in section 19 of Salem Township, he was so pleased with the country that he soon followed with his family from Michigan. He found Steuben County practically a wilderness, his own land without a stick cut, and the first home to which he introduced his family was a log house. His first wife died in 1848 and his second wife in 1872. He lived until June, 1874, when almost eighty-six years of age. Those of his children to reach mature age were: Edward, Hemen, Mary, Evans, Elbridge, Chauncy, Charles and Richard. Jephtha Wright during his residence in Steuben County together with his sons acquired the ownership of about 700 acres of land.

The family history is carried on through his son Elbridge, who was born in New York State December 28, 1822, and died May 28, 1879. He was about fifteen years old when brought to Steuben County, grew up on the pioneer farm in Salem Township, and was one of the highly successful farmers in the county, owning 300 acres of land. He married Martha Ann Cochran, who was born in Ohio March 3, 1824. His widow survived him several years, and their children were Elnora, Henry, Cyrus, Monroe and Marion, twins, Elsie and Dora.

The representative of the third generation was Henry Wright, who was born in Salem Township May 29, 1850. With the exception of three years he spent all his life on a Salem Township farm in sections 19 and 20 now owned by his son David. For three years he operated a sawmill at Fairfield Center, and aside from that time his vocation continuously was one of an agriculturist. He acquired the 160 acres in sections 19 and 20 in 1881, and that combined with twenty acres in section 21 gave him the large farm now owned by his son. He was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Improved Order of Red Men. Henry Wright died February 15, 1909. He married Mary E. Frederick. She was born in Salem Township June 26, 1850, and died September 12, 1906. Her parents were David and Mary



(Fisher) Frederick, the former a native of Stark County, Ohio, and moving to Salem Township of Steuben County prior to the Civil war, in which he served as a Union soldier. After the war he spent the rest of his active life as a Salem Township farmer and lived retired at Hudson for about three years before his death. The children of David Frederick and wife were Susanna, Mary E. and Sarah, twins, Joseph and Josie, Ephraim and Jennie.

David E. Wright, who was born during the brief residence of his parents at Fairfield Center in DeKalb County September 28, 1873, was one of two children, his brother Charles E. dying when nine years old. He acquired a good education in the district schools of Salem Township, attended school at Angola one term, and in early life assumed increasing responsibilities in the management of the fine farm of his father and eventually succeeded to its ownership and has lived there since he was eight years old. His affairs have prospered and the farm represents a valuable property. In 1902 he built the farm house in which he lives, and nearby is another dwelling occupied by a tenant.

October 30, 1895, Mr. Wright married Miss Celia A. Hunt. She was born near Kendallville, Indiana, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Spero) Hunt. They had three children: Russell L., who died at the age of fifteen months; Floyd E., born September 11, 1900; Laurence, born January 2, 1905.

URVAN J. TROYER. The country owes much to the intelligent labors of its farmers and stockraisers, for it is largely dependent on their efforts. While there are but few farms of the old-fashioned type remaining in LaGrange County, where antiquated farm methods are still pursued, not every farmer here is as progressive and enterprising as Urvan J. Troyer, who carries on his industries in Clay Township and is widely known as a breeder of Holstein cattle.

Urvan J. Troyer was born in Newbury Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, October 6, 1880, and is a son of Samuel and Fannie (Eash) Troyer, the latter of whom was born in 1862, and the former in 1860, in Harvard County, Indiana. Extended mention of his father, Jeremiah Troyer, will be found in this work. When fourteen years old Samuel Troyer accompanied his parents to Newbury Township, LaGrange County, where he became a farmer and owned 210 acres of land. In 1911 he removed to Elkhart County and now resides on his farm of forty acres there. His seven children were as follows: Emma, Urvan J., Matie, Lizzie, Martha, Bertha (deceased), and Edith. Samuel Troyer is a republican in politics, and he and family belong to the Mennonite Church.

Urvan J. Troyer continued in school until he left the Shipshewana High School, and then began the business of cultivating land and raising stock, to which he has given his close attention. He owns 212 acres of valuable land, which he operates intelligently, according to the best approved modern methods, and is greatly interested in his stock, having the sensible opinion that the best grade is the most profitable. As one evidence of his good judgment his investment for breeding purposes in Holstein cattle may be cited. At the present time he has in his fine herd a cow with the record of twenty-four pounds of butter in seven days, which almost equals the butter record of the famous champion Holstein cow that was sold at Philadelphia in June, 1919, and brought \$26,000. Mr. Troyer has been equally judicious in the selection of his other high grade stock of pure bred swine and Shropshire sheep.

In 1902 Mr. Troyer was united in marriage to Miss Addie Miller, who was born in Clay Township, LaGrange County, November 28, 1881, and is a daughter of Moses P. Miller, mention of whom will be found on another page of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Troyer have four children, namely: Marie, Wavia, Bernice and Glenn. Mr. Troyer and his family are of the Mennonite faith. Mr. Troyer is a republican in politics.

DOAK ROBERT BEST. Of the present bar of Steuben County one of the men longest in practice and with many accumulated honors of the profession and public life is Judge Doak Robert Best.

He was born in Huntington County, Indiana, June 16, 1850, son of James C. and Jane Eliza (Doak) Best. His grandfather, James Best, and wife, Mary (Coulter) Best, were both natives of Virginia and spent all their lives there. Of their family of fifteen children all but one daughter removed from Virginia to other states. James C. Best was born in Augusta County, Virginia, in 1800 and his wife in 1805. They married in Virginia and about 1822 moved to Kentucky, and about 1836 settled among the pioneers of Huntington County, Indiana, where they bought a farm three miles north of the county seat. James C. Best lived there until his death in 1869, his wife surviving until 1872. He was a whig and later a republican and a strong abolitionist in sentiment. At one time he was a member of the Board of County Commissioners in Huntington County. He and his wife had seven sons and seven daughters, twelve of whom reached adult years.

Judge Best, youngest of the family and the only one now living, was reared on a farm in Huntington County and lived there to the age of nineteen. He supplemented a district school education by attending the Warsaw High School, and for a time was a teacher at Leesburg in Kosciusko County and also in Huntington County at Andrews. He received the degree Bachelor of Science from the Lebanon Normal College in 1872, and was a student of law all the time he was teaching. He was also in the office of his brother, George W. Best, a well known attorney at Elkhart. Judge Best located at Angola in the spring of 1875, and has continuously been a member of the bar for over forty years. He has owned some property in Angola ever since 1875, and has some farm lands in the county. In 1875 he became associated with Jesse M. Gale and Leland H. Stocker, both old and prominent lawyers of Steuben County, under the firm name of Gale, Stocker & Best. The senior partners retired about 1883, and afterward for six years Judge Best and Judge Emmet A. Bratton were in partnership. Charles A. Yotter became a member of the firm in 1893, and the title of the firm was Best, Bratton & Yotter until Judge Bratton was elected circuit judge. It then remained Best & Yotter. Judge Best has frequently been appointed a special judge, and therefore his popular title is not merely honorary. He is an active republican, has served as a member of the School Board six years, was county attorney for a number of years in his earlier career, and is now serving his second four year term as city attorney. He served as a member of the Legislature in 1883 and again in 1885. Judge Best is one of the organizers of the Angola Bank Trust Company, the name of the institution being suggested by him. For the past three years he has been its president and is one of the directors. For many years he has taken a helpful part in the affairs of the Tri-State College, served several years as a trustee, and is now dean of the law department. Judge Best is a

member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

March 11, 1875, Judge Best married Mary E. Lancaster, of Baltimore, Maryland. She graduated from the State Normal School at Baltimore, completed a classical course in the Tri-State College at Angola, and for several years was a teacher in public schools. She is now employing her time as teacher of French in the Tri-State College, and she instructed a class of soldier boys in that language in 1918.

FRANK D. MUNGER was born on a farm in Northeast Indiana, has always been more or less interested in farming and farm ownership, but his main tastes and talents have run along mechanical lines. It is doubtful if a more skillful machinist can be found in this section of the state than Frank D. Munger. He has served several large corporations and at present is connected with the Western Gas Company of Fort Wayne.

Mr. Munger was born in Noble County, Indiana, June 25, 1863, a son of Orin and Mary (Ayers) Munger, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of New Jersey. His maternal grandparents were Enoch and Nancy (Riker) Ayers. Enoch Ayers was a native of New York, was a turner and millwright by trade, and was one of the early settlers of Pleasant Township in Steuben County. His children were named Mary, Hestran, Nancy, Armstrong, Margaret, and Isaac.

Orin Munger came to Pleasant Township of Steuben County in 1864 and bought a farm from his father-in-law, Enoch Ayers. He lived on that farm in Pleasant Township until about 1874, when he moved to Jackson Township and became the owner of a place of 160 acres, which he cultivated and occupied until his death. He and his wife had the following children: Lorenzo D.; Virginia J., who became the wife of Alexander Hallstead; Frank D.; Brazil; and Edith, who married Granville McClure.

Frank D. Munger spent his early life on his father's farm, attended public schools in Pleasant and Jackson townships, and in early manhood learned the trade of blacksmith. Working in iron proved a fascinating occupation to him, and he gradually developed his skill as a machinist and for upwards of thirty years has been a machinist of rare and skillful workmanship. About 1899 he bought a farm of 275 acres in section 36 of Jackson Township, and still owns that fine place. He improved it with buildings, and personally supervised its cultivation and management for sixteen years. Since then the farm has been rented to his son Clarence. After leaving the farm Mr. Munger was employed as a machinist by S. F. Bowers at Fort Wayne, eight months later joined the Western Gas Company there, and in January, 1919, moved to Angola, where for four or five months he was in the machine works. Since then he has resumed his place with the Western Gas Company.

Mr. Munger married Allie Zimmerman, a daughter of John Zimmerman. Both are members of the Methodist Church at Angola. To their marriage were born nine children, Ralph, Lula, Roy, Eula, Vera, Clarence, Etta, Clyde and Paul. Eula and Etta died in early childhood. Ralph married for his first wife Della Meeks, and their children were Orlow, Ora, Waldo, Harold and Ruth. She died at the birth of her daughter Ruth, and Ralph Munger has since married Mrs. Edna Brown. The daughter Lula was the wife of Herbert Jackson and has a daughter, Pauline, and her second hus-

and is Lloyd Pairon. Roy is the soldier representative of the family, having served in the One Hundred and Twenty-Seventh Field Artillery with the Expeditionary Forces. He married Jennie Pairon and has a son, Donald. Clarence, manager of the home farm, married May Griffin and has two children, Ida May and John.

EVERITT W. SHANK is in the opinion of many, one of the very best and most successful farmers in Eden Township of LaGrange County. He lives on the old Short estate in section 6, and both his crops and livestock show the evidence of his skill and management. He now farms over 200 acres.

Mr. Shank was born in Elkhart County of Indiana, June 3, 1864, a son of Jonas and Lucinda (Bentley) Shank, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of New York State. Jonas Shank came with his parents to Elkhart County in 1836. The family were pioneers in the Forest Grove community, where he grew to manhood. The Bentley family were also early settlers in Elkhart County. Jonas Shank and wife after their marriage moved to LaGrange County, where they spent the rest of their lives. Of their five children three are still living: Jane, widow of Oscar Short, of Goshen, Indiana; Lucy, wife of C. C. Method, of Milersburg, Indiana; and Everitt.

The latter grew up in LaGrange County and attended the district schools to the age of seventeen. On December 31, 1893, he married Burdette Kauffman. She was born in Elkhart County in 1875, and had a common and high school education. After their marriage they settled on their present farm of 200 acres, and Mr. Shank has been handling that fine property for a quarter of a century. As a livestock man he is well known as a breeder of thoroughbred Hereford cattle, Poland China hogs and Belgian horses. He and his wife are members of the Lutheran Church at Fish Lake and he has served as church trustee. He is a republican in politics.

Mr. and Mrs. Shank have five children: Helen, Willis, Irene, Wilma and Carl. Helen is the wife of Ray Larimer, of Eden Township, while the other children are still at home.

DAVID H. REESE. The Reese family had a very interesting and useful part in the pioneer development of Williams County, Ohio, and from that section their interests many years ago were transferred to Steuben County. David H. Reese, a native of Williams County, has lived in Steuben County for a quarter of a century, part of the time as a farmer and latterly as a successful merchant at Angola.

He was born in Williams County, September 13, 1866, a son of Herman J. and Frances Amanda (Merchant) Reese. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1828 and his mother was born in Seneca County, Ohio, in 1832. They married in Seneca County and in 1852 moved to Williams County. The section of Williams County in which they settled had been neglected by the earlier residents of Northwest Ohio, and was virtually a wilderness. Herman Reese and wife went through all the trials and hardships incident to pioneering. Their first home was a log cabin. There were no doors nor windows, and the spaces between the logs were chinked with clay and mud. Every night they kept a vigorous fire burning in order to scare away the wolves. The nearest and most convenient trading point was Defiance, Ohio, thirty-five miles away. Herman Reese acquired his land at \$1.25 an acre, and started his career in Williams County with only 50 cents in cash. In spite of all these difficult circumstances







Wilbur T. Hines  
Eva E. Hines

at first he had the true pioneer grit and the ability to raise himself above the level of poverty. For some time he spent his days working in a saw mill, and then would continue with his day's labor several hours at night cutting wood and clearing up his farm. This life of industry and toil brought its sure reward, and at the time of his death he owned 160 acres, constituting a good farm in Williams County and also eighty acres in Richland Township of Steuben County. For eight years he was engaged in the implement business at Edon, where he owned a good residence and also a business block. He was very active in politics as a republican and at first was affiliated with the United Brethren and later with the Edon Methodist Church. Herman Reese died in Edon in 1894 and his wife in 1902. By a previous marriage he had a daughter, named Elizabeth. He and his wife Frances Amanda had a large family of eleven children, named Calvin A., John H., Alwilda Jane, Lewis Jackson, Amandus E., Ida Bell, David H., Burton B., Joseph E., Mary B. and Frances Ella.

David H. Reese spent his own early life on the farm which his father had in the meantime cleared out from the woods. At the age of sixteen he went to Edon and attended high school and then for nine years was engaged in the implement business. In 1891 he married Miss Angelina L. Fettes, of Williams County. She is well known in that county, where for seventeen terms she taught school. Mr. Reese for three years after his marriage was engaged in the implement business, until his store at Edon was burned in July, 1894. He then took possession of the farm in Richland Township of Steuben County, which his father had formerly owned. He remained there in the diligent cultivation of his soil and crops for eighteen years, and had eighty acres. He sold this land in 1912 and on the 7th of March in that year moved to Angola, where he has since built up a large trade in coal. Mr. Reese is a republican in politics and is affiliated with the Lodge of Knights of Pythias at Edon, Ohio, of which he is a charter member. He and his family are members of the Christian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Reese have two sons, Paul D., who was born May 30, 1894, was educated in the Edon High School and the Tri-State College at Angola. He married Lola Rinehart and has a son named Claud Burton. Claud Burton Reese was born August 18, 1900, and is now a student in the Tri-State College. He has been appointed for four years to Annapolis to prepare for a naval officer. He secured the appointment by making highest percent in grades.

WILBERT T. HINES for over forty years has been one of the practical and progressive farmers of Jefferson Township, Noble County, and is widely known over the county by his former service for two terms as county treasurer.

Mr. Hines was born in Noble County February 29, 1864, son of Thomas and Sarah (Koontz) Hines. His father was a native of Knox County, Ohio, and his mother of Harper's Ferry, Virginia. They married in Ohio, and on coming to Indiana first located in LaGrange County for one year, and following another interval spent in Ohio came to Noble County. Thomas Hines had the following children: Anna E., Mrs. William Bowen; Lucetta, wife of Jerry Henney; Melvin, a farmer in Jefferson Township; Mary, wife of George Black; Ella, wife of Martin Halferty; Lydia, wife of Albert Singery; and Wilbert T.

Wilbert T. Hines grew up in Jefferson Township, and was educated in the district schools there. He lived at home to the age of twenty-three, when he

established a home of his own by his marriage with Miss Eva Black, daughter of Benjamin and Ruth Black. Mrs. Hines was born in Jefferson Township and was educated in the district schools.

After their marriage they located on their present farm, where Mr. Hines has 220 acres, and has given a very fine account of his possessions as a stock farmer. He built his modern home in 1903, and has one of the valuable estates of the county and also an ideal home for his family.

He is the father of two children: Glenn B., now assistant cashier and bookkeeper of the Noble County Bank; and Fern R., wife of Charles Lemmon of Jefferson Township. There are also four grandchildren.

Mr. Hines is a democrat, and it was on that ticket that he was elected for his two terms of service as treasurer of Noble County. He is affiliated with Albion Lodge No. 94, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, Kendallville Chapter No. 64, Royal Arch Masons, and has always interested himself in any movement for the welfare of his community.

ARCHIE GASKIL after a number of years in the service of the Wabash Railroad returned to the old home farm in Otsego Township of Steuben County, and is now numbered among the prosperous and progressive agriculturists of that section.

He was born in York Township January 8, 1882, a son of Guy and Florence (Emerson) Gaskil and a grandson of George and Theodosia (Reeves) Gaskil. His grandparents were natives of New York State and settled in York Township of Steuben County about 1850. George Gaskil as one of the early settlers took up and developed a good farm and lived there the rest of his life. His children were named Benjamin, Charlotte, Martha, Garrett, Mary, Louisa, Diantha, Lydia and Guy.

Guy Gaskil, who was born in York Township of Steuben County, became a farmer there and about 1900 moved to the place where his son now lives in section 1 of Otsego Township. He was a man held in the highest esteem, was prospered in his business enterprise and was in comfortable circumstances when he died in July, 1916. His wife, Florence Emerson, was a native of Stark County, Ohio, daughter of Ira and Almira (Teeters) Emerson.

Archie Gaskil acquired a good public school education in York and Otsego townships, and as a young man entered the service of the Wabash Railroad. He was a railroad man for eight years, and during that time made his home at Montpelier, Ohio. In 1914 he returned to the home farm. He was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

In July, 1908, Mr. Gaskil married Ruth Soule, daughter of Darwin and Margaret Soule. They have two children, Florence Imo Jean and Bettie Jean.

HENRY H. YODER. Another of the notable family group of Yoders whose records are scattered through this publication is Henry H. Yoder, proprietor of the Grand View Stock Farm, comprising 156½ acres and located six miles southwest of Shipshewana in Eden Township of LaGrange County.

Mr. Yoder was born on an adjoining farm March 10, 1883, and is the seventh son and youngest child of Valentine T. and Catherine (Schrock) Yoder. He grew up on the home farm and after graduating from the common schools remained with his parents, helping in the fields, until he was twenty-two years of age. January 5, 1905, Mr. Yoder married Mary L. Wingard. She was born in Newbury Township of LaGrange County, September 8, 1884, and died December 28, 1918, after nearly fourteen years of



happy married life. She was the mother of five children, one of whom died in infancy. Those living are Beulah, Leroy, Katie and Carrie A.

Mr. Yoder was born on an adjoining farm March a generous prosperity, and besides the farm on which he lives he has 123 acres in St. Joseph County, Michigan. It is something of a family characteristic of the Yoders to be successful stockmen. Mr. Yoder's specialty is registered Guernsey cattle and Belgian horses, also Duroc hogs. He is a democrat in politics and a member of the Amish Menonite Church.

**ROScoe CONKLIN.** The Conklins were among the pioneers in Steuben County, and many of the family have been esteemed as prosperous farmers and public spirited citizens in Salem Township. Mr. Roscoe Conklin, who represents the third generation of the family to reside here, is still living on a fine farm adjoining Salem Center where he was born on September 9, 1865.

The Conklin family for many years lived in New York State, at first in Dutchess and later in Cayuga County. The great-grandfather, Isaac Conklin, brought his family from Cayuga County to Richland County, Ohio, where he was among the pioneers. About 1842 he moved to Steuben County with his youngest son, James, and settled in Salem Township. Isaac Conklin spent his last days in Kansas.

His son, David Conklin, grandfather of Roscoe, was born in New York in 1803 and arrived in Steuben County in 1844. He settled on the northeast quarter of section 15, Salem Township. In 1874 he moved to Fulton County, Ohio, where he died in 1881. He married Polly Van Fleet, who died in Ohio. Their seven children to reach mature years were named Ensign, Calvin, Nelson, William, Elizabeth, Cynthia and Lime.

Calvin Conklin, father of Roscoe, was born in Crawford County, Ohio, in 1832, and was twelve years of age when the family moved to Steuben County. He acquired eighty acres of his grandfather's estate, also another eighty acres, and was a prosperous farmer at the time of his death on April 17, 1916. He married Lydia Ann Boss, daughter of Dr. Jacob Boss of Kosciusko County. She is now living at Angola at the age of eighty-two. She is a member of the Methodist Church, and her husband was a democrat.

Roscoe Conklin, only son of his parents, was reared on the homestead and educated in the local schools and the Angola High School, and for many years has been proprietor of a large farm in Salem Township, his land holdings aggregating 338 acres. He has been extensively engaged in stock raising, especially as a feeder of cattle and sheep. His farm has all the modern improvements. He is a republican in politics, but has never asked for office.

In 1891 he married Miss Etta Weaver, of Paulding County, Ohio, where she was born October 23, 1869. Mr. and Mrs. Conklin have one daughter, Ruth, born February 8, 1904. Mrs. Conklin is a daughter of David and Sarah Jane (Shade) Weaver, the former a native of Toledo and the latter of Crawford County, Ohio. She was the only child of her parents, and her mother died October 29, 1884.

**THOMAS HALL.** For about forty-five years Thomas Hall has been engaged in the business of agriculture, part of the time in Michigan and part of the time in Steuben County. He owns one of the large and valuable farms of York Township, and is one of the men of highest standing in that community.

He was born in Branch County, Michigan, October 18, 1854, but came to Steuben County when a small boy. His parents were James and Mary (Ford) Hall, his father born in New York State in 1819 and his mother a native of Ireland. James Hall went to Branch County, Michigan, about 1840. He acquired 160 acres of raw land, which he developed as a farm and improved with buildings, but in 1860 left Michigan and moved over the Indiana line to Jamestown Township of Steuben County. That locality was his home until his death in 1891. The children of these parents were: Maria, who was the wife of Horace Lyons; John R.; James; Thomas; William; Ida; and Alma, wife of John Rogers.

Thomas Hall acquired his education in the district schools of Jamestown Township, and had his first experience as a practical farmer in that locality. He lived there several years and in 1885 moved to Hillsdale County, Michigan, but in 1902 returned to Steuben County and has since been a farmer in sections 8 and 9 of York Township, where he owns 163 acres. He keeps most of this in cultivation and has a good set of buildings, all of which have been rebuilt or remodeled under his ownership and supervision.

Mr. Hall married Keziah Weaver, daughter of Jonathan Weaver. To their marriage were born four children: Guy, who died in July, 1916, married Nellie Rowe and had three children, named Gail, Mildred and Harland. Ray married Maude Welch and has one child, Ledean. Vera is the wife of James Wicoff and the mother of a daughter, Esther. Bessie is the wife of Charles Dally and has one child, Olin.

**JOHN C. GILLIAN** has been a factor in business affairs in Northern Indiana for many years, and is widely known to the trade as a traveling salesman out of Kendallville. He gained his early experience and training in Noble County, and was born in Allen Township of that county June 6, 1858. His parents were John and Margaret (Householder) Gillian.

His father, a native of Germany, came to this country at the age of fourteen, and grew up on a farm in Allen Township of Noble County. He married in that county, his wife, a native of France, having been brought to the United States by her parents when seven years of age. John Gillian was a farmer and lived on the farm until after the death of his wife, when he retired to Kendallville, where he is still living. He is a member of the Lutheran Church, as was his wife. They had six children, five still living: John C.; Elizabeth, wife of Martin Parr; Mary, widow of Lemuel J. Holmes; Katie, wife of George Snyder; and Charles, a farmer in Allen Township.

John C. Gillian spent his early life on the old farm, and besides the district schools had the advantages of the Methodist College at Fort Wayne. After graduating there he took up work as a teacher, and followed the profession of educator for eighteen years. He also gained a knowledge of business as salesman in a local dry goods store. When he first went on the road it was as representative for the McCray Refrigerator Company. He was with that house nine years and introduced the noted McCray refrigerators in many parts of the country. Later he was with the Mishawaka Woollen Manufacturing Company, but for the past seventeen years has been a traveling representative of Cooper, Wells & Company, manufacturers of hosiery at St. Joseph, Michigan. He has always lived at Kendallville, and has some local interests there, being a stockholder in the Noble County Bank and in the



Noble Motor Truck Corporation. In Masonry he is affiliated with the Lodge, Chapter and Council and also with the thirty-second degree Consistory. He is a republican and Mrs. Gillian is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

January 9, 1881, he married Elizabeth Geanger. She was born in Allen Township of Noble County, January 6, 1862, daughter of Frederick Geanger. Mr. and Mrs. Gillian grew up as children together and attended the same school. They are the parents of four sons: Walter A., a graduate of the Huntington Business College, is now cashier of the Noble County Bank; Herman A., a graduate of the same school, is now secretary of the Bacon Brothers Company, at Toledo, Ohio; Clarence C., a graduate of the local high school, Fort Wayne Business University and Purdue University, is associated with his father as salesman in the state of Indiana; and Carl J., the youngest, is a student and still at home.

IRVIN W. PENCE. Certainly one of the outstanding features of the personal and family record of Irvin W. Pence, of Angola, is civic loyalty and patriotism. Steuben County has been a fervent center of patriotism in all its history, and the Pence family has contributed not a few of the names that have made up the roll of honor, including a son of Mr. Pence, who was the first man to volunteer from Steuben County for the war with Germany.

Long well known in the State of Indiana as a newspaper man, Irvin W. Pence is now serving as county auditor of Steuben County. He was born at Ligonier, Indiana, February 5, 1869, son of Samuel N. and Eliza (Simmons) Pence. Samuel N. Pence was born near Ligonier, in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, January 28, 1820. He married for his first wife Miss Hannah Gerber, a relative of Hon. E. B. Gerber, of Ligonier, Indiana. By that marriage there were born three children: Harvey A., who died in infancy; David S.; and Eliza, wife of W. K. Sheffer, the veteran Angola editor and publisher. David S. Pence, who died in December, 1917, had the misfortune when a child to have all his fingers burned off. Notwithstanding that handicap he became a proficient and successful instructor in penmanship and was well educated. At one time he was an instructor in the Ohio Northern University at Ada, also taught school at Angola and finally removed to Kansas, where for twenty-eight years before his death he served as county superintendent of schools of Sedgwick County.

The mother of these children died in Ohio, and Samuel N. Pence later married Eliza Simmons. Her father, Jonathan Simmons came to Ligonier in 1865, and had a farm adjoining that of the Pence family. Samuel Pence in 1866 moved to his farm a half mile from Ligonier. In 1870 he moved to Ligonier, and lived there until his death in 1902. His wife died November 15, 1897. He was a republican, but outside of his family and business his chief interest was in the Christian Church. He was one of the organizers of the church at Ligonier and an elder for many years. His wife was also a member. They were the parents of nine children: Mrs. Maggie Yonker, deceased; Ida, wife of J. D. Hendrickson, of Elkhart, Indiana; Emma, of Angola; John, who died in Ligonier; William, who also died in Ligonier; Carroll, who died in infancy; Irvin W.; and two others that died in infancy.

Irvin W. Pence, the subject of this sketch, was born at Ligonier, Indiana, February 5, 1869, and received his education there, attending the high school, and in 1884 entered the Tri-State Normal at Angola, taking the commercial branches. October 4, 1884, he went to work in the office of the Angola Herald, learning the trade of printer. He was there

seven years, and on March 2, 1889, married Miss Cora Jarvis, of Angola. In May, 1890, he was employed on the Kendallville News and Standard, but in 1892 returned to Ligonier and for nine years was connected with the Ligonier Leader, and in February, 1901, established the Plain Dealer in that city, which he published until September 21, 1904. Following that for thirteen years he was connected with the Steuben County Republican, and left that paper upon his election, in 1916, as county auditor. He is still serving his four-year term.

Mr. Pence is an ardent republican. For several years he was a member of the National Guard Company at Ligonier, and went with that company when it was absorbed by the 157th Indiana Regiment at the outbreak of the Spanish-American war, serving in Company H of this regiment. During the late war he was in many ways a leader in patriotic activities, and was a member of the publicity committee for the Steuben County War Conference and exerted himself in every possible way to maintain the high standing Steuben County has always enjoyed among the counties of Indiana as a center of sterling patriotism.

Mr. Pence, about 1907, published a book entitled: "Steuben County and Her Lake Resorts," and later published another work called "Camera Glimpses of Angola." He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Angola, and he and his wife are both members of the Christian Church.

Mr. Pence is the father of a family of eight children: Linda Jane, the eldest, was married December 18, 1918, to Major Guy J. Shaughness; Nora, the second in age, is the wife of E. B. Gilmore, who during the war was in the trench motor service in France; Arlie is the wife of F. R. Rogers, superintendent of schools at Salem Center, Indiana; Samuel A., the eldest son, was the young man who gained the enviable distinction of being the first to enlist from Steuben County. He enlisted April 7, 1917, and was for a time company clerk and was promoted to lieutenant at Camp Taylor, Kentucky. He was in the army nineteen months and since his release has served as deputy auditor under his father. Dorothea the fifth child, is the wife of William Aranguren of Fort Wayne. The three younger children are Richard A., Oscar W. and Byron J., all students in the Angola High School.

JOHN W. CHRYSLER. A native of Steuben County and now one of the prosperous farm owners in Jackson Township, John W. Chrysler represents a family of three generations resident in this section of Northeast Indiana.

He was born in Jackson Township of Steuben County June 17, 1866. His parents were John Wesley and Martha (Wilsey) Chrysler, the former a native of Cattaraugus County, New York, and the latter of New Jersey. The paternal grandparents, Abraham and Martha (Bowers) Chrysler, were early pioneer settlers in DeKalb County, Indiana, moving into the woods and creating a home from the wilderness. Later they came to Steuben County and were connected with the early settlement of Jamestown Township. Their children were named John Wesley, William, Henry, George, Eugene, Joseph, Martha, Manda, Helen and Emma.

John Wesley Chrysler took up farming as soon as he reached his majority, living on a place in Jackson Township near Flint, later going to Jamestown Township, and was a resident of that community until his death. He owned a good farm of sixty acres. He and his wife had three children, named John W., Frank D. and William H. The mother of these died and he married Viola Sugars, who was the mother of two children, Ora M. and Nora.

John W. Chrysler spent his boyhood on the home farm in Jackson Township, attended school there, and on February 27, 1889, at the age of twenty-three, married Margaret A. Nuttle. She is a daughter of Robert and Lucinda Nuttle. The two years after his marriage Mr. Chrysler spent as a farmer in Branch County, Michigan, and then returned to Jamestown Township, where he was a progressive member of the agricultural community in that section until 1905. In the latter year he bought his present farm of eighty acres in section 18 of York Township, and in addition to the responsibilities of managing this place he has taken an active part in local affairs, having been elected assessor of the township in 1914 and re-elected in 1918. He is identified with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Metz, he and his wife are active members of the Christian Church, and he is a deacon and trustee.

Mr. and Mrs. Chrysler have four children: Bell, wife of Harvey Shoup; Hazel, deceased, who was married to Homer Teegardin, also deceased; Claude; and Clarence.

GEORGE W. ROY has spent his profitable and useful life in LaGrange County, for many years was a farmer, and is now postmaster of Wolcottville. While the office of postmaster is conferred by Federal appointment, Mr. Roy has a claim to the office not only by Federal commission but by popular choice. When it came to decide upon a new postmaster a hundred patrons of the office balloted for a new incumbent and seventy of the votes went to Mr. Roy.

He was born in Clay Township of LaGrange County December 14, 1859, son of John and Ellen (Giggy) Roy, the former a native of New York State and the latter of Germany. His mother was brought to this country at the age of fourteen and grew up in Noble County, near Kendallville. His father came from New York State to LaGrange County, was married there, and then spent his life on a farm. He was one of the leading farmers of his county, and owned 220 acres, all of which he had made himself. He and his wife were active in the Methodist Church, and for fourteen years he was a trustee of Clay Township. In politics he was a democrat. John Roy and wife had six children, two of whom are still living. James H. Roy is the present postmaster at Topeka, Indiana.

George W. Roy spent the first twenty-one years of his life on his father's farm, and while helping in the fields he also attended district school. In 1879 he married Margaret Zimmerman, and they began on a rented farm. Later they bought forty-three acres and lived there until they sold out and moved to Wolcottville in June, 1917.

Mrs. Roy died June 21, 1917. She was the mother of two children. Ethel is a graduate of high school and the wife of Lorin Shanower, of Wolcottville. H. J. Roy married Panzy Preice and lives in Wolcottville. Mr. Roy is active in the Baptist Church, being a deacon and trustee, and is assistant superintendent of the Sunday School. He is a past noble grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has been a delegate to the Grand Lodge. For a number of years he has been one of the most influential democrats in his section of LaGrange County.

ELMER E. OREWILER is a member of a family that has been identified with Steuben County since early days. He himself has played a varied role in the life of the county, as a teacher, farmer, public official and for half a dozen years has been an active business man of Angola.

He was born in Scott Township in Steuben

County, March 2, 1861, son of David and Lucy (Masters) Orewiler, the former a native of Richland County and the latter of Crawford County, Ohio. The paternal grandfather, Adam Orewiler, was a native of Pennsylvania. David Orewiler received a public school education in Ohio, and came to Scott Township in Steuben County and acquired a tract of land that was largely covered with timber and brick. He spent a number of years clearing up this land, and in company with a brother-in-law acquired a large farm of 280 acres. His share of this property when it was divided was 160 acres, comprising a valuable farm upon which he spent the rest of his life. He served ten years as trustee of Scott Township and was an active member of the Church of Christ. He and his wife had six children, and their names are Alice, Adam, Elmer, Mellisa, Alta and Jesse.

Elmer Orewiler grew up on his father's farm and attended public schools of Scott Township, also attended school at Angola and took his commercial course at Hillsdale College, Michigan. Altogether Mr. Orewiler taught school through seven winter terms. Besides teaching he was also engaged in farming, and until 1902 lived on a farm of forty acres in Scott Township. That year he removed to Angola, and for four years served the office of county surveyor. Mr. Orewiler engaged in the coal business in Angola in 1913, and was one of the leading coal dealers of the county until 1918. In August of the latter year he started a feed mill, and has a business that now supplies ground grain products over a large part of Steuben County.

Mr. Orewiler married Bertha Holdridge, and they have one daughter, Vera. Mr. and Mrs. Orewiler are members of the Christian Church and he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

STEVEN WISNER is an old soldier of the Civil war, his youngest son was with the colors in the World war, and his individual record has been that of a sterling citizen, a good farmer and a man of highest standing in the Metz community of Steuben County.

He was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, February 26, 1838, a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Richardson) Wisner, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of Columbiana County, Ohio. His father came to Steuben County during the '50s, locating in Richland Township, where he spent the rest of his life. The children in the family were: Delorma, Steven, Melissa, Richard, Theresa and Abraham.

Steven Wisner acquired his early education in the schools of Salem, Ohio, and had not yet reached manhood when he came to Steuben County. From this county he enlisted August 3, 1861, in Company C of the Seventh Michigan Infantry. At the Wilderness he was shot through the finger and spent more than two months in a hospital at Baltimore.

A soldier who had deserved well of his country and fellow citizens Mr. Wisner at the close of the war returned to Metz and except for two years spent northwest of Angola has lived in that community ever since. For half a century he has been engaged in agriculture but is now living retired in the Village of Metz.

Mr. Wisner married in 1866 Martha Ferrier, and they had three children: Evelyn, Clifford and Addie. He married for his second wife Malinda Hannas, and she was the mother of Clair, Justine and Clarence. Mr. Wisner married Leah Petre, daughter of Benjamin Petre, for his third wife, and they had one son, Clayton. Clayton Wisner entered the army May 21, 1918, as a member of the Thirty-



Sixth Regiment of Regular United States Infantry. Most of his time was spent at Camp Devens, Massachusetts, and on March 29, 1919, he was discharged at Camp Taylor, Kentucky.

MOSES H. LEHMAN. LaGrange County has long been noted for its fine farms and valuable agricultural development, but this prestige is due to the efforts of the men who have invested their time and money in the land of this region. Because of what they have accomplished for themselves and in constructive community progress they deserve in no small degree a place among the leading men of Northeast Indiana. Among them it is but right to mention Moses H. Lehman of Newbury Township. He was born in Pennsylvania, January 27, 1862, a son of Harmon and Christina (Harshbarger) Lehman, who in 1866 came to Indiana, and after stopping in Elkhart County for a year came to LaGrange and bought the farm in Newbury Township which their son, Daniel Lehman, now owns. Here they lived until death claimed them, he passing away April 15, 1896, aged sixty-three years, and she, November 13, 1889, aged fifty-five years. Their children were as follows: Polly, who is deceased, Moses H., Daniel, Noah, Joseph, Levi and John. Both parents were devout members of the Menno-nite Church.

Moses H. Lehman remained on his father's farm until he was sixteen years old, and then began working by the month for the neighboring farmers. After his marriage in 1885 he moved on a farm he owned, comprising 120 acres in Newbury Township. Since then he has remodeled the buildings and put everything in first-class shape. He has acquired the greater part of his possessions through his own industry and thrift, and has every reason to be proud of what he has accomplished.

In 1885, Mr. Lehman was united in marriage with Miss Barbara Borntreger, a daughter of Manassas Borntreger, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. Lehman became the parents of the following children: Lydia, is the wife of Joseph Borntreger, their children being: Lizzie, Moses, Ruth, and Milo; Polly, who is the wife of Emanuel Harshbarger, has the following children: Amelia, Katie, Mattie, and Reuben; Jonas, married Fannie Troyer, and their children are: Amos, Laura, Mahlon, Levi, Enos, and Sarah; Anna, who married Benjamin Raber, has the following children: Abbie, Mary, and Mattie; Katie, who is at home; Amelia, who married Levi Mast, has one son, Andrew, and Manassas, who is at home.

HARVEY E. SHOUP, now serving his second term as county recorder of Steuben County, is one of the younger men in the courthouse at Angola, but has thoroughly justified the confidence of his friends and supporters who relied upon him for an efficient handling of the routine of this important office.

Mr. Shoup, who was a well known educator in Steuben County before taking public office, was born in Williams County, Ohio, October 15, 1889. His parents were Jacob and Mary (Scheiber) Shoup. His father was born in Crawford County, Ohio, October 30, 1852, and his mother was born in Wurttemberg, Germany, July 20, 1856. Jacob Shoup when four years old was taken to Williams County, Ohio, by his parents, Peter and Anna Catherine (Field) Shoup. Peter Shoup was an early settler there, acquired a tract of eighty acres of timber land, and cleared away the woods and made a good farm. He owned 100 acres there eventually and died in 1894, at the age of seventy-five. His wife also

passed away at the age of seventy-five. Their children were: John, who enlisted as a Union soldier in the Civil war in 1861, and later re-enlisted as a veteran and was killed during the siege of Atlanta while with Sherman's army; Margaret, who became the wife of Charles Kaelner; George, who died in Williams County, Ohio; Jacob, Magdalena, wife of Christian Smell, of Williams County; Catherine, who married Joshua Michael, and both are now deceased; and Elizabeth, wife of Albert Harwood, of Altona, Indiana.

Jacob Shoup received his education in the public schools of Williams County, and became a farmer there. In 1895 he moved to Steuben County and bought eighty-eight acres in Scott Township. He was one of the honored residents of that locality and lived there until accidentally killed while threshing in September, 1912. His widow now lives at Angola. Jacob Shoup was a staunch republican, and a member of the Methodist Church. In the family were four children: Anna, wife of Burton R. Brown, and occupying the old home farm; Emma, who died at the age of five years; Rosa, who married John J. Greenmayer of Scott Township; and Harvey E.

Harvey E. Shoup spent his boyhood on the old home farm in Scott Township, attending the public schools there and also the Fremont high school. Later he was a student in the Teachers' Course at the Normal at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and the Tri-State College at Angola. He also is a graduate of the International Business College at Fort Wayne. For one year he was a teacher in Michigan, and then taught steadily in Steuben County for six years. He taught school every year after leaving high school until he entered upon his duties as county recorder. He took that office January 1, 1916, and has been re-elected for a second term. Mr. Shoup is a republican, and he and his family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

May 28, 1911, he married Miss Nadda Belle Chrysler of York Township, daughter of John W. and Margaret (Nuttle) Chrysler, of York Township. Mr. and Mrs. Shoup are the parents of three children: Otto Clare, born July 1, 1912; Willis R., born August 30, 1914; and Miriam Margaret, born March 13, 1918.

FRANK HAUGHEY lived forty-one years, earned prosperity for himself and family, and left a record of achievement in his community, but for all that his death on May 27, 1908, was looked upon as a calamity and the end of a career which could be ill spared.

He was born in Otsego Township of Steuben County April 7, 1867, and died at his home in the same locality. His father, Timothy Haughey, was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, November 5, 1824, and died June 28, 1914. Timothy Haughey came to Steuben County in 1843 and was one of the early school teachers in Otsego Township and otherwise a farmer. He married Mary Catherine Gerst, who was born in 1823 and died in 1890. They reared a large family of children, one of the daughters being the wife of Dr. John F. Cameron of Pleasant Lake.

Frank Haughey attended the public schools of Otsego Township and also took a course in the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso. Three years of his early life were spent in teaching school in his native county, but at the same time he was following the plow during his vacations and working on the farm in section 23, where he spent the greater part of his life. He acquired the ownership of 120 acres there and altogether had 153 acres. He improved the farm with good buildings, and since his death it has been capably man-



aged by Mrs. Haughey, who now has the assistance of her son Dwight.

From 1904 until his death Mr. Haughey served as trustee of Otsego Township. On October 7, 1893, he married Mrs. Louise Aldrich, a daughter of Orlando and Hannah Hicks and widow of Simeon Aldrich. Her first husband was a brother of David W. Aldrich, elsewhere mentioned in this publication. Mr. and Mrs. Haughey had five children: Helen Lucile, who is a graduate of the Hamilton High School and wife of Samuel Kohl; Inez Genevieve, also a graduate of the Hamilton High School, wife of Don Isenhardt and the mother of one child, Donald D.; Edna and Dwight, both of whom are graduates of high school; and Laura Wilma, a student in the high school at Hamilton. Mr. Haughey was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge.

The late Mr. Haughey was distinguished by a broad-minded character, by an intelligence that never ceased to seek information and study problems, and in all things he was thorough. In serving as trustee he applied the excellent rules of his private life, economy in expenditure, accuracy in accounts and mastery of details, and had a record of faithful performance in that office. By nature he was somewhat retiring in disposition and did not permit himself to press his own claims for recognition. He was upright and honorable, and the respect that was paid him by his friends and the confidence shown him in his election to the office of trustee were fully justified in every particular and in every act of his life.

FRANK C. WOLFE is the proprietor of the Wolcottville Elevator Company, and is one of the most pushing and enterprising business men of LaGrange County. He and his brothers have all achieved business success and prominence, though they grew up next door to poverty and early had to assume serious responsibilities and become workers for their daily bread.

Frank C. Wolfe was born at Scott in LaGrange County, April 29, 1884, a son of Christian and Rose (Schwartz) Wolfe. His parents lived on their farm near Scott about eight years, and then went to St. Joseph, Michigan. Later Christian Wolfe returned to LaGrange County, Indiana, and rented a large farm, but lived there only six months, when he was killed by lightning while plowing in the field. That left his widow with a family of young children. With the aid of her sons she managed to keep the rented farm going for about eight years, then moved to another rented place near Brighton, and finally she bought 135 acres in St. Joseph County, Michigan, where she is still living with her two unmarried daughters. She is active in the Evangelical Church, as was her husband, and he was a republican. The family comprised seven children: C. G. Wolfe, proprietor of the elevator at North Liberty, Indiana; F. C. Wolfe; W. F. Wolfe, owner of an elevator at Athens, Michigan; E. P. Wolfe, a farmer near Kalamazoo, Michigan; E. A. Wolfe, proprietor of the elevator at Shipshewana, Indiana; and Rose and Lucy, both of whom live with their mother.

Frank C. Wolfe grew up on the farm in LaGrange County, had a district school education, and was with his mother until the age of twenty-one. He worked out by the month, later rented a farm, and in February, 1911, married Bessie Seybert. She was also born near Scott in LaGrange County and had the benefit of a grammar and high school education.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe rented for three years and in the winter of 1914 moved to Wolcottville and bought the elevator on the tracks of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad. He knew

the elevator business, since he had spent two years as an employe of an elevator at Howe, Indiana. In May, 1915, the elevator was burned by lightning, but in the same year was rebuilt more substantially and with greater capacity than ever. About that time Mr. Wolfe bought out his brother's share and formed the partnership of Wolfe & Pierce. They own and operate both the elevators in Wolcottville, one on the Grand Rapids & Indiana and the other on the Wabash road.

Mr. Wolfe and wife have two children: Pearl E., born September 20, 1913, and Vivian, born October 11, 1915. The family are members of the Evangelical Church and Mr. Wolfe is one of the trustees and church secretary. Politically he is a republican.

ELMER J. COWAN. Two of the family names most prominently identified with Otsego Township in Steuben County are Cowan and Swift, both having been represented in the person of the late Elmer J. Cowan, long a prominent farmer and land owner, who spent his last days at Angola, where Mrs. Cowan, member of a pioneer family of DeKalb County, is still living.

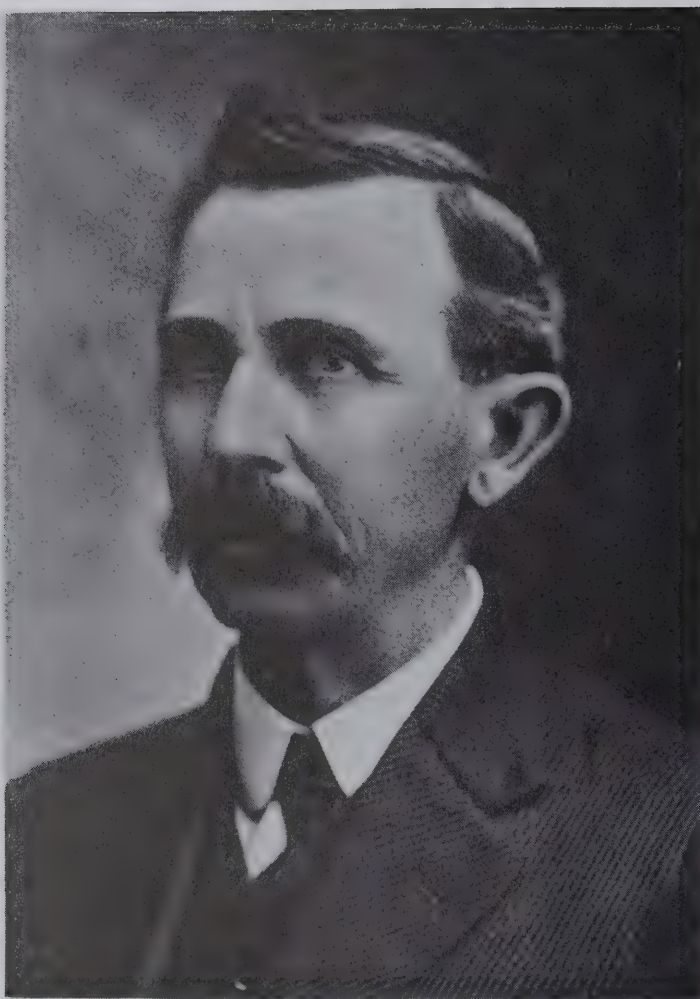
The grandfather of the late Elmer J. Cowan was John Cowan, who came from Ireland to New York, and afterward became an early settler at Ann Arbor, Michigan, where he spent his last days. His wife, Lucretia Cowan, also died at Ann Arbor.

John Cowan, Jr., was born in New York State, grew up in Southern Michigan, and from there came to Steuben County and settled in Otsego Township, where he died on his farm November 10, 1875. John Cowan, Jr., married Delphena Swift. She was also a native of New York State, and a daughter of George W. Swift, one of the pioneers of Steuben County.

George W. Swift was born in Massachusetts in May, 1804, a son of Ephraim Swift, who died while a soldier in the War of 1812. George W. Swift at the age of fourteen went to live with an uncle in Broome County, New York, and in 1826 married Lucretia Gates, who was born in that county in 1807. They came with their family to Steuben County and settled in Otsego Township in the early year of 1836. George W. Swift was one of the honored and trusted men of that locality, served as township trustee and in other positions, and was a deacon in the Baptist Church. He died after a life of great usefulness in 1868. Their children were: Edward, Oscar, Alice Delphena, Adolphua, David K., Susan L., and Josephine. The old Swift homestead at Otsego Township is now owned by Mrs. Edna Dole, a great-granddaughter of George Swift, while the Cowan homestead is owned by Maud Sheffer, a granddaughter of John Cowan, Sr., both Mrs. Dole and Mrs. Sheffer being daughters of the late Elmer J. Cowan. Mrs. Delphena Swift Cowan died at Angola August 4, 1906. John Cowan, Jr., was a democrat and a Baptist, while his wife was a member of the Christian Church. Their children were: Elmer, Edward, Josephine, Lucretia and George.

Elmer J. Cowan, who was born in Otsego Township October 31, 1855, grew up on the home farm and received most of his education under Dr. Theodore Wood. He subsequently acquired the old Cowan place of 180 acres, also the Swift farm of 180 acres, and his wife, Mrs. Cowan, owned 180 acres adjoining the Cowan farm. Thus they were among the largest land owners and farmers in Otsego Township. Elmer J. Cowan was an independent democrat in politics, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Church, though Mrs. Cowan is now a member of the Christian Church. In 1904





G W Trahl



they moved to Angola, where Mr. Cowan passed away November 4, 1916. He and his wife owned the home now the property of Doctor Frazer, while Mrs. Cowan lives on West Maumee Street.

December 31, 1878, Mr. Cowan married Miss Fannie Latson. She was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, December 23, 1855, a daughter of James and Charlotte (Rowley) Latson. Her parents came from New York State to DeKalb County and settled at Auburn, where her mother died August 14, 1898. Her father died in Angola November 20, 1906. Mrs. Cowan was one of nine children: William, Emma, Helen, Hattie, Sadie, Frank and Fannie, twins; Joel and Alda.

Mr. and Mrs. Cowan had two daughters, Edna and Maud. Edna is the wife of Earl Dole, of Angola, and she has a son, Earl, Jr., born September 2, 1917. Maud is the wife of Waldo Sheffer and they have an adopted son, Harold, born February 21, 1915.

GEORGE W. FAHL has been a leading farmer and business man of Noble County for the past fifteen years, and has spent practically all his life in Northern Indiana. His present home is a mile west of Ligonier in Perry Township.

Mr. Fahl was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, March 19, 1859, son of Tobias and Susan (Orchard) Fahl. His mother was born in Preble County, Ohio, and came to Indiana with her parents. His father was born in Canada, a son of Andrew Fahl. Tobias Fahl died March 10, 1863, when his son George W. was only four years old. There are four children living: Andrew, of Goshen; Solomon, of Perry Township; George W.; and Louisa, wife of John Price.

George W. Fahl grew up in Elkhart County, and his education was limited to the district schools until he was ten years old. Since that age he has been making his own way in the world, and in the light of early handicaps and adverse circumstances his progress has been distinctly creditable. As a boy he worked as a farm hand at \$7 a month. For six years he was with S. F. Evans, and under him learned how to buy stock.

On March 20, 1881, he married Susan E. Hire. She was born in Elkhart County and grew up in the same township as her husband. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fahl settled on a farm in Elkhart County, but in 1904 removed to Perry Township of Noble County. In addition to farming his eighty acres Mr. Fahl is one of the largest stockholders and a director in the Farmers Mutual Fire & Cyclone Insurance Company of Elkhart, and solicits business for this company in Noble County.

He and his wife have two children: June M., born in June, 1882, is the wife of O. V. Borger, and before her marriage was a successful teacher. Zelda is the wife of Ed Tyler. Mr. Fahl and family are members of the United Brethren Church, and he is a republican in politics.

LUCIUS F. CRAIN. There is something specially gratifying in having the privilege of living on property which has been in the family for a number of years. Such possession differentiates the owner from those others who are here today and gone tomorrow and gives him a standing in his community as a stable man and one who has honorable and substantial ancestors behind him. Such a citizen of Steuben County, Indiana, is Lucius F. Crain of Steuben Township. He was born on his present farm in section 36, November 6, 1873, a son of James Madison Crain.

James Madison Crain was born in Madison County, New York, in 1830, a son of Lucius Crain, a

native of Connecticut, who was taken in boyhood to the State of New York by his parents. Lucius Crain was married in New York State to Paulina Frink, and in 1837 he started for Indiana with his family, locating on land which was a portion of section 36, Steuben Township, Steuben County. On this he erected a log cabin, and cleared off about five acres of land, but in 1838, on account of sickness, he decided to return to his native state until the county was more thickly populated. He therefore went by team to Toledo, Ohio, and thence by boat back to his old home. Two years later his father-in-law, Selah Frink, who had become a resident of Otsego Township, Steuben County, sent him word that it was now safe for him to return, and the little party once more located in Steuben Township, where Lucius Crain died in 1849. There were five children in his family. Of them one was James Madison Crain, father of Lucius F. Crain. After his father's death James Madison Crain took charge of the homestead, and became its owner. He was married to Margaret J. Renner, a native of Pennsylvania, and a daughter of John P. Renner. They became the parents of the following children: Arvilla, Lucius and Wilson. James Madison Crain died in 1896, having become a very prosperous farmer and representative citizen.

Lucius F. Crain attended the Marshall School of District No. 7, Steuben Township, and from boyhood was taught to make himself useful, those early lessons of thrift and industry standing him in good stead in after years. When he was old enough he began farming the homestead, and he and his brother, Wilson, succeeded to the family property in landed estate and have always conducted it together. They are very prosperous in their work, and are engaged in general farming and the breeding of Shorthorn cattle. Their buildings are modern, sanitary and convenient, and everything about the property is kept in fine condition. Lucius Crain lives in Otsego Township and Wilson in Steuben Township, the farms running along the township line and aggregating 276 acres.

In 1905 Lucius F. Crain was married to Rosa May Musser, a daughter of William and Catherine Musser. There are no children of this marriage. Both Mr. and Mrs. Crain are very popular in their neighborhood, and delight in entertaining their many friends at their beautiful rural home.

STERLING J. STRICKLAND has been a factor in business affairs in Wolcottville in the lumber business for a number of years and is manager of the Isbell-Strickland Company. This is now an extensive retail lumber business, with yards at twelve different points over Northern Indiana, but the original yard was established at Wolcottville, and Mr. Strickland has helped the business grow and expand to its present large proportions.

He was born three miles south of LaGrange August 28, 1876, a son of James and Mary (Amsbaugh) Strickland, both natives of Ohio. They were married after coming to Indiana and then located on a farm three miles south of LaGrange. James Strickland was killed by a horse in 1881, when his son, Sterling, was only five years old. After that he lived with his mother, and then went to the home of an uncle two and a half miles northwest of Wolcottville. After the death of his uncle he went out to work by the month, and in the meantime acquired a more or less substantial education in the district schools. On August 25, 1901, Mr. Strickland married Carrie Gordon. She was born in Johnson Township of LaGrange County, four miles north of Wolcottville, and had a common school education.

At the time of his marriage Mr. Strickland had

about \$600 in capital, and he farmed as a renter for three years. Then moving to Wolcottville, he ran a dray two years, and since then has been in the lumber business. After three years, having acquired a thorough knowledge of the technical details of lumbering, he was made manager of the company and a stockholder. The business is incorporated with H. I. Isbell, president; C. B. Isbell, vice president; E. E. Isbell, secretary and treasurer; and S. J. Strickland, manager.

Mr. Strickland has two children, Alice and Leon K., the former in high school and the latter in grammar school. Mr. and Mrs. Strickland are active members of the Evangelical Church and he is treasurer, and both are members of the Rebekah Lodge, of which Mrs. Strickland is a past grand, and he is affiliated with Lodge 484 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and is past grand. He is a republican and is at present a member of the township advisory board.

F. E. RHODES is president of the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Spencerville, and has long been identified with that community as a practical farmer, and owns part of the noted Rhodes homestead, which has been in the possession of this family continuously since earliest pioneer times.

Mr. Rhodes was born on the farm which he owns a mile and a quarter northeast of Spencerville, January 12, 1868. He is a son of Milus and Elizabeth (Beams) Rhodes. His father was born on the same farm February 22, 1838, and died January 16, 1918, at the age of eighty years. The pioneer was grandfather Daniel Rhodes, who came from Ohio and was numbered among the very earliest settlers in Concord Township of DeKalb County. He entered 160 acres of land, and that farm has never been in any other ownership except the Rhodes family and the Government. Daniel Rhodes was a democrat. His children were Daniel, Newton, Milus, Nancy, Mary, Matilda, Sarah, Alice, Manda and Minerva.

Milus Rhodes had a common school education in pioneer days and after his marriage lived on the home farm the rest of his life. He was an active member of the Lutheran Church and a democrat in politics and also belonged to the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He had two sons, Raymond R., of Spencerville, and F. E. Rhodes.

F. E. Rhodes is a well educated man. As a boy on the farm he attended district schools, also had a high school course and finished his education in the college at Valparaiso. For fourteen terms he was a teacher. May 18, 1893, Mr. Rhodes married Amanda Rhodes, who was born in Noble County, Indiana, in 1867. Her family was not related to that of her husband. She was educated in the district schools.

For two years after his marriage Mr. Rhodes lived at New Paris, Indiana, where he conducted a grocery and bakery. Returning to DeKalb County, he taught for a time at St. Joe and then took up farming. He owns 230 acres, including 110 acres of the old homestead. His brother has 120 acres of the Rhodes farm.

Mr. Rhodes has one son, M. E. Rhodes, a graduate of high school, and who married Verne Jolly. They are members of the Lutheran Church and he is one of the most liberal supporters and a deacon. Though an active democrat he has never held any office.

The Farmers and Merchants Bank of Spencerville has the following officials: F. E. Rhodes, president; L. B. Fisher, vice president; C. G. Rectenwald, cashier; W. A. Bierbower, Albert H. Peters, F. E. Rhodes, Adam Shilling, W. P. Stewart, L. B.

Fisher, John Beninghoof and Reuben Remm, directors. Mr. Rhodes is also secretary and treasurer of the Township Shipping Association.

WILLIAM W. LONEY. The present generation has no conception of what the pioneers of Steuben endured before the wild land and timber tracts were put into suitable condition for raising crops. Not only did the great forest trees have to be felled and the prairie sod broken, but as transportation facilities were so poor it was difficult to secure what the persons of today consider the bare necessities of life. Markets were far distant and mills when found were crude affairs. It was no unusual thing for farmers to carry their grain across their saddle in bags for miles to the nearest mill and then wait two days for their turn at the little horse-power mill, the stones for which had been brought from some far-distant city. The earliest settlers came up with Indians, but none of them continued hostile after the Government opened the lands for entry. The pioneers cleared off their land, put in crops and gradually developed their farms until today it would be difficult to find more valuable properties in this part of the country than those in Northeastern Indiana. One of the families associated with the early history of this section is that bearing the name of Loney, and a highly esteemed member of this family is William W. Loney, a farmer of Pleasant Township.

William W. Loney was born in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, Indiana, August 3, 1859, a son of Hugh and Mary (Freligh) Loney. In young manhood Hugh Loney came to Steuben County, locating in Pleasant Township, where he secured a tract of wild land, and for a number of years was engaged in clearing and cultivating it. He was engaged in this township in farming the rest of his life, dying in August, 1916. He and his wife had the following children: Charlotte, who is deceased; Charles; Mary, who died in childhood; William W.; Harriet; Samuel; Joseph; Hugh, and Effie.

Growing to manhood in a pleasant home, carefully guided by watchful parents, William W. Loney acquired a practical knowledge of farming and the fundamentals of an education, attending during the winter months the district schools. Becoming a farmer on his own account, Mr. Loney rented land for fifteen years, and then bought sixty-six acres of land in Scott Township on which he had been living as a tenant, and remained there until the fall of 1917, when he moved to his present farm of forty acres in Pleasant Township, which he owns in addition to his former farm in Scott Township, and here he is carrying on general farming.

William W. Loney was married to Florence Bolin, a daughter of James and Sarah (Coleman) Bolin, and they have one son, Ralph W., who married Florence Ganoy, and they have a son, Homer D. Mr. Loney belongs to the Odd Fellows. He is one of the highly esteemed men of his township, and is recognized as being strictly scrupulous in all his transactions and one whose word is as good as another man's bond.

RUFUS A. LANTZ. A well known and highly respected citizen of LaGrange County, who is successfully carrying on farming and stock raising in Clay Township, is Rufus A. Lantz, who bought his present well improved farm in 1913. Mr. Lantz was born in Noble County, Indiana, January 25, 1870.

The parents of Mr. Lantz were David and Nancy (Wenger) Lantz, the latter of whom survives and lives at Topeka, Indiana. She was born in LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1852, and is a daughter



ter of Joseph and Leah (Hartzler) Wenger, who were pioneers in Indiana. They stopped for a time in Elkhart County, but later moved to LaGrange County and located permanently in Clear Spring Township, where Mr. Wenger died in 1891. His widow survived until 1917, passing away at the venerable age of ninety-two years. They were fine people in every sense of the word, kind, charitable, industrious and thrifty. David Lantz, father of Rufus A., was born in Ohio in 1844 and accompanied his parents to Noble County, Indiana, in his childhood. He owned a farm in Noble County, from which he moved to Topeka, in 1893, and his death occurred in that city in 1894. In his early political life he was a democrat, but later became a republican. Both he and his wife belonged to the Mennonite faith. They had a family of six children born to them, as follows: Rufus A.; Salina, widow of Solomon Kurtz; Jesse, Joseph, Vernon and Blanche.

During boyhood and youth Rufus A. Lantz resided in Noble County, where he received a good common school education. He then embarked in the restaurant business and conducted a first class restaurant at LaGrange for two years, removing then to East Chicago, in Lake County, where he continued in the same business for seven years, going then to Crown Point, Indiana, where he operated a restaurant for two years, making eleven years in all in that line of business. During this time Mr. Lantz met many people of public note and formed a very wide acquaintance. He came to Newbury Township, LaGrange County, after retiring from the restaurant business, but later sold the forty acres he had purchased, and in 1913 came to Clay Township and bought eighty acres, which constitutes his present farm. This is valuable, well improved land and Mr. Lantz is making his agricultural industries profitable.

In 1895 Mr. Lantz was married to Miss Sarah Prough, a daughter of Harvey C. and Margaret (Hoffman) Prough, the latter of whom is deceased, Mr. Prough making his home with his daughter, Mrs. Franklin Lupold. The grandfather of Mrs. Lantz, John Prough, was known as "Coon" Prough because of his many hunting exploits in very early days in this section. Mr. and Mrs. Lantz are members of the Congregational Church at Shipshewana, Indiana. Mr. Lantz is a zealous republican and an earnest citizen, but he never desired any political office.

**ALBERT H. PETERS.** One of the most influential business men and farmers of Jackson Township in DeKalb County is Albert H. Peters, who has spent his life in this county and has been known from early manhood as a capable worker and industrious and substantial citizen.

His parents, Ernest and Rickey (Gael) Peters, came from Germany to America in 1872 and settled in DeKalb County. They were the parents of six children: Albert H.; Charles; Fred, deceased; Sarah, wife of John Dannenberg; Edward; and Freda, wife of William Habig, of Fort Wayne.

Albert H. Peters was born in DeKalb County February 3, 1875, was educated in the district schools of Jackson Township, and began life as a farm laborer. At the age of twenty-one he was elected constable of Jackson Township, and held that office for eight years.

April 11, 1900, he married Della Kester, a daughter of Joseph and Mary (Shilling) Kester. They have one child, June B., born June 19, 1912. Mr. Peters owns a fine farm of ninety acres. He is also one of the directors of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank at Spencerville, having been on the board since the organization of the bank. He is

a member of the Lutheran Evangelical Church. Mrs. Peters died May 24, 1918.

**ELMER A. GREEN.** The ordinary, everyday men, engaged in the vocations which bring daily bread, are the true representatives of the nation's citizenship. Such a man is the normal type, and to it the community looks for support. The great men of their age do achieve distinction, but after all their success depends upon the support given them by the rank and file, just as no general ever won a battle unless his soldiers were behind him. As it is in military life, so is it in those tactics which have to do with the operation of business activities. The people of the country and of the whole world are beginning to realize this and to accord to their citizens, past and present, the credit due to those who were content to pursue the ordinary tenor of their way and do their full duty in the walk of life to which the capabilities called them. One of these men, whose straightforward and honorable life points the way in which others should walk, was the late Elmer A. Green, for many years a prosperous agriculturalist of Pleasant Township, Steuben County, Indiana.

Elmer A. Green was born in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, February 28, 1864, a son of Marvin Green, and grandson of John Green and his wife, Louisa (Culver) Green. There were two children born to John Green and his first wife, namely: George and Marvin, and then she died June 27, 1835, and he was later married second to Diantha Olin. The children of his second marriage were as follows: Francis, who served as a soldier during the Civil war, died at Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Henry, Amos, Martha, Eliza, Emory and Allen. In 1836 John Green located in Jamestown Township, Steuben County, Indiana, where he entered land in section 36, moving his family thereon in September, 1837. Here he died February 7, 1865. Until the organization of the republican party, whose principles coincided with his own views, John Green was a whig, but from 1856 voted the straight republican ticket. The Baptist faith had in him an earnest supporter, and he belonged to the local church of that denomination.

During 1849 Marvin Green, son of John Green, came to Steuben County, at first stopping in Scott Township, but moving from there to Pleasant Township. Still later he moved back to Scott Township, where he lived until he retired from the arduous labors of farming, at which time he settled permanently at Fremont, where he died. Marvin Green was married in Medina County, Ohio, to Flora Jones, born in Licking County, Ohio, and their children were as follows: Lewis, Ella, Emma, Elmer, Sarah, Matilda, Berton and Charles. A hard working thrifty man, Marvin Green became prosperous and he was also one of the highly respected men of his community.

The late Elmer A. Green spent his life in farming, and was eminently successful in that line of endeavor. His first experience was gained in Scott Township, but in 1886 he moved to Fremont Township, where he was engaged in farming for three years. In 1889 he returned to Scott Township and lived there until 1905, when he bought a farm of 146 acres of land in Pleasant Township, in section 13, on which he continued to do general farming and stock raising until his death July 31, 1916.

Elmer A. Green was married to Christie Slick, born in Salem Township, Steuben County, November 5, 1864, a daughter of Hollister and Lovina (Shaffstall) Slick, and their children were as follows: Leslie H.; Lizzie Pearl, who died in childhood; and Freddie J. Mr. Green was president of



the advisory board of Pleasant Township at the time of his death, and was otherwise prominent, his loss being felt as a public calamity. In addition to the farm which he left his family, Mrs. Green owns forty acres of land, so she and her sons have two adjoining farms along the Angola and Fremont road, about two and one-half miles from Angola. These properties have excellent buildings on them and are well improved. Since the demise of Mr. Green Mrs. Green and her sons have conducted these farms. It would be difficult to find better or more representative people than the Greens, and their location in Steuben County was a decided acquisition for this section, for those bearing the name have always been upright and public-spirited, and their example has proved a stimulus to further industry and good citizenship.

**URIAH M. MILLER.** A representative citizen and excellent farmer of Clay Township is found in Uriah M. Miller, whose well cultivated farm indicates careful management with profitable returns. Mr. Miller is one of the best known residents of LaGrange County, where almost all of his life has been spent. He was born in Missouri, June 3, 1872, and was but four months old when brought to this county by his parents, Moses P. and Eva (Hostettler) Miller, further mention of whom will be found in this work.

When Uriah M. Miller was four years old his parents moved from Eden to Clay Township. Here he grew up on his father's farm well trained in agricultural industries, and obtained a public school education. Since then in addition to carrying on general farming and stockraising for twenty-six seasons he has engaged in threshing. After leaving home he operated first the old Robertson farm of eighty acres, next the farm where John Troyer lives, then the farm owned by Orvin Troyer, known as the Jacob Rowan farm. In 1907 he bought the Parker farm, which is his present home place. Mr. Miller has eighty acres, only fifteen acres having been cleared when he purchased the property, and he has put up first class buildings and made many substantial improvements.

In 1893 Mr. Miller was married to Miss Barbara Kauffman, who was born in Newbury Township, LaGrange County, February 5, 1876. Her father, Tobias Kauffman, was born in Ohio in 1827, and died in Indiana in 1881. He came when a young man to LaGrange County, and was married here to Barbara Hershberger, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Lehman) Hershberger, who were pioneer settlers in Newbury Township. The mother of Mrs. Miller died in February, 1876. Mrs. Miller was the eighth in a family of eight children, the others being as follows: Daniel C. and John, both of whom are deceased; Samuel, who resides at Middlebury; Elizabeth, who died in infancy; Mary Ann, who is the wife of Jonas Yoder; Rudolph, who is deceased; and Abram, who is in the grocery business at Goshen, Indiana.

To Mr. and Mrs. Miller the following children have been born: Mary Ellen, who lived one year, one month and one day; Mabel Edith, who passed away in 1918, when aged twenty-one years and ten months; Susie Elmira, who completed the eighth grade at school and now assists her mother; Irma Elizabeth, who is a member of the junior class in the Shipshewana High School; Elva Adeline, who is also a student in the above school; and Fanny Elnora, Daniel Truman, Eva Arlene, Uriah Bernon, all of whom are attending the public schools. Mr. Miller and his family are of the Mennonite faith. In politics he is a democrat. He is known as an

honest, upright man, good farmer and trustworthy citizen.

**REUBEN E. BORNTRAGER.** LaGrange County has been the scene of some of the most profitable agricultural activity this part of Indiana has known, for the farmers who own its broad acres have known how to make their land produce banner crops, and taking a pride in their properties have not hesitated to expend considerable time and money upon improving them according to modern ideas. One of the men who is justly accounted as belonging to the best class of farmers of this region is Reuben E. Borntrager of Newbury Township. He was born in Clinton Township, Elkhart County, Indiana, July 13, 1852, and the following year was brought to Newbury Township, LaGrange County, by his parents.

Growing up in LaGrange County, Reuben E. Borntrager here learned how to be a practical farmer and acquired the fundamentals of a common school education in the neighborhood schools. As he earned money he invested it in land, and now owns 301½ acres in Newbury Township, and at one time also owned 320 acres in Kansas. Mr. Borntrager was a general farmer and stock raiser, and one of the substantial men of his neighborhood. He is a Mennonite in his religious faith.

In 1872 Mr. Borntrager was united in marriage with Elizabeth Yoder, a daughter of Joseph Yoder, an early settler of LaGrange County, now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Borntrager became the parents of children as follows: Anna, who is the wife of David Shrock, and has two children, Polly and Elizabeth; Joseph R., who married Magdalena Schlabbach, has the following children: Fannie, David, Samuel, William, Amanda, Lizzie, Polly, Mattie and Daniel. Daniel R., who married Millie Winyard, who died leaving two children, Lizzie and Annie, and he married second Gertie Eash, a daughter of Tobias Eash, of Eden Township, their children being Mary and Abraham; Manassas, who died at the age of nineteen years; Polly, who is the wife of William Miller, has the following children: Lizzie, Sam, David, Millie and Amanda (twins), Anna, Levi, Nettie and Wilma; David, who married Lydia Christner, has the following children: Amanda, Levi, Amos, Lizzie; Abraham, who died in October, 1918, aged twenty-eight years, left a widow whose maiden name was Susie Christner, and the following children: Millie, Amos, Harley and Abraham; Levi, who married Anna Christner, a sister of the wife of David Borntrager, has a daughter, Edna May; and Edward, who married Mabel Hostettler, but has no children.

After many years of hard work in 1915 Mr. Borntrager felt that he was entitled to a little rest, and so relinquished his active supervision of the affairs of his farm, although he is still interested in keeping up the improvements. He is a man who has always stood very high in the public esteem and is recognized as upright and sincere and one who carries his religion into his everyday life.

**JOSHUA SHOWALTER,** an honored veteran of the Union army, who also had a son in the recent great war, has lived in Steuben County sixty-five years. He went from this county into the army, and on his return took up the duties of civil life, mainly farming, which he has followed for half a century. He is still living at his rural home in Pleasant Township.

He was born in Wayne County, Ohio, November 2, 1840, a son of Michael and Mary (Welpmore) Showalter, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Virginia. Michael Showalter

brought his family to Steuben County in 1854, locating on a farm in section 12 of Pleasant Township. He was in comfortable circumstances, owning 250 acres, and lived in that locality until his death. His children were: Elizabeth, Solomon, Simon, Joshua, Hiram, Mary, Jacob, Wesley and Sarah.

Joshua Showalter was fourteen years old when he came to Steuben County. Prior to that he had attended district schools in his native county of Ohio. In Pleasant Township he completed his education in the Pleasant Hill school. He was not yet twenty-one when in August, 1861, he enlisted in Company A of the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry. He saw four years of active service, receiving his honorable discharge in September, 1865. He was in the battles of Fort Donelson, Pittsburg Landing and Stone River, in the terrible fighting at Chickamauga, and in various skirmishes in Tennessee and Georgia. When he left the army he worked at the carpenter's trade for three years and since then has been steadily identified with agricultural pursuits. He bought a place in Pleasant Township and now has forty-seven acres of fertile and nicely situated land on the east side of the first basin of Lake James. He has lived on his present farm since 1895. Mr. Showalter is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

In 1871 he married Amelia Musselwhite. She was born in London, a daughter of John Musselwhite. To that marriage were born five children: Alice, who died in childhood, Albert, Freeman, Medie and Edith. In 1885 Mr. Showalter married Ella Wilsey, daughter of John and Margaret (Lint) Wilsey. They became the parents of six children: Ruth, Onia, Michael, Ira, Lena and Frederick. Ira is the soldier son of the family, being a member of Battery B of the Three Hundred and Fourteenth Field Artillery in the Eightieth Division. For a number of months, 1918-19, he was with the American Expeditionary Forces in France.

JOHN P. SMITH. The citizenship of Clay Township, LaGrange County, is made up of many fine men, not all of whom have had great advantages in youth, and there are some who have earned all they own in middle life through their own unassisted efforts. One of the substantial farmers here of the latter class is John P. Smith, who is well known all over the county. Mr. Smith was born in Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1873.

The parents of Mr. Smith were George and Mary (Lint) Smith, the former of whom was born in 1849 and the latter in 1846, both in Clear Spring Township. The paternal grandfather, John P. Smith, married a Miss Murray, and their home throughout life was in Clear Spring Township, and there the father, George Smith, was born and at one time owned a farm there. In later years he moved to Van Buren Township and died there in 1899. His widow survived until June, 1919. They had six children, namely: Jennie, Mina, John P., Frank M., Melvin and Grace. Frank M. was killed by a stroke of lightning in 1907.

After his school attendance was over John P. Smith made himself useful on the home place and then started out for himself as a farmer. He rented land in several townships and gained the reputation of being a wise farmer and good judge of stock. It was in 1907 that he felt prepared to invest in a farm of his own, in that year purchasing the 150 acres where he lives in Clay Township. For some years he devoted himself to raising grain but now carries on a general farming line and has been unusually successful. He has always worked hard and has justly earned his present financial independence.

In 1896 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Ada Keasey, who died in 1898, leaving a son, Howard, who lives with his father. In 1900 Mr. Smith was married to Miss Edith Swank, no children being born to Mr. Smith's second union. In politics he is a democrat. He belongs to the order of Macca-bees.

JAMES M. YODER. A number of the important distinctions of country life belong to the Yoder family, the head of which is James M. Yoder of Newbury Township, LaGrange County. Mr. Yoder owns a large and fine farm in that township, is a general farmer and also a successful peppermint grower. He has some sturdy sons who are well fitted to become successors to their father in the role of agriculture, and the prize winning efforts of the Yoder boys are widely known over Northeast Indiana.

Mr. Yoder was born near his present home August 29, 1873. He is a son of Noah C. and Mary M. (Lambright) Yoder and a grandson of Christian C. Yoder, who was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, May 29, 1819. Christian married Catherine Harshberger on June 27, 1841. She was a daughter of Jacob and Barbara (Summey) Harshberger. Christian C. Yoder went to Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1843, and in March, 1851, moved his home to Newbury Township of LaGrange County. Noah C. Yoder was born in Elkhart County and was a boy when the family came to LaGrange County. He spent the rest of his life in Newbury Township, where he reared a family. He died in 1897, at the age of fifty-three. His efforts brought him the ownership of 320 acres. He and his wife were active members of the Lutheran Church. His widow, still living, was born in Bavaria, Germany, a daughter of Peter Lambright. The children of Noah Yoder and wife were: Albert C., a physician at Goshen; James M.; Sylvia A., widow of Samuel F. Nelson; and Rolland Otis, of Indianapolis.

James M. Yoder received his education in the district schools and at the age of twenty-one became a farm worker at monthly wages for Rollin Ellison. He was with Mr. Ellison for five years, and under him acquired much valuable knowledge of farming. He then returned home and began operating the homestead, and has lived there ever since. He is individually the owner of 270 acres, has remodeled the buildings and has put in many improvements. For the past twelve years he has devoted part of his land to the culture of peppermint. The Yoder farm is a model country place, the house having such city equipments as electric lights, steam heat and hot and cold water.

Mr. Yoder married Ella Large in 1894. She is a daughter of Samuel E. and Jane (Reickard) Large. Mr. and Mrs. Yoder and all their children are members of the Congregational Church at Shipshewana. A brief record of their family is as follows: Charles Fred, who married Bertha Nelson, and they have two children, Charles Fred, Jr., and Janette; Mabel, who is a teacher and student; Antoinette, who is the wife of Lester Oesch; Dewey Dwayne, who was an enlisted member of the Students Army Training Corps at Angola during the war and is now continuing his studies in the Tri-State College there; Rollin Albert, who was also in the Students Army Training Corps at Angola; and James Willard.

Since the organization of the LaGrange Corn School each of the Yoder boys has entered corn or other exhibits and each has been awarded prizes and honors. Charles Fred has been a prize winner every year he has entered and has won three scholarships to Purdue University. Dewey Dwayne



has also been successful at every entry he has made and was given a twelve weeks' scholarship at Valparaiso University, and in 1913 at LaGrange received the silver cup as the first prize for scoring corn. Rollin Albert has been honored for his work in scoring and in raising corn, while James W. was given a prize for an original essay and also for a corn exhibit and corn scoring.

**DAVID F. CLINK.** Many winters and summers have come and gone since the Clink family established itself in Steuben County. David F. Clink, son of the settler of over sixty years ago, is living on the farm in Steuben Township where he was born, and his own part has been that of an industrious and capable farmer, thus continuing the honorable record of the family.

His father, John R. Clink, was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, April 23, 1836, a son of George and Catherine (Smith) Clink, both natives of Germany. George Clink came to the United States with his parents when twelve years of age, lived in Pennsylvania and afterward in Sandusky County, where he and his wife died. John R. Clink came to Steuben County, Indiana, in the spring of 1855, and five years later bought eighty acres in section 36 of Steuben Township. He lived in the log cabin that stood on the land, and had a log barn, the latter being replaced in 1867 by a large frame barn. The home was built in 1873, and at that time was regarded as one of the best in the township. He did much as a horticulturist, setting out a large number of apple, cherry and peach trees and other small fruits. The last few years of his life John R. Clink spent in Ashley, where he died November 20, 1911. His widow is still living at the old home with her son David. Her maiden name was Elizabeth Ritter. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, April 15, 1834, a daughter of Henry Ritter, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1851 and was a pioneer settler on section 8 of Steuben Township.

David F. Clink was one of the seven children of his parents, their names being George H., Ezra E., Charles K., Clara B., Cora E., David F. and Frederick J.

David Clink attended the public schools of Steuben Township, also those of the Village at Hudson, and began his career as a farmer with his father. He spent one year railroading with the Wabash Railroad Company and for three years worked in the northern woods. Since 1909 he has given all his time to farming the old homestead. December 26, 1906, Mr. Clink married Lena Johnson, a daughter of A. B. and Mary (Slaybaugh) Johnson. Her father died in 1902 and her mother in 1904. A. B. Johnson came to Scott Township of Steuben County about fifty-five years ago, when a boy, with his father, and later moved to Angola, where he spent most of his life. The three children of A. B. Johnson and wife were Alsines B., Lena and Hannah. Mr. and Mrs. Clink have two children, John Raymond and Edwin Willis. Mr. Clink is affiliated with the Loyal Order of Moose and his wife is active in the Christian Church at Ashley.

**CHARLES W. SLACK.** Perhaps no family in LaGrange County is better known than the Slacks, for they have been here many years and have been good people, excellent farmers and useful citizens. Charles W. Slack, who is engaged in farming and stockraising in Clay Township, is a grandson of Isaac Slack, who came here sixty-seven years ago.

Charles W. Slack was born at LaGrange, Indiana, September 12, 1868, the eldest of four children born to William J. and Lucy P. (Preston) Slack. Wil-

liam J. Slack was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, in 1845, a son of Isaac and Ann F. (Sawyer) Slack, who came to LaGrange County in 1852. They settled first in Johnson Township, then owned a farm in Van Buren Township and later the farm in Clay Township, now the property of Samuel Yoder. Isaac Slack and wife died there, the former May 29, 1890. William J. Slack was married October 15, 1867, to Lucy P. Preston, who was born in Portage County, Ohio, October 27, 1848. Her parents were John and Fidelia (Waldo) Preston, who came to LaGrange County May 15, 1850. William J. Slack and wife lived at LaGrange until 1877, and then moved to a farm in Clay Township. The father was accidentally killed on a bridge near LaGrange June 18, 1888. The mother of Charles W. Slack survived until December 28, 1916. They had the following children: Charles W.; Grace M., who married John F. Boesinger; Harry C., who married Clara A. Porter; and Newton W., who married May Griffin, of North Yakima, Washington. The father was a republican in his political views. Both parents belonged to the Presbyterian Church.

Charles W. Slack attended school for one term in the oldest schoolhouse at LaGrange, and after the family moved to the farm in Clay Township he attended the country schools. He has devoted himself to agricultural pursuits all his life. In 1902 he bought his present well improved farm of thirty-one acres in Clay Township and established himself there in September of that year. He carries on general farming and raises stock.

Mr. Slack was married on February 1, 1891, to Mary Smith, who was born in Crawford County, Ohio, February 11, 1870, a daughter of John Frederick, and Caroline (Walter) Smith. The mother of Mrs. Slack was born at Alstadt, Germany, May 7, 1840, and died in De Kalb County, Indiana, March 10, 1888. The father was also born in Germany, November 17, 1833, and came to the United States and settled in Crawford County, Ohio, later coming to Bloomfield Township, LaGrange County, where he died in 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Slack have three children, namely: Harley, Ora and Vivian M., the youngest of whom was born October 23, 1909. The eldest, Harley Slack, was born February 18, 1892. He completed the high school course and afterward entered Purdue University. He married Miss Mabel Gottschalk. Ora Slack, the second son, who has just been welcomed home from overseas military service in the World war, was born in September, 1893, and was graduated from the eighth grade in the public schools. On November 22, 1917, he answered the call to war service, went to Camp Custer and from there to Waco, Texas, for training, and on February 18, 1918, left for France with a contingent of the American Expeditionary Forces and landed at Brest March 4, 1918. He served as a member of Company F, One Hundred and Twenty-Sixth Infantry, was transferred to Company I, One Hundred and Twenty-Eighth Infantry, took part in all the battles of his division with American bravery, but rejoiced to return home when the war was over, crossed the Atlantic on the George Washington and was safely landed in New York harbor May 5, 1919, and was honorably discharged at Camp Custer May 17, 1919. This young hero's name should appear on Indiana's roll of honor. He has resumed work at the carpenter trade as a finisher.

Mr. Slack is somewhat independent in his political views but usually votes the republican ticket. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias and the order of Maccabees.

**CHARLES HENRY BANGS,** of the Bangs homestead in Richland Township, DeKalb County, is a member



of "The Edward Bangs Descendants," one of the colonial families which traces its lineage back to 1297, at which time the early English records show the crossing of the family from France to England. They lived there until their descendant, Edward Bangs, came to America to establish the new branch in 1623. The early church records of England indicate the same family tendency as shown in its history in America, that of following the learned professions. "The Edward Bangs Descendants" numbers among its members such celebrities as John Kendrick Bangs, Governor Eugene Foss, Professor Francis S. Bangs of Columbia University; Congressmen Foss and Ireland, George D. Bangs, superintendent of the Pinkerton Detective Agency whose father, in the same capacity, planned and carried out the protection of Abraham Lincoln on that first momentous trip to Washington, together with many other notables in the professions. The American lineage in brief is as follows:

Edward Bangs, born in Chichester, England, 1591, died at Eastham, Massachusetts, 1678. He came to America in "Ye Goode Ship Anne" in July, 1623; settled at Plymouth and superintended the building of the first bark there; was made a freeman in 1633; settled at Eastham, Cape Cod, 1644; town treasurer, 1646-1665; selectman and deputy to Colony Court, 1652. Was married first to Lydia, daughter of Robert and Margaret Hickee, and second to Rebecca.

Jonathan, sea captain, second son of Edward, born 1640, married July 16, 1664, Mary Mayo. Seal of early ancestors used and still preserved.

Captain Samuel, fourth child of Captain Jonathan, born at Harwick, Massachusetts, July 12, 1680, died June 11, 1750, married first January 13, 1703, Mary Hinckley, daughter of Samuel H. She died January 7, 1741, at Harwick; married second Widow Mary Rider, April 1, 1742, leaving one son.

David Bangs, third child of Samuel, born March 29, 1709, at Harwick, married Eunice Stone, daughter of Rev. Nathaniel Stone, son-in-law of Governor Thomas Hinckley. Moved to Wilmington, Windham County, Vermont, where he died in April, 1803, aged ninety-four years. His wife, born September 23, 1721, went to see her sixteen sons enlist in the Revolutionary war. At death she was aged one hundred and four years and nine months.

Azariah Bangs, sixth child of David B., was born April 8, 1740.

Nathaniel Bangs, son of Azariah, was born May 4, 1770, died at Bakersville, Vermont, January 14, 1867, carpenter, cabinetmaker, millwright. Children of his first marriage were: Amos Parker, born December 29, 1794, died September 21, 1856, and Azariah, born December 7, 1797, died March 7, 1875. Married second Judah Elwell, having two children. Sally Georgia Lyons, born September 26, 1809, died December 10, 1893; and Heman. The mother was drowned in the Erie canal at Lockport, New York, while on her way to visit her son Heman. From 1842 to death, Nathaniel Bangs lived with his son Azariah.

Heman Bangs, youngest child of Nathaniel and Judah (Elwell) Bangs, born at Shaftsbury, Vermont, June 14, 1813, died May 31, 1902; went to live with Robert Madison, neighboring farmer at eleven years and at fifteen accompanied him to Genesee County, New York. Started out with \$100, purchased farm in 1837 of Holland Company in Niagara County, New York, sold farm in 1839, spent winter in Kalamazoo, Michigan. On March 13, 1840, settled on the Bangs homestead in DeKalb County, Indiana. He was a carpenter, joiner and farmer and a man who was liked by every one and became very prosperous. He was married Novem-

ber 22, 1842, to Catherine Elnira Chaffy, born March 7, 1821, died August 21, 1899, a daughter of Joshua and Polly (Bowers) Chaffy. The Chaffy family came to DeKalb County from New York in 1838, then moved to LaGrange County. Their children were: Eunice L. (Showers), Nathaniel, John H., Matilda (deceased), Winfield Scott, Caroline L. (Vian) and Charles H. Heman Bangs joined the Methodist Protestant Church in 1841, and later both he and his wife united with the United Brethren. Politically he was a whig and then a republican. In 1840 he helped build the first schoolhouse in the township, made the first coffin for the first death in the township, and made the first loom in the county in 1840.

Charles Henry Bangs, youngest child of Heman and Catherine E. Bangs, was born May 26, 1857, on the Bangs homestead in Richland Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. While a young man he became deeply interested and was a leader in the lyceums of that day and had a reputation as a debater. He was a musical director, also a teacher in the old singing schools of the tune-fork days. He pursued successfully the mercantile business for a number of years, when, due to the advancing age of his parents, and for the benefits of a rural environment for the home to be so soon established, he gave up the business of a merchant, for which he was well fitted, for the farm.

Mr. Bangs was married June 25, 1885, to Virginia (Jennie) H. Reynolds, who was born October 8, 1862, at Fairfield Center, a daughter of Jerome and Barbara (Eckert) Reynolds, who died eleven weeks apart, in 1884. They had the following children: Eolian M., Clarence M., Melvin F., Walter T., and Virginia H. To Mr. and Mrs. Bangs the following children were born: Owen Roscoe, Guy Reynolds, Clare W. H., Gladys May and Faye Edna. Owen Roscoe Bangs was born June 14, 1886, secured the degrees of B. S. and A. B. from the Tri-State College, has taught in all departments of the public schools, has been superintendent of schools for eight years and is now studying in the department of education, Columbia University. He was married November 19, 1911, to Bessie E. Fried, born February 12, 1886, died March 7, 1919. Their son, Rex D., was born January 9, 1913.

Guy Reynolds Bangs was born December 9, 1887, received degrees from Tri-State College, is a graduate of the International Business College in Accountancy, was for five years superintendent of schools, two years as accountant, and has been professor of education and registrar in Huntington College. He was married August 21, 1912, to Mabel G. Husselman, who was born January 22, 1893, and they have two children: Una Joyce, born January 24, 1914; and Kenneth Leon, born March 19, 1916.

Clare W. H. Bangs was born May 5, 1890, received the B. Pd. and A. B. degrees from Tri-State College; A. M. from Huntington College; student in King's School of Oratory, Indiana University and Chicago University; completed course in civil engineering; superintendent of schools three years; professor of sociology and philosophy three years; president of Huntington College four years, resigning to enter law, member of general board of education for the United Brethren Church; general secretary of education of denomination; member of American Academy of Political and Social Science; Fellow Royal Society of Arts of London; member of Association of American Colleges, also of the Association of Indiana Colleges; charter member Edward Bangs Descendants; investigator of social problems, Chicago and St. Louis, and at various times a Chautauqua and commencement lecturer. He was admitted to the bar July 5, 1919. He

was married July 18, 1917, to Nellie A. Binning, born November 7, 1881, and their son, Charles Edward was born October 12, 1918.

Gladys May Bangs was born August 18, 1892, received Bachelor of Music degree from Tri-State College; student of voice and piano, Pittsburgh; student in King's School of Oratory. Studied piano under Roy David Brown of Chicago; is a graduate of Huntington College Academy and department of Domestic Science. For two years Miss Bangs has been associate teacher of piano with Professor Roy David Brown in the Huntington College Conservatory of Music. Faye Edna Bangs, the youngest daughter, was born September 13, 1897; is a graduate of the Tri-State College Academy, also of King's School of Oratory; student in Huntington College; has taught in all departments of the public schools; was supervisor of music and art for four years in high schools; and has done commercial designing and platform work.

Mr. and Mrs. Bangs have interested themselves largely in civic betterment and movements for civic advancement. Feeling keenly the lack of educational facilities in their youth, they have worked for a better school system and have inspired and aided their children to secure the best education possible. They have always been active in moral reform and religious work. Their convictions upon the foundation principles underlying character have been clear, definite and fearlessly followed. Mr. Bangs has been an active organizer in the republican party. For fourteen years he was an officer in the DeKalb County Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, during thirteen years of which he was actuary, through which capacity he has formed a wide acquaintance through the county. Early he became interested in the study of soils and soil fertility, and for fourteen years has been the official district crop reporter for the United States Department of Agriculture, making surveys that include farm labor, costs, crop conditions, varieties of wheat, etc. For twelve years he has been a notary public of Indiana.

GEORGE W. HOFF, county treasurer elect of LaGrange County, has lived here seventy years, and long before he entered politics and became a prominent figure in the life of the county he had built on a firm foundation a solid prosperity as a farmer and land owner in Clay Township, where he still resides.

Mr. Hoff was born in Johnson Township March 3, 1849, a son of Michael and Hannah (Mowers) Hoff, the former a native of Maryland and the latter born in Virginia, a daughter of Isaac Mowers. Grandfather Michael Hoff, Sr., was born in Germany, and married Mary Bennett, also of that country. Michael, Sr., became a distiller in Maryland and reared a family of ten children. Michael, Jr., came to LaGrange County in 1848 from Richland County, Ohio. He established a general store at what is now called Woodruff, but after about two years moved to a farm in Johnson Township and in 1868 established his home in Newbury Township where he lived until his death in 1886. His wife passed away in 1879. Their children consisted of Sarah, Melancthon, Mary, Samuel, George W., Isaac, Catherine and Andrew.

George W. Hoff as a boy attended one of the district schools in Johnson Township, later attended the Collegiate Institute at Ontario, Indiana, and completed a course of business training at Hillsdale College in Michigan. For about ten years he taught winter terms of school and part of the time farmed during the summers. He bought his first land, fifty-eight acres, in 1873. That acreage is still part of his much larger and more valuable holding,

comprising 320 acres, all of which he has bought and paid for out of his individual efforts. He has improved it with splendid buildings, his home being in section 6, his farm being the east half of that section.

Mr. Hoff married in 1876 Anna Lampman, daughter of Arad Lampman. They have five children: Nellie, Festus, Irma, Alsa and Jasper. The son Jasper was one of the LaGrange County boys to see active service in the great war. He was a member of the Three Hundred and Seventh Unit of the Medical Reserve Corps, was attached to the Seventy-seventh Division, went to France in August, 1918, and participated in the battle of the Argonne Forest.

Mr. Hoff was elected county treasurer of LaGrange County in November, 1918, and his official term begins in January, 1920. He is affiliated with the Lodge of Maccabees, and he and his wife are both members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at LaGrange.

NATHANIEL B. GRIFFIN. For many years to come as a result of the great war the problem of feeding humanity is going to be an international one, and the solving of it is going to devolve principally upon the American farmers. For this and other cogent reasons the vocation of farming has gained and will retain an added dignity and importance which will attract to it still more of the representative men of the country. One of the men who long ago recognized the desirability of this line of endeavor is Nathaniel B. Griffin, of Otsego Township, Steuben County, Indiana. He was born in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, July 15, 1852, a son of Eli B. Griffin.

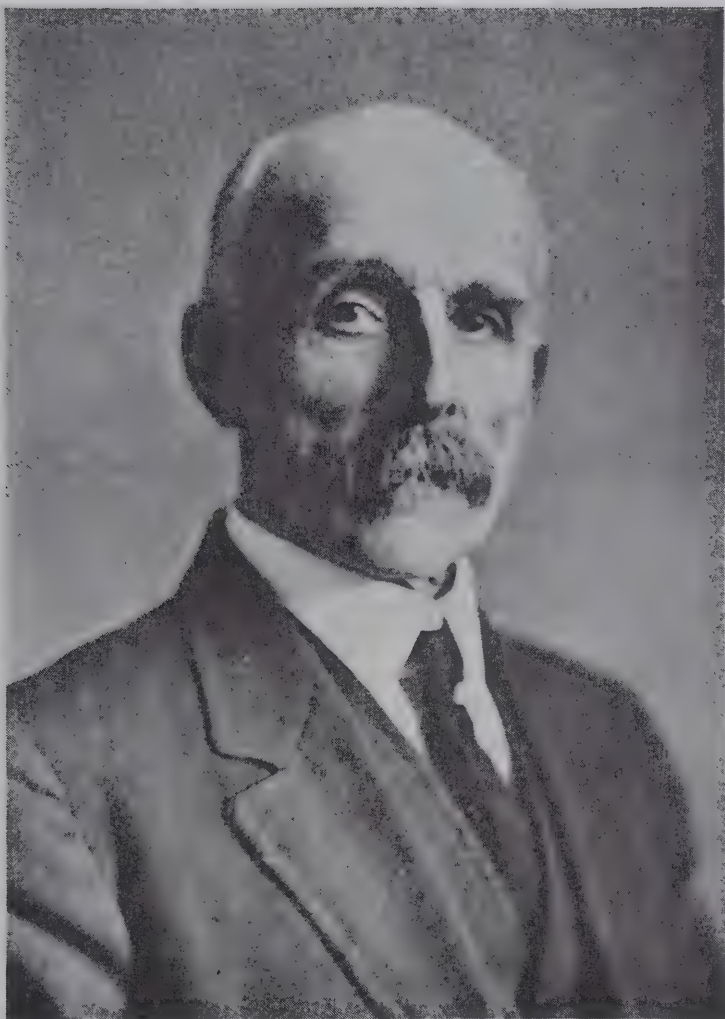
Eli B. Griffin was born in Pennsylvania, in February, 1802, and his wife, Eliza (Bundy) Griffin, was born in Pennsylvania in April, 1812, a daughter of Nathaniel Bundy. In 1846 Eli B. Griffin moved from Pennsylvania to Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, becoming one of the pioneers of that section. There he entered eighty acres of land and lived there until 1865, when he moved to Wilmington Township in the same county, on a farm of 140 acres which he had purchased, and there he continued to reside until his death. He and his excellent wife had the following children: Thomas, Susan, Charles, George, Polley, William, Edward, Maria, Nathaniel B. and Nelson.

Until he was twenty years of age Nathaniel B. Griffin remained with his father, during that period learning how to be a farmer and attending the district schools. For the subsequent four years he worked for neighboring farmers, and then he was married and started for himself on rented land. Later he bought a farm, conducting it until 1901, when he traded it for his present one of 140 acres in section 30, Otsego Township, and here he is profitably engaged in general farming and stock raising, his success in this line proving his good judgment in selecting this line of work.

In 1876 Mr. Griffin was united in marriage with Miss Viola Cameron, a daughter of William and Sarah (Carlin) Cameron, and they had two children: Luella, who died at the age of fourteen years, and Etta, who married Charles Crowl and has three children, Viola, Fred and Laurence. Mrs. Griffin died in 1906, and in 1909 Mr. Griffin was married to Mrs. Agnes Cook.

William Cameron, the father of the first Mrs. Griffin, was one of the prominent men of Steuben County, Indiana. He was born at Abernethy, Scotland October 23, 1817, he being the second of the nine children born to George and Janet Cameron, who came to the western district of Canada in 1834.





GEORGE W. HOFF





The mother survived the change but four years, dying in 1838, and in 1848, the father dying, three of the children, including William, came to Indiana, he settling in Richland Township, on 160 acres of land in section 8. John Cameron, a brother, also settled in Richland Township, Steuben County, but he died in 1878. Donald, the other brother, settled in Posey County, Indiana. In 1864 William Cameron sold his farm, which he had considerably improved, and bought another farm in section 29, Otsego Township. Although a poor man upon coming to Steuben County, through his industry and thrift he accumulated property and died a wealthy man. He was married in March, 1843, to Sarah Carlin, a native of Wayne County, Ohio, where she was born February 1, 1826, a daughter of Robert and Sarah Carlin, who settled in Richland Township in 1841. William Cameron and his wife became the parents of the following children: Robert, Jane, Juliet, Sarah, John, Maria, Viola and one who died in infancy.

Nathaniel B. Griffin is a man who possesses will and resourcefulness and has known how to so conduct his farm as to gain a good return on his investment of time and money. He has recognized the importance of operating according to modern methods in order to produce large crops and market them expeditiously and his experiments with their attending results are matters of considerable interest to those of his neighbors less experienced than he.

**JAMES A. SHOUP.** The Shoup family was established in LaGrange County, Indiana, over sixty years ago, and through its sturdy qualities has grown and prospered, and its members of today are people of worldly substance and of trustworthy character. A well known and highly respected member of this family is James A. Shoup, who owns one of the fine farms of Clay Township. James A. Shoup was born in Eden Township, LaGrange County, March 28, 1857, two years after his parents came to this section.

They were David and Abigail (Evans) Shoup, both natives of Pennsylvania, who, prior to 1855, when they came to Indiana with their eight children, had spent their lives in their own state. Their first pioneer home of logs was on a tract of eighty acres situated in Eden Township. To this twenty acres were added, and on this homestead of 100 acres both parents died. Of their family of ten children James A. was the youngest, the others being as follows: Simon, Margaret, William, Urilla, Abram, Charlotte, John, Dorsey and Thomas. The father united with the republican party on its formation. Both he and wife were faithful members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

James A. Shoup grew up on the old homestead and remembers many interesting events of early days here. One in which he was annually interested in boyhood was the sugar maple camp, as it was his business to attend to all the jobs a boy could do during the boiling of the sap and "sugaring off." He attended the country schools and in the course of time became owner of a part of the old home farm. That land he traded for fifty acres situated in Clay Township, which tract he sold in 1905 and bought his present farm of 101 acres in Clay Township, which lies about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles from LaGrange. He carries on general farming and also has been a member of a threshing outfit for many seasons. Few farmers in this section are better posted as to agricultural conditions and farm values in the county. He has a wide acquaintance and many friends.

In 1880 Mr. Shoup was married to Miss Amelia

Sigler, who was born in Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County, and is a daughter of William and Lydia Sigler, early settlers in that part of the county. To Mr. and Mrs. Shoup the following children were born: Pearl, who married Roy Shrock, and they have five children, Theron, Calvin, Paul, Allen and Wilmer; Orley, who operates the farm for his father; Lillie, who married Mathias Schemerhorn, and they have had six children, Leroy, Clyde, Gladys, Marlow, Roscoe and Dale; Otto, who is deceased; and Clair, who married Ada Charles, and had twin sons, Homer and Omer, the latter of whom is deceased. Mr. Shoup has always been identified with the republican party, but has never concerned himself about a political office, although undoubtedly well qualified for many. He has been a liberal supporter of schools and churches and has done his part in securing the county's fine road system.

**WILLIAM M. BALLENTINE.** For a number of years William M. Ballentine has been rated as one of the independent and successful farmers of Butler Township in DeKalb County. Some of his good neighbors and friends remember a time when he was working as a farm hand or as a renter and know that his good fortune and present prosperity have been well merited and earned by an efficient career of hard labor and good management.

Mr. Ballentine, whose home is in section 17 of Butler Township, was born in DeKalb County, September 27, 1866, a son of James and Emeline (Monroe) Ballentine, both natives of Ohio. His father, who was born in Richland County, married after moving to DeKalb County, Indiana, and settled down on land east of Auburn, where he spent the rest of his life. He was a Union soldier for eighteen months and an honored member of the Grand Army. Politically he was a republican. There were three children: William M., Phoebe, wife of Jacob Kemery, of DeKalb County, and Samuel, who is employed in the elevator at St. Johns, Indiana.

William M. Ballentine grew up on a farm near St. Joe, attended the district schools and was fifteen years old when his father died. After that he, being the oldest child, had to assume most of the responsibilities of working the fields and to a large degree he filled his father's place. His mother afterward married again, and when about twenty-one years of age he moved to Butler Township and worked out as a farm hand.

December 22, 1891, he married Elnora Smith. She was born in Butler Township, March 1, 1870. After their marriage Mr. Ballentine was a ditch contractor about two and a half years and for three years worked on the section of the New York Central lines. He began his independent career as a farmer on land he owns today. At that time he was a renter, but he has since bought the farm, seventy-six acres. He is also a stockholder in the Garrett elevator. A democrat in politics, he has filled the office of supervisor.

Mr. and Mrs. Ballentine have four children. Arlo E., a graduate of the Garrett High School, attended North Manchester College, and is a foreman of car repairing at Garrett. Fred is a graduate of the common schools, lives on a farm in Keyser Township, and married Bernice P. Rugman. Raymond, the third son, is a graduate of the Garrett High School, also attended a business college at Fort Wayne, and married Velma Grove. Mabel Lucile is the fourth and youngest child. Mr. Ballentine has four grandchildren, Josephine L. and James H., children of his son Fred; and Omar and Virginia M., children of Arlo.

**SAMUEL A. ANSPAUGH.** A resident of Steuben County since 1870, Samuel A. Anspaugh, has had a lifetime of extreme activity and usefulness, for ten years was superintendent of the County Farm, and for over thirty years has given his time and management to his own farm in Richland Township. Mr. Anspaugh was well fitted for the vigorous life he has lived. He is a splendid specimen of physical makeup, would pass for being ten years younger than he really is, and has the muscular development of an athlete.

He was born at Florence in Williams County, Ohio, July 16, 1852. His father, John Anspaugh, was born in Stark County, Ohio, a son of Jacob and Barbara Anspaugh, natives of Pennsylvania. The family removed from Stark to Williams County in 1844, and John Anspaugh was married there April 27, 1847, to Sarah Ann Cain. She was born in Harrison County, Ohio, October 11, 1830, a daughter of Samuel and Hester Cain. John Anspaugh and wife lived for several years in Williams County, and on March 8, 1870, settled in section 5 in Richland Township, Steuben County, where he acquired eighty acres of land. In early life he was very fond of hunting. He was a republican, and he and his wife were members of the United Brethren Church. John Anspaugh died June 5, 1904. He was the father of seven children, all born in Williams County, Jacob, Samuel, Benjamin, Hester, wife of Charles D. Bowles, John L., Mrs. Amanda Flegal and Henry G.

Samuel A. Anspaugh received most of his education in Williams County, Ohio. He was eighteen years of age when he came to Steuben County with his father, and from that time forward was able to make his own way in the world. In 1878 he was appointed to the responsible and exacting duties of superintendent of the Steuben County Farm, and he gave a careful administration of that institution for ten years. In March, 1888, he retired and located on his home farm in section 5 of Richland Township. He has remodeled the house, put up other buildings, and has the eighty acres in a fine state of productiveness. He raises a great deal of live stock. Mr. Anspaugh served fourteen years as supervisor of the Township of Richland. He is one of the active members of Lodge No. 236 of the Masonic Order at Angola.

January 1, 1876, he married Margaret Cameron, daughter of John and Mary (Carlin) Cameron. The Camerons are an old and prominent family of Steuben County. Mr. and Mrs. Anspaugh have one son, George E. Anspaugh, who has distinguished himself in the field of scholarship and education. He graduated from the Tri-State College at Angola, entering that institution at the age of thirteen and graduating at sixteen. Later he graduated from the Indiana State University at Bloomington and is also a graduate of Columbia University. At present he is principal and superintendent of the City High School at Farmer City, Illinois. George E. Anspaugh married Edith V. Mohler, and they have three children, Edith L., Robert E. and Helen May.

**RALPH WALDO SHEFFER**, assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Angola, has spent all his life in that city and is a son of the veteran editor and newspaper man of Steuben County, William K. Sheffer.

His great-grandfather, Moses Sheffer, was a minister of the Baptist Church in Pennsylvania. The paternal grandparents were Adam and Rachel (Starr) Sheffer, the former born in Maryland in 1826 and the latter in Pennsylvania in 1825. They were married in Ohio, and for many years lived in

Morrow County, that state. On coming to Indiana they settled near Mount Pleasant in Noble County, were farmers there many years, and subsequently moved to Kendallville, where Mrs. Adam Sheffer died. Adam Sheffer died at Angola. He was a democrat, and he and his wife were members of the New School Baptist Church. Their children were: Dennis, who died young; Banner R., William K., Barton S., Sylvester S., and Mary Etta.

William K. Sheffer was born in Morrow County, Ohio, July 6, 1845. He lived there to the age of nineteen, acquiring a public school education. Later he taught in the same district where he had learned his first lessons. In 1864 he moved to Noble County, Indiana, was a teacher for some time, and first engaged in the printing business at Kendallville. In 1872 he entered the office of the Ligonier Banner under John B. Stoll, later a prominent newspaper man of South Bend. He was with the Banner until July, 1877, when he came to Angola and bought a half interest in the Herald from William B. McConnell. The Angola Herald was established in 1876. W. K. Sheffer in January, 1878, became sole owner and proprietor and editor, and in subsequent years steadily promoted its influence and prosperity. He was with the Herald continuously for twenty-nine years except for two years when absent from Angola. He sold the Herald in 1889 to John F. Schuman and William Blatner. During the succeeding two years he was associated with his younger brother, Sylvester S. Sheffer, in the publication of the Kendallville News. He then returned to Angola and repurchased the Herald. In 1906 he again sold the Herald to Ernest C. Klink, who later sold to Harvey W. Morley, the present owner and publisher. Soon afterward he took up the real estate, insurance and loan business, was for several years local correspondent and is now in charge of the circulation department of the Fort Wayne Journal-Gazette at Angola. He is an active democrat in politics. His wife was a member of the Christian Church, where the family attend worship.

November 27, 1873, at Ligonier, William K. Sheffer married Miss Eliza A. Pence, who was born in Stark County, Ohio, August 16, 1851, daughter of Samuel N. and Hannah Pence. A record of the Pence family is published on other pages of this publication. William K. Sheffer and wife had the following children: Lenora Elma, born June 6, 1876, and died in 1904, wife of John R. Pulver, by whom she was the mother of four children, named Anna M., Agnes, William F. (who died in infancy), and Ruth Elma. The second child, Samuel E., born in 1880, is a printer with the South Bend Tribune, having learned the business with his father. Laura Bessie died in infancy. Ralph Waldo is the fourth in age. Mary Ethel is the youngest.

Ralph Waldo Sheffer was born at Angola October 18, 1885, and received his education in the public schools and also the Angola High School, from which he graduated in 1904. He took a commercial course in the Tri-State College and learned business by practical experience as a clerk in the grocery store of T. L. Gillis for two years. For five years he was chief clerk in the freight office of the Lake Shore Railroad at Angola, and in September, 1911, became bookkeeper of the First National Bank. For the past four years he has held the office of assistant cashier.

Mr. Sheffer is a republican, and is a Knight Templar Mason, being affiliated with Angola Commandery No. 45. He is also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and is a member of the Christian Church. In 1906 he married Miss Maude Cowan. She was born in Otsego Township of Steu-



ben County, where her father, the late Elmer Cowan, was a well known farmer. They have one son, Harold Edward, born February 21, 1915.

**ELMER F. SEAGLY.** The success of a business man can best be measured by the variety or extent and importance of the interests directed by or participated in by him. One of the business men of LaGrange County who perform a number of services to their communities is Elmer F. Seagly of South Milford, who is a hardware merchant, a grain dealer, a farmer, and both in public affairs and business has been prominent for a number of years in that section.

Mr. Seagly was born in Johnson Township of LaGrange County, July 16, 1870, a son of John and Julian (Dannemiller) Seagly. His mother was a native of Germany and came to the United States with her parents in 1834. The family located near Canton Ohio, where she grew up and married. Her husband was a native of Pennsylvania. In 1853 John Seagly and wife came to Indiana and lived in Whitely County until 1865, when he settled in Johnson Township of LaGrange County. He finally moved to Wolcottville, where he died in 1903 and his wife in 1904.

Elmer F. Seagly spent his boyhood in Johnson Township, attended the district schools and afterward acquired a liberal education, with three years in the Wolcottville High School and one year in the State Normal. For seven years Mr. Seagly was a successful teacher in the country districts and in the intervals of teaching also followed farming. In the fall of 1897 he engaged in the hardware business at South Milford, and beginning with a very limited capital he has built up a large store and at the same time has made his personal influence and capital count with a number of other local enterprises. For several years he also conducted a hardware store at Stroh and Helmer. He is a stockholder in the Home Grain Company, operating elevators at LaGrange and South Milford. Mr. Seagly owns 280 acres of land in Milford Township and uses it as a stock feeding ranch, feeding several carloads of stock every year. He gives his personal supervision to his farm. He has served as president of the Milford Township Farmers Institute, and is secretary and treasurer of the Farmers Shipping Association at South Milford.

Mr. Seagly married Grace Shanower, of Johnson Township, on December 23, 1894. They have two sons, Gerald J. and Elmer G. Gerald is a graduate of high school and is now with his father in business. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Seagly is a trustee, and out of the twenty-two years he has lived at South Milford he has been superintendent of the Sunday School for nineteen. He has been treasurer of the local lodge of Odd Fellows for eighteen years, is a member of the Encampment and his wife is a Rebekah. Politically Mr. Seagly is a republican.

**E. J. HACKETT** is an old resident of Steuben County, for many years was engaged in farming, and latterly has become affiliated with business affairs at Orland, where under the name of E. J. Hackett & Son he conducts an automobile and implement business.

Mr. Hackett was born in St. Joseph County, Michigan, August 19, 1858, a son of John and Caroline (Hoyt) Hackett. John Hackett, who for many years was identified with Steuben County, was born in Cayuga County, New York, in 1821, a son of Miner and Electa (Case) Hackett, natives of Vermont. John Hackett in early manhood came west to Oakland, Michigan, and eventually settled in the

wooded country south of Adrian. From there he moved to Burr Oak, Michigan, and in 1844 went to California, making the journey by water and suffering many hardships and exposure to disease. After thirteen months in the West he returned to Michigan, and at that time had a capital of \$1,300. He triumphed over many obstacles, and though he never had a chance to obtain an education he acquired much knowledge of the world and altogether was a very successful man. He spent several years in Kansas, at one time operated a saw mill at Burr Oak, Michigan, and in 1875 acquired 200 acres of land in Steuben County in Millgrove Township. He used his resources and experience to develop that into a fine estate, and lived there until his death in 1897. He went to Kansas in 1862 and bought a farm four miles south of the City of Lawrence. When he left Kansas he sold the property and profited \$3,000 by the transaction.

His first wife, whose maiden name was Ellen Richardson, died of smallpox while they were living in Michigan. She was the mother of two children: John, of Sand Lake, Michigan, and Josephine, deceased. John Hackett married for his second wife Anna Hause. One of their two children died in infancy and their son Frank now lives in Steuben County. In 1856 John Hackett married Caroline Hoyt, who was born in Canada, February 14, 1830. She is still living at the venerable age of eighty-nine years and is an active member of the Methodist Church. She was the mother of six children: Edwin J.; Gertrude; Maud; Lillie, deceased; Carrie, deceased; and Fred, who is in the real estate business in Orland.

Edwin J. Hackett was four years old when his parents went to Kansas, and he acquired his education there and also in the Scott School in Steuben County. After reaching manhood he acquired a part of the old homestead, and was steadily engaged in farming there until April, 1915, when he moved to Orland and bought an automobile and implement business. His active associate has been his son Lyle, and under the name of E. J. Hackett & Son they do the leading business in their line in Millgrove Township. Mr. Hackett is affiliated with Star Lodge No. 225, Free and Accepted Masons, and he and his family for twenty-five years have been members of the Congregational Church.

In 1880 he married Miss Nellie Van Benschoten, daughter of S. and Sarah (Claffin) Van Benschoten. Mr. and Mrs. Hackett have six children: Florence is the wife of Jesse Monroe, of Bronson, Michigan, and has four children, named Nellie, Guy, Ruth and Millie. Earl, a farmer in Millgrove Township, married Blanche Crow and has three children, Julia, Morris and John. Louel is the wife of Elmer Snyder, of Cleveland, and was the mother of two children, Thelma, deceased, and Edna. Marie is the wife of Weldon Laurmer, who spent six months at Camp Shelby in Mississippi during the war. Lyle, his father's business associate, married Carroll Case, daughter of William Case, of Orland. The youngest of the family is Glen.

**JOSIAH M. MILLER** is a native of LaGrange County and has spent nearly all his life in an active career as a farmer, divided between Clay and Newbury townships. He owns one of the good farms in Newbury Township and is widely known all over the county as a dealer in live stock.

Mr. Miller was born in Newbury Township August 31, 1866, a son of Moses P. and Eva (Hostetler) Miller. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1845, and came to LaGrange County in 1857, and is still living in Clay Township. His personal record appears on other pages of this publication.

Josiah M. Miller when three years of age was taken by his parents to Hickory County, Missouri, and he attended his first school in that section of Missouri. In 1872 the family returned to LaGrange County and settled in Eden Township, where he was a student in the local schools for three years. He finished his education in Clay Township and began his personal career as a farmer there. He remained in Clay Township as a farmer for eleven years and in 1900 bought his home place in Newbury Township, in section 25, where he has eighty acres. For the past nine years in connection with farming he has been buying and shipping live stock. Mr. Miller and wife are members of the Mennonite Church.

He married Fannie Yoder, a daughter of Jacob and Barbara (Miller) Yoder, on September 1, 1889. To their marriage have been born five children: Earl J., a farmer in Clay Township, who married Ruby Stahl and has two children, Ruth and Helen; Eldon, who died in childhood; Orva, who farms with his father; and Clyde and Iva Elizabeth.

**FAY EBBERT.** It is a source of pride to anyone to be able to trace back through honorable ancestry those who bore a part in developing any given section of a state or country, and those men of Steuben County who are descended from the pioneers of this locality take an added interest in keeping up the good work by forwarding any new movements for its further advancements. Fay Ebbert, of Pleasant Township, belongs to a family early founded in Steuben County, and he is himself a native son of Steuben, as he was born in Johnson Township, August 19, 1872, a son of James and Emma J. (Dove) Ebbert, and grandson of Hiram Ebbert. Hiram Ebbert came to Indiana in 1857, and after stopping for a while in LaGrange County, one mile north of LaGrange, he came to Steuben County, where he spent the remainder of his life. He married Maria Jackson, and they had the following children born to them: James, Isaac, Sarah, Matilda and Eliza Jane.

James Ebbert was born in Stark County, Ohio, September 5, 1842, and grew up in that and Steuben County. He was well started in life as a farmer when he felt that his country needed him for the army, and he enlisted in Company B, One Hundredth Indiana Infantry, for service during the Civil war as a volunteer. After a long and faithful service as a soldier he was honorably discharged and returned to Jackson Township, where he continued to engage in farming up to 1891, in that year moving to LaGrange County, Indiana, and locating on a small farm in Lima Township. About 1913, he made another change, and now lives at Howe, Indiana. James Ebbert was married to Emma J. Dove, born in Jackson Township, and their children are as follows: Clark, Lilly, Etta and Fay. He is one of the pillars of the Presbyterian Church of Howe.

Fay Ebbert attended the schools of Jackson Township, and at the same time gained a practical knowledge of farming under his father's instruction. Branching out for himself, he began farming in Springfield Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, but in 1898 moved to Pleasant Township, Steuben County, buying his present farm of forty acres, and proceeded to rebuild the house and erect a new barn. He has made other improvements which add very much to the appearance of the place and the convenience of the various buildings, and has a comfortable home.

On March 18, 1895, Mr. Ebbert was united in marriage with Florence Walter, a daughter of Calvin Walter, and they became the parents of three children, namely: Wanda, who is deceased; Hazel, who

is also deceased; and Robert. Calvin Walter, the father of Mrs. Ebbert, was born near Wooster, Wayne County, Ohio, March 2, 1854, a son of Daniel and Jane (Craimer) Walter, the former born October 1, 1828, and the latter born January 19, 1835. Daniel Walter moved from Wayne County, Ohio, to DeKalb County, Indiana, when Calvin Walter was three years old, and he spent the greater part of his life in the latter county, being a farmer of some note. In 1882, however, he moved to Pleasant Township, Steuben County, where he lived until his death in 1884. He was married to Ellen Brumbaugh, a daughter of Samuel and Margaret (Leady) Brumbaugh, the former born December 28, 1824, and the latter born November 26, 1829. The children of Calvin and Ellen Walter were as follows: Margaret Jane, Florence, Squire and May, of whom Florence became the wife of Fay Ebbert.

**JOHN H. CLARK.** It is easy to identify the career of John H. Clark in the farming industry of Steuben County, since he has been a resident for over thirty years, and his work has contributed to the improvement and development of several tracts of land. He owns one of the fine farms in Pleasant Township, has won a competency through his integrity and ability, and is now preparing to live a retired life.

Mr. Clark was born in Williams County, Ohio, January 12, 1871, son of Joseph B. and Ellen (Favorite) Clark. His father was a native of Williams County, while his mother was born in Eaton County, Michigan, a daughter of John Favorite, a farmer of that state. Joseph B. Clark was a blacksmith and wagon maker who lived in Williams County until about 1885, when he moved to Clear Lake Township in Steuben County and located on a farm. Late in life he moved to Jamestown Township, and died there about 1912. He and his wife had the following children: George W., John H., Thomas T., Charles A., Cleveland F. and Izole May.

John H. Clark had the privilege of attending the public schools of Williams County only a few years. Practically from the time he was nine and a half years old he has made his own way in the world, has overcome many obstacles and has worked his own way to independence and influence. On February 7, 1894, he married Mary Beigh, a daughter of John and Mary (Gooding) Beigh.

After his marriage Mr. Clark rented a farm, and about 1897 he bought forty acres in Salem Township. This land had no buildings, and in order to operate it he rented a nearby tract of land with buildings. The Salem Township place was sold in 1902, and he next bought seventy acres in section 11 of Pleasant Township. He has increased his farm by a subsequent purchase of ten acres, and all the good buildings on the farm represent his investment and construction. He has used the land for general farming and stock raising purposes. In 1919 Mr. Clark was engaged in building a home at Angola, which he designed for the comfort of his years of retirement.

Mr. and Mrs. Clark have one daughter, Pauline B., born August 13, 1904. When Frank Little was twelve years old Mr. and Mrs. Clark took him into their home, and he has been with the family ever since and is now renting the Clark homestead. Mr. Clark is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mrs. Clark's father was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, while her mother was a native of the City of New York. They were among the pioneers of Steuben County, arriving in May, 1854, and settling in Jackson Township. John Beigh bought eighty acres at \$4.50 an acre, built a log house, and



cleared the land. After fourteen years he sold this farm at \$44.00 an acre, and then bought 100 acres in Salem Township, where he lived honored and respected until his death in 1902, at the age of eighty-two. He was a republican and with his wife was active in the United Brethren Church. The children of John Beigh were Silas, Julia, Lucinda (deceased), Edwin, Willis, Amelia, Rosella (deceased) and Mary.

WILLIAM HALLER, an honored veteran and pensioner of the Civil war, was through nearly all that struggle, and for over forty years has been a resident and farm owner in LaGrange County. He is still active and gives his supervision to his farm, located four miles east of Topeka.

Mr. Haller was born in Henry County, Ohio, April 15, 1841, a son of Benjamin and Mary (Miller) Haller, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. They were married in the latter state, and then settled on a tract of raw land in Henry County, Ohio, where they were among the early settlers. After the Civil war Benjamin Haller moved to Indiana and bought eighty acres in Elkhart County, where he spent the rest of his days. He was a staunch and steadfast republican in politics. There were six children in the family: Sybilla, born in February, 1838, widow of Jasper Spergeon; William; Louisa, born September 11, 1844, unmarried; Lucinda, born in 1847, widow of David Gehrett; John M., living in Ohio; and Rebecca J., wife of George Held.

William Haller grew up in the county district of Henry County, Ohio, attended the common schools there, and just about the time he attained his majority he volunteered for the war, enlisting in Company F of the Fourteenth Ohio Infantry. This was a three months' regiment, and after his term had expired he re-enlisted in Company A of the Sixty-Eighth Ohio Infantry for a period of three years. When he had served two years and two months he accepted the opportunity to veteranize at Vicksburg, and continued on until the Union banners were folded in victory. He was a corporal and sergeant, and in one engagement was wounded in the left knee.

After the war he came to Indiana and located in LaGrange County, where his activities have ever since been concentrated. Mr. Haller owns a good farm of eighty acres. He has served as constable, township supervisor and school director, and is a republican in his political allegiance.

April 16, 1864, while on furlough from the army, Mr. Haller married Martha J. Russell, who died in February, 1913. To their union were born nine children, four of whom are still living: Harrison, of Noble County, Indiana; Almada, wife of Jacob Hull; Will H., who married Leona Sanders; and Caroline, wife of Henry Rothenbach, of Elkhart County. There are also thirteen grandchildren living.

FRANK DRENNING. In order to make a success of farming a man must have a natural inclination for it, and understand all of its possibilities. The reason that some fail in this line is because they only engage in it as a last resort, without any practical experience or liking for the soil. Their experiments are costly and seldom successful, and the land under their ineffectual management loses many of its properties and becomes unfertile and practically worthless. However, when a man does know how to cultivate his farm and likes the work there are almost unlimited opportunities for him. Given fair treatment land will yield more generously than almost any other kind of investment. The out of door life, good food and dignity which comes of being a pro-

prietor instead of a hired man, all are aids in keeping the farmer on his job. Within the past couple of years a new element has arisen which gives added importance to the work, for owing to the pressure of circumstances arising out of the great war American farmers will have to supply a large amount of the food for the world during the next few years. They can and will do it, and those thus fed will accord praise where it is due. Indiana farmers will rank among the best in this work of regenerating the devastated people, and one who is now and has been for many years one of the representative farmers of Steuben County is Frank Drenning of Steuben Township.

Frank Drenning was born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, January 31, 1850, a son of John Drenning and grandson of Henry Drenning, the latter having been a farmer of Bedford County, Pennsylvania. John Drenning was married to Catherine Clark, of Greenberry, Bedford County, Pennsylvania, and they had the following children: James, Mary, who died young; John; Maria, who married Sam Laizer; Martin; Frank; Elizabeth, who married Martin Penner; and Susan, Richard and Josiah, all of whom died young. In 1872 John Drenning came to Steuben County, where he passed the remainder of his life. He and his wife were devout members of the United Brethren faith.

Frank Drenning attended the local schools of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, and was taught farming from the time he was a small boy, assisting his father until his marriage in 1873, when he secured a farm in Steuben Township and began farming for himself. With the exception of three years which he spent at Angola, Mr. Drenning has lived on this farm since he bought it, and his premises show that the owner is on hand and takes a pride in having everything in order. The excellent and suitable buildings on this farm have either been erected or completely remodeled by him, and he has also put in many other improvements, adding very materially to the value of his 100 acres. When he bought this property it was practically in the timber, and he has cleared off the greater portion of it.

On March 13, 1873, Frank Drenning was married to Jane Menges, a daughter of Peter Menges, and they had the following children: Alice, who married George Grubbs and lives at Indianapolis, Indiana; William H.; Lovina; and Fannie, who married George Crossland. Mrs. Drenning died January 1, 1906.

JACOB KEPLER. The Keplers moved into Franklin Township of DeKalb County over eighty years ago. As a family the name has been identified with some of the largest land holdings in DeKalb and Steuben County, and throughout this region the name is synonymous with prosperity, good business management and undoubted thrift and hard work.

Jacob Kepler, a son of the original settler in DeKalb County, has for many years owned and worked a large and complete farm in Otsego Township, part of which is in the Village of Hamilton, where he resides.

His father, Samuel Kepler, was born in Stark County, Ohio, October 30, 1814, a son of John Kepler. Samuel Kepler in the fall of 1837 settled on section 21 of Franklin Township in DeKalb County. He entered land in that section and in section 28. He went there with practically no capital, but was young, willing to work hard and was ambitious, and succeeded much above the average. His enterprise took several different directions. About 1853 he built the first grist mill in the township, on Fish Creek, and that mill was fulfilling its functions in grinding local grain for over thirty



years. Samuel Kepler was one of the largest wheat growers in Northeast Indiana. He had a genius for acquiring extensive tracts of land, and at the time of his death, which occurred March 19, 1862, at the age of forty-seven, he owned over 1,000 acres in Steuben and DeKalb counties, and 1,100 acres in Iowa. He was not content to hold the land merely as an investment, but always improved it, and had a fondness for good buildings. His old grist mill stood about a mile and a half east of Hamilton. Along with farming he sold agricultural implements, and had a store at Hamilton. In 1834 he married Mary Noragon, who was born in Pennsylvania. She died June 15, 1892, at the age of seventy-one years. They had a family of fourteen children, and those to reach mature years were: Andrew, John, Caroline, who married Samuel Hussman, Edwin, Samuel, Sarah Jane, who married Lafayette Perkey, Solomon and Jacob.

Jacob Kepler was born September 14, 1851, in Franklin Township of DeKalb County, and attended public school there. He early learned the value of honest toil as a means of making his way in the world. He worked his mother's place in Franklin Township for several years. He married Rosanna Brown, daughter of William and Elizabeth Brown. After his marriage he moved into Otsego Township of Steuben County, and has since occupied his present farm, about thirty acres of which are within the corporation limits of Hamilton. Altogether he has 320 acres. The splendid buildings were all erected by him and his farm is devoted to general agriculture and stock raising.

Mr. Kepler is a member of the United Brethren Church. He has three children: Gertrude, who married Charles Hoch and has two children, Oline and Gertrude; Bertha, wife of Charles Swift, has one child named Marsell; and Wier.

JOHN H. YEAGER is a business man as well as practical farmer of Johnson Township, LaGrange County. For many years he has been a dealer in live stock, and through him a large part of the stock raised in LaGrange County has found its way to market. However, he lives on his farm a half-mile northeast of Wolcottville. In connection with his dealing in live stock he owns and operates a slaughter house. His business associate is Herbert F. Newnam, of Wayne Township, Noble County.

Mr. Yeager was born on a farm near Wolcottville, in Noble County, December 21, 1865, a son of Andrew R. and Frances E. (Shanower) Yeager. His father was a native of Ohio and his mother of Pennsylvania, and their respective families came at an early day to LaGrange County, Indiana, where Andrew and Frances were married. Andrew Yeager was in the saw mill business for some time and later with his older son became a contractor and builder. He died as a result of injuries received in his mill. He was active in the Masonic order, was a republican, and his wife was a member of the Methodist Church. They had four children, two of whom are still living, Dora, wife of George W.; Leonard, of Milford Township, LaGrange County; and John H. The son, Edmond E., who died on the operating table in his home, was master of Masonic Lodge No. 380, Free and Accepted Masons, and was prominent in the building of the Masonic Temple at Wolcottville, and a republican in politics. Rena, the deceased daughter, became the wife of J. W. Reifschneider, and her death was a tragedy, she being burned to death.

John H. Yeager was two years old when he came to LaGrange County, acquired a good common school education and qualified himself for teaching,

which he followed three years. Since then he has been chiefly engaged in the buying of horses, mules and live stock. He owns a good farm of sixty-one acres, and is also president of Wolcottville Cement Products Company.

September 30, 1890, Mr. Yeager married Cora Newhouse, of LaGrange County, where she was born and educated. They have five children, four daughters and one son: Beryl, who is engaged in business with his father and also operates a profitable side line in the raising of white Leghorn chickens; Hermona, a high school graduate, with Normal training received at Woodruff, is now a teacher; Pauline D., a student nurse in the Lutheran Hospital at Fort Wayne; Eloise, a high school student; and Dorothy E., in the grammar schools.

Mrs. Yeager is a member of the Methodist Church and her daughters are of the same faith. Mr. Yeager is affiliated with Ionic Lodge No. 380, Free and Accepted Masons, and also with the Royal Arch Chapter and Council at Kendallville. Politically he is a republican.

GEORGE W. GRIM. The distinguishing feature of Mr. Grim's long career as a Steuben County farmer has been the breeding and growing of thoroughbred Hampshire sheep. His sheep have made his name famous among sheep raisers throughout the Middle West, and from his farm has gone some of the highest class breeding stock to many states and distant Western ranges.

For twenty-three years Mr. Grim made it a custom to exhibit his sheep at stock shows and fairs. His rams and ewes were on exhibition at the State Fairs at Syracuse, Columbus, Indianapolis, Grand Rapids and Springfield, Illinois, and every fair where exhibited prizes were awarded. He has a beautiful pair of large silver cups as trophies awarded his stock at the Michigan State Fair, and many medals besides. For the last few years Mr. Grim has not entered his sheep at state fairs, but still continues to exhibit at all nearby county fairs.

A member of one of the older families of Steuben County, Mr. Grim was born in York Township, June 14, 1856, a son of William and Mary J. (Keller) Grim. His mother was born in Portage County, Ohio, a daughter of Henry and Margaret Keller. William Grim was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, a son of Andrew and Angeline Grim. Andrew Grim was a farmer in Eastern Ohio. William Grim came to Steuben County and settled in York Township in 1853, locating on a farm where he lived until 1867, and then went to Fremont Township, owning 110 acres there, and in that locality he lived until his death. He and his wife had four children: Henry; Libbie, wife of Samuel Waters, Elwood and George W.

George W. Grim acquired his early education in the district schools of York and Fremont Township, attended school in the village of Fremont, and his first independent efforts as a farmer were made in Fremont Township. He lived there until 1900, and in the month of March of that year moved to his present place. This is a farm with modern facilities and buildings, all put up in his time, and his arrangements are especially suited for sheep husbandry. Mr. Grim is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Fremont, he and his wife are members of the Pythian Sisters, and they belong to the Methodist Church of Fremont.

April 20, 1882, Mr. Grim married Mary J. Michael, daughter of Enos and Barbara Michael. Mr. and Mrs. Grim have two daughters and one son, the son representing the family in the World war. Lola B., the older daughter, is the wife of Carl Miller,







MR. AND MRS. DANIEL P. DONEY

living in Chicago, and has two daughters, named Mary and Georgina. Bessie B. is the wife of Dwight Eckler, of Montpelier, Ohio, and has one child, named Loraine. Clifton E., the son, married Lillian Oberlander. He enlisted in May, 1916, in the Second Cavalry, was stationed during his training period at Fort Ethan Allen in Vermont, and was sent overseas and arrived in France in April, 1918. Since then he has been with the Expeditionary Forces, and had not returned home in the early summer of 1919.

**DANIEL P. DONEY.** Among the fine farms of Clay Township, LaGrange County, one that would particularly attract attention bears the name of Pleasant View, which indicates its location and suggests the comfortable and substantial surroundings of this well improved property that belongs to Daniel P. Doney, one of the county's well known and highly respected citizens.

Daniel P. Doney was born in Clay Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, May 24, 1857, and is a son of Samuel and Lydia (Perry) Doney, the latter being the father's third wife. She was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1834, and died in Oregon September 28, 1885. She was the mother of five children, namely: Daniel P., John Edward, Samuel, George and Joseph. Samuel Doney was born in Crawford County, Ohio, July 4, 1816. He came to LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1840, and stopped for a time with his father-in-law, Ralph Herbert, on Cedar Lake, then settled in Clay Township, where he cleared a tract of 160 acres and improved the same. In 1876 he moved to Oregon, but after the death of his third wife he returned to LaGrange County and died in 1903, at the home of a daughter, Mrs. George Libey. He rented and for some years operated the old water-wheel sawmill first known as the Doctor Hobb's and later Fleck's mill. He was a leading member of the Dunkard faith in this neighborhood and his last wife was also a member of this church. His first wife was Jane Herbert, who died in 1853, the mother of four children, namely: Elizabeth, Charles, Alice and Sarah. His second wife was Huldah Lawrence, who died eighteen months after marriage, leaving one child. His third marriage was to Lydia Perry.

Daniel P. Doney attended school in Clay Township and assisted his father, whom he accompanied to Oregon. He remained there five years. In 1895 he purchased forty acres of land in Clay Township, LaGrange County, to which he later added forty acres and still later seventeen acres, all of which he has practically developed, as when he first came here the only evidence of civilization was a log house. The clearing and improving of this land has demanded Mr. Doney's best efforts for a number of years, but he now has a beautiful home and a valuable property. He carries on general farming with the method and care that insure the best results, and may well be named as a representative agriculturist of this section.

In 1876 Mr. Doney was married to Miss Mary Green, who was born in Clay Township, March 11, 1859. Her parents were James and Hannah Ann (Brown) Green, who settled in Clay Township in 1842 and became people of prominence there. Her father acquired 380 acres of land and operated what was known as Green's sawmill. The settlement was named Green Corners in his honor, and he also gave his name to what is yet called the Green school-house. His death occurred in October, 1904, when aged ninety-one years. The mother of Mrs. Doney died March 12, 1893, at the age of seventy-one years. Their children bore the following names: Frances, Maggie, Thomas, Lucinda, Willis, Mary Josephine,

Sophronia, Seymour and Icy. Mr. and Mrs. Doney have had two children, namely: Leona J., who was born in Oregon March 18, 1877, died September 28, 1885, and George, who was born July 11, 1887. The latter is a farmer in Clay Township, like his father, and is equally prosperous. He married Miss Nettie Mann, and they have two children: Mary Ann and Margaret Elizabeth. Mr. Doney is a democrat in his political views, but he has never been willing to accept any township office, although he is a man well qualified for the same.

**GEORGE EARL CRAMPTON.** One of the farms in Van Buren Township of LaGrange County that has been longest under cultivation is that owned by George Earl Crampton and his mother, Emily A. Crampton. Mr. Crampton was born on the farm, and it was acquired by his maternal grandfather in the earliest period of settlement.

Mr. Crampton was born January 22, 1869, son of William and Emily Adelia (Cook) Crampton. His father was born near Boston, Lincolnshire, England, June 18, 1830, and when a young man crossed the ocean to New York, spending forty days on the water. He went up the Hudson River to Albany, thence by rail to Buffalo, and from there crossed Lake Erie to Toledo, traveling from there down the Erie Canal to Fort Wayne and by stage to Lima, Indiana, where he arrived in August, 1851. One summer he spent working in a distillery, and the following winter was hostler for the prosecuting attorney of Steuben and LaGrange counties. In the spring of 1852 he went to Sturgis, Michigan, and worked in a distillery and also on the newly completed railroad. In 1853 he began seven years of employment for Orsen Douglas, a Michigan farmer. In 1854 he and Mr. Douglas erected the first peppermint still in Sturgis Township. In the spring of 1859 he moved to Indiana, and in December, 1860, was married and then bought sixty acres of what is known as the Marionas Cowan Farm. He lived there one year and then bought a part of the Cook homestead owned by George Cook. Including his wife's inheritance, he acquired about 160 acres and lived there as a farmer until his death on May 16, 1913. He was a republican and was well known in LaGrange County politics, serving two terms as county commissioner and two terms on the Advisory Board of Van Buren Township.

Emily Adelia Cook, mother of George Earl Crampton, was born on the land where she is living today in February, 1840. Except for one year of her life she has made her home in that locality for practically eighty years. Her father, George Cook, was born in England and married a Miss Cowan, a native of New York. In 1831 the Cook family moved to White Pigeon, Michigan, and soon afterward settled in Van Buren Township. The father of George Cook was John Cook, who died in August, 1831. George Cook carried the mail between Constantine and Cassopolis, Michigan, in 1832. He owned about 180 acres in Van Buren Township, and lived there until his death in December, 1858, his wife passing away in 1853. They were the parents of four children: Emily Adelia, Mary, George Albert and Jennie L. George Cook married for his second wife Harriet (Fowler) Bates. After his death she became the wife of Lewis Nichols, and she is still living at the advanced age of ninety-five.

William and Emily Crampton were the parents of three children: Alta Ione, widow of Edgar McClaskey; George Earl; and Edwin Cook Crampton. Edwin C. Crampton is a prominent lawyer at Raton, New Mexico, and was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention when the Constitution of the new



State of New Mexico was framed. He also served two terms in the first State Senate and had much to do with the formulation of the school system of New Mexico. He is a graduate of Indiana State University, and has been an extensive traveler.

George Earl Crampton grew up on the home farm and has always lived there. He attended the public schools and spent one year in the high school at Lima, and in 1895 took the agricultural course at Purdue University. He has found pleasure and profit in farming and is one of the well known and substantial citizens of LaGrange County. He is a republican and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Shippshewana and the Knights of Pythias at Howe.

December 23, 1902, he married Miss Cora May Keefus, of Lima Township. They are the parents of three children: Hilda Margaret, born in November, 1903, a student in the Scott High School; Raymond L., born May 31, 1906; and Wallace Edwin, born May 7, 1911.

**CHAUNCEY M. KAUFFMAN.** While Mr. Kauffman was born in LaGrange County and has spent practically all his life there, he has made a number of changes, and every change has been a step in progress in his material circumstances. He became an independent farmer over thirty years ago, and has always farmed what has been considered high priced land. He has bought several times at "the top of the market" and later has sold at a great advance. His present splendid farm is in Greenfield Township and is regarded as one of the most valuable in point of acre value in the county.

Mr. Kauffman was born in Clay Township, November 11, 1864, son of Jonas and Mary Jane (Schermerhorn) Kauffman. Jonas Kauffman was born in Holmes County, Ohio, August 10, 1826, son of Stephen and Martha (Miller) Kauffman. His parents moved to Indiana in 1844 and cleared up and improved forty acres of land in Elkhart County, where Martha Kauffman died in 1854 and her husband in 1858. Jonas Kauffman was one of four sons and four daughters. He was a carpenter by trade and followed that occupation from the time he was eighteen years of age until 1850. With three other men he also built and operated a saw mill in Newbury Township of LaGrange County. In 1854 he bought 200 acres in Clay Township, and for ten years he and his family lived in a log cabin. In 1864, having sold that property, he bought 140 acres in another part of Clay Township, and lived there until 1888, when he sold and bought the Isaac Plank farm on Pretty Prairie in Greenfield Township. This farm contained 185 acres, and he paid \$67 an acre, then considered an unusually high price. He sold the farm in 1905, and after that lived with his children until his death in December, 1916. He married Mary J. Schermerhorn on March 28, 1852. She was born in Stark County, Ohio, and died in February, 1903. Jonas Kauffman was a member of the German Baptist Church. His wife's father, Michael Schermerhorn, was a native of Germany and married Elizabeth McKibbin, a native of Ireland. Jonas Kauffman and wife had eight children: Julia A., Mary M., Laura A., Sarah A., Ada I., Chauncey M., Augusta J. and Luther J.

Chauncey M. Kauffman spent his early life on his father's farm in Clay Township. He attended district schools and spent one year in the Lima High School. In 1888 he removed to Greenfield Township, and lived on his father's farm there for eleven years after his marriage. He then bought

fifty-two acres of John Smeltzly, and traded that to Jacob Mast for eighty acres on Pretty Prairie. One year later he sold this for \$5,000. He next bought the George Price farm east of Brighton, containing 100 acres, paying \$7,000. When he sold this in 1913 the price was \$13,500. The highest price paid for land here up to that time. Mr. Kauffman then bought the 160 acres known as the old Alex Keim farm, paying \$15,000. He remodeled the buildings and with improvements and with the demonstrated productiveness of the farm he sold this farm September 1, 1919, for \$150 an acre. He does general farming and for years has been a sheep feeder. Mr. Kauffman is a republican, but has no aspirations for public office.

October 2, 1890, he married Emma Steirnagle, of LaGrange County. She was born in Greenfield Township November 12, 1869, daughter of John and Rebecca (Long) Steirnagle. Her father was born in Pennsylvania June 3, 1837, and her mother in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, May 20, 1848. Rebecca Long was a daughter of Daniel Long, member of the prominent Long family so numerously represented in the citizenship of LaGrange County. John Steirnagle came to LaGrange County when a young man, about 1865, was married here, and after living with Daniel Long for about a year and a half bought forty acres in Springfield Township and later added forty more. He made many improvements on his land and specialized in fruit culture. He died at the home farm in May, 1901, and his wife passed away January 17, 1899. Mr. Steirnagle was a democrat, and he and his wife were members of the Dunkard Church. They had a family of five children: Mary Etta, wife of D. M. Plank; Emma, Mrs. Kauffman; Daniel, deceased; William; and Bertha, wife of Elmer Grady.

Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman had six children, Nellie, the oldest, dying at the age of seventeen and a half months. Florence graduated from the LaGrange High School in 1912, attended Tri-State College at Angola and is a teacher by profession. She was principal of a school at San Benito in extreme Southern Texas for two years and on December 9, 1916, became the wife of J. D. Thacker, of San Benito, and they now live in LaGrange. She is principal of the Bloomfield graded school. The third and fourth children of Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman are Ralph and Ruth, twins. Ralph enlisted April 27, 1917, in the Eighth Aero Squadron, went overseas November 21, 1917, and spent five months at the front as a truck driver. He was given his honorable discharge May 22, 1919. Ralph is a graduate of the LaGrange High School, while Ruth graduated from the Howe High School, spent two years in the Tri-State College and for two terms was a teacher. The youngest of the children of Mr. and Mrs. Kauffman are Arthur and Marshall, the former a student in the Brighton High School and the latter in the grammar school at Brighton.

**WILLIAM GOUDY** is well remembered in Steuben County, where he spent so many years of his life. Mr. Goudy developed and owned a large farm in Otsego Township, and the old home is still owned and occupied by Mrs. Goudy.

The late Mr. Goudy was born in Williams County, Ohio, July 18, 1846, a son of Samuel Goudy, who was a miller by trade, and operated mills in different parts of Northeast Indiana. He was one of the early men to follow that business in Angola. William Goudy during his early manhood, attended school, worked out for neighboring farmers, and at the age of sixteen, in 1862, enlisted in Company C of the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry. He saw much



arduous service during the remaining years of the Civil war, and his record covers about three years. In 1874 Mr. Goudy moved out to the western frontier of Nebraska and homesteaded a quarter section claim which he occupied for several years. On returning to Indiana from Nebraska he farmed as a renter in DeKalb and Steuben counties, and in 1880 bought the farm in Otsego Township of 120 acres where his labors were effectively directed during the rest of his life. He improved the land with good buildings and other facilities and lived there until his death on February 24, 1904. He was affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Goudy married Mary E. Dirrim. Mrs. Goudy was born February 8, 1848, a daughter of William Dirrim and a sister of Timothy H. Dirrim, whose family history has been recorded on other pages of this publication. Mrs. Goudy was the mother of eight children, namely: Fletcher; Frank, who married Mary Wells and has three children, named Flora, Lois and Marcus; Charles; Matie, who is the wife of Harvey Wilson and they have one child, Raymond; Robert, who married Golda Hall and has one son, R. Edwin; Fannie, wife of Charles Burrell and the mother of Marion, Maynard and Charles; Timothy and Crissie. Mrs. Goudy is an active member of the Methodist Church.

Fletcher Goudy, oldest son of the late Mr. Goudy, grew up on the home farm and when a young man, on June 22, 1898, enlisted in the Forty-Ninth Iowa Infantry as a United States volunteer. He served with that regiment in the Cuban war until May 13, 1899. On August 2, 1899, he again enlisted, this time in the Thirty-Fourth United States Volunteer Infantry, and served until mustered out, April 17, 1901. His second period of enlistment was for service in the war in the Philippines. Altogether he participated in one battle and eleven minor engagements. At the close of his service he was quartermaster sergeant in Company M. In 1902 Fletcher Goudy married Lola Sattison, a daughter of Fred and Martha (Haverstock) Sattison. They have two children, Dorothy and Freddie.

JOSEPH M. BONTRAGER. One of the important agricultural industries of LaGrange County is the growing of peppermint, and certain portions of the county are admirably adapted for this profitable crop. One of the principal men engaged in the business is Joseph M. Bontrager of section 5, Eden Township. He has considerable muck soil, grows a large acreage of peppermint every year, and distills large quantities of peppermint oil. He is also a general farmer and stockraiser.

He was born in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County, May 9, 1873, a son of Joseph C. and Lydia (Mast) Bontrager, the former a native of Holmes County, Ohio, and the latter also a native of Ohio. Joseph Bontrager grew up in Elkhart County, Indiana, and his wife in LaGrange County. After their marriage in the latter county they settled in Greenfield Township and spent the rest of their lives there. They were members of the Mennonite Church. Joseph M. Bontrager is the only one living of five children. His mother and the four other children all died of diphtheria within a period of two weeks. Joseph Bontrager was six years old when his mother died, and he grew up in the home of a stepmother, attending the district schools of Greenfield Township.

He remained at home to the age of twenty-one and in November, 1895, married Amanda J. Yoder. She was born in Elkhart County August 28, 1870, and was educated in the district schools. Mr. and Mrs. Bontrager started out as renters in Newbury

Township, where they remained two years, and then bought 160 acres comprising their present farm. Mr. Bontrager has made extensive improvements, including much draining and tiling.

He and his wife have six children: Clara Celesta, Oliver J., Nina D., Mary Leona, Melvin J. and Willis, all of whom are unmarried and at home. They were educated in the common schools and Willis is still a student. The family are members of the Mennonite Church and Mr. Bontrager takes an active interest in democratic politics. He served as a member of the County Council and is a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank of Topeka. He breeds some high class Hereford cattle and has good grades of other live stock.

WILLIAM J. CRAMPTON. Probably the efforts of no one individual have contributed more to making Steuben County a feeding ground for large flocks of sheep than William J. Crampton, who uses most of his land in Steuben Township for that purpose. However, Mr. Crampton is a general farmer, and has much of the ability of his late father in business affairs.

Mr. Crampton was born in England, August 23, 1848, a son of William and Mary (Oatfield) Crampton. His father was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1817, and in 1849 he came alone to America, and the following fall arrived in Steuben County, Indiana. In 1850 he sent for his family. It is said that he was so poor when he came to Steuben County that though land was exceedingly cheap in those days he was unable to pay for forty acres of virgin soil. His good management and industry enabled him to build up one of the finest farms in Steuben Township, and he reared a family of children who had many of his virtues, most of the sons developing good farms in the same vicinity.

William J. Crampton has no memory of his birthplace, and practically all his life has been spent in Steuben County. He attended the California district schools in Steuben Township and he remained at home with his parents as long as they lived and not only did the work of the farm but looked after his aged father and mother for a number of years. Later he acquired the interest of the other heirs in the original homestead of 160 acres, and has gone steadily ahead increasing his property until he has 400 acres of good land. He remodeled the old barn on the place, and constructed a handsome new barn fifty by one hundred feet, with facilities unexcelled. He also has a windmill to pump his water, and has the farm ideally arranged for his purposes. As a sheep raiser Mr. Crampton has frequently had as high as 600 head on his place to feed through the winter. He is also a buyer and feeder of cattle, and has shipped many carloads of livestock out of Steuben County.

Mr. Crampton is a republican, and he and his wife are members of the Baptist Church. He married Miss Martha Haynes. She was born in Salem Township of Steuben County, March 7, 1862, a daughter of William and Mary (Crawford) Haynes. Her parents were natives of Carroll County, Ohio, and were early settlers in Jackson Township of Steuben County, and later lived near Auburn in DeKalb County, where both died. Mr. and Mrs. Haynes had eight children, named Mitchell, Oscar, Martha, Libbie, Lawrence, Harvey, Perry and William. All are still living except Harvey.

ALBERT L. SHULTZ, whose energies for several years past have been devoted to the management of his farm of eighty acres in sections 21 and 28 in Franklin Township of DeKalb County, is a lifelong resident of that community and for many years was

a teacher in the township schools. He farmed in the intervals of teaching and is now giving all his time to agriculture and the varied interests which affect him as a home owner and citizen.

Mr. Shultz was born September 24, 1870, at the old Shultz place a quarter of a mile east of where he now lives. He is a son of Curtis S. and Christina B. (Libolt) Shultz. His father was born in Ashland County, Ohio, January 4, 1845. His mother was a native of Wuertenberg, Germany, and was six years of age when her parents came to America, and she grew up in Ashland County, Ohio. The Shultz family came to DeKalb County in 1854, locating in Franklin Township, where Curtis S. Shultz grew up from the age of nine. On December 23, 1868, he married and brought his wife to Franklin Township. For a number of years he lived retired at Waterloo, where his death occurred July 4, 1915. His widow is still living at Waterloo. He was reared in the faith of the German Lutheran Church, but after their removal to Waterloo she and her husband became affiliated with the Methodist Church. Curtis Shultz was a democrat in politics, a man of fine moral character, and a useful member of his community in Franklin Township for many years. Albert L. Shultz is the only one now living of three children, one of whom died at the age of five years. Alice, who died in 1886, was the wife of A. D. Faucett.

Albert L. Shultz grew up on the home farm, just east of his present place, graduated from the common schools in 1888, and had normal training in the Tri-State College at Angola. Altogether he taught school twenty-three years, and all his work was done in his home Township of Franklin.

June 24, 1903, he married Effie Lautzenheiser, who was born and reared in Franklin Township and finished her education in the Hamilton High School. They have one daughter, Ruby P., born October 24, 1904, now attending high school. Mr. and Mrs. Shultz are members of the Methodist Church, and he is past chancellor of Butler Lodge No. 154, Knights of Pythias, and a member of the Grand Lodge. He and Mrs. Shultz are members of the Pythian Sisters and the Ancient Order of Gleaners. Politically he is a democrat and is a member of the Hamilton Co-operative Association.

**HOWARD B. PERKINS.** Though a native of Steuben County Mr. Perkins for a number of years has been regarded as one of the wealthy and substantial farmer citizens of Springfield Township, LaGrange County, his home being on rural route No. 2.

He was born in Salem Township of Steuben County October 18, 1867, a son of Job and Sarah (Landers) Perkins. His father was a native of Milford Township, LaGrange County, son of Enoch Perkins, one of the early settlers there. The children of Enoch and Adaline Perkins were Stewart, Job, Enoch, Sarah Mariah and Elizabeth.

Sarah Landers, mother of Howard B. Perkins, was born in Ohio January 28, 1846. Her father Joseph Landers was born in Pennsylvania and died in Ohio. In 1849, when she was three years of age, Mrs. Perkins was brought by her mother, Mrs. Catherine Landers, to Steuben County, her mother buying eighty acres of land. They had traveled by team and wagon from Ohio to Indiana. Later Mrs. Catherine Landers sold her first farm, and she died at Applemanburg in 1901, at the age of ninety-three. Mrs. Landers was born in Ohio. In the Landers family were seven children: Joseph, William, Mary Ann, Betsey, Rebecca, Sophia and Sarah, only the last two now living.

Job and Sarah Perkins were married in Salem Township of Steuben County, and for several years he operated the Landers farm. In 1870 he bought a place in Jackson Township, moved there, but had only a few years in which to improve his farm, since he was overtaken by death February 1, 1878. In 1861, at Kendallville, he had enlisted in Company G of the Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry, and saw much of the hardest service of the war, being in all the battles of his regiment, including Shiloh, Stone River and Chickamauga. Job and Sarah Perkins had two children, Howard B. and Catherine Adaline. Catherine was born July 7, 1869, and her first husband was Albert Johnson, and she is now the wife of Henry Ford, living at Hammond, Indiana. Mrs. Sarah Perkins lives with her daughter at Hammond.

Howard B. Perkins attended the public schools of Jackson Township, Steuben County. He moved to Springfield Township of LaGrange County with his mother and sister in 1884, locating at Applemanburg. He worked as a farm hand for William Dunbar and later for Mrs. William Laurent Dryer, mother of his wife. He also followed the carpenter's trade for some time.

May 25, 1898, Mr. Perkins married Mary Aurelia Dryer, who was born in Milford Township of LaGrange County October 25, 1870. The record of her parents is told in later paragraphs. Mr. and Mrs. Perkins after their marriage lived in the Village of South Milford, and he bought a house and lot in Applemanburg where he now lives, moving into that new home November 25, 1898. He also bought 111 acres, a part of the old Mallow farm. He subsequently sold two acres of this as the site of a school building. In 1901 Mr. Perkins bought seventy acres from G. F. Hall and in 1912 acquired forty acres more from Fred Seaburn. At the present time he has altogether 220 acres, constituting a generous capital and facilities for his work as a general farmer and stock raiser. In 1903 he built on his farm a fine barn 36 by 72 feet. Mr. Perkins is a republican, a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge at South Milford, and has been affiliated with that order since he was twenty-one years of age. Mr. and Mrs. Perkins have five children: Harold B. was born April 30, 1899, is a graduate of the Springfield Township High School, finished the course of the LaGrange High School in 1918, and from October 10, 1918, until December 19, 1918, was a member of the Students Army Training Corps at Purdue University. He is now a government employe with the Bureau of Forestry. Gerald D. Perkins, the second of the family, was born August 5, 1900, and was a sophomore in the Springfield Township High School when he died February 3, 1916. The third is Laurent Roger, born May 24, 1902, a graduate of the township high school and of the LaGrange High School with the class of 1919. The fourth of the family, a son, died soon after his birth in 1908. The youngest is Mary Beth, born March 5, 1909.

Mrs. Perkins was educated in the schools of Milford Township, studied music at the Tri-State College at Angola, and later had the advantage of foreign instructors in the College of Music at Fort Wayne.

Her parents were William Laurent and Lodema (Taylor) Dryer. Her father was born in Greene County, New York, December 1, 1831, and died in LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1884. Her mother was born in Milford Township of LaGrange County April 20, 1841, and died at South Milford in 1907. Mrs. Dryer in 1893 left the home farm and lived in South Milford until her death. Her second



husband, George Gunn, survives her and lives in the old home at South Milford at the age of eighty years. William Laurent Dryer was a son of Darius and Clarissa (Rogers) Dryer, of English descent, the former a native of Massachusetts. Darius Dryer came to Milford Township with his family in 1837, and was identified with the pioneers of that locality. He died in February, 1861. His wife was a native of the State of New York. At the age of nineteen William L. Dryer started to learn the wagon making trade, and afterward served an apprenticeship as a carpenter, an occupation he followed for some years. In 1857 he bought a farm in Milford Township of 120 acres, and so ordered his affairs that at the time of his death he was one of the wealthy farmers of the township. He and his wife were married December 23, 1858. Of their five children the oldest died in infancy, and Laura, Morton W. and Lura are all deceased. The only survivor is Mrs. Mary A. Perkins.

Mrs. Perkins' maternal grandparents were Thestor and Nancy (Blair) Taylor, the former a native of New York and the latter of Vermont. Thestor Taylor entered land in Milford Township in 1836, and two years later brought his family to La-Grange County. William L. Dryer was a staunch republican and held the offices of path master and school director for a number of terms. His youngest brother, Zenas B. Dryer, enlisted in 1861 in the Twenty-first Indiana Infantry and sleeps in a soldier's grave at New Orleans. He was with Sherman on his march to the sea.

JOHN W. BUTZ has given his energies chiefly to the lumber business as a manufacturer and sawmill man, an occupation which his father followed before him. He is one of the chief manufacturers of lumber in Northeast Indiana, and has a mill in constant operation at Angola, working up a large part of the hardwood timber in Steuben County.

Mr. Butz was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana, February 15, 1874, son of Franklin and Catherine (Stiegamier) Butz, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. They were married in Ohio, moved to Kosciusko County, Indiana, and in 1884 came to Steuben County, settling in Scott Township. Franklin Butz combined saw milling with farming, owning a place of sixty acres in Scott Township, where he died in 1915. His wife died in 1902. He was a republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The children of these parents were: Harrison, deceased; Albert; John W.; Susie, wife of Frank Reikser; Arvilla, wife of Frank Jackson; Cassie, wife of Fred Rice; Ella, wife of Andy Ramsey; and Pearl, wife of Leon Gray.

John W. Butz was ten years old when brought to Steuben County, and he finished his education here in the district schools of Scott and Pleasant Township, and also attended the high school at Angola. Since he was nineteen years old he has been busy in the lumber business, and for ten years was associated with W. G. Croxton at Angola. After the death of Mr. Croxton he took over the business, and now operates an extensive sawmill plant that is running the year around, and employs from ten to thirty men. Mr. Butz also owns a fine farm of 170 acres in Scott Township, and is therefore one of the busiest men of Steuben County, having interests which absorb all his time and energies every month of the year.

In politics he is a republican and is a member of the Knights of Pythias. December 13, 1900, Mr. Butz married Miss Ada Kuhn, of Kosciusko County. They have one son, Paul, born September 21, 1901,

a graduate of the Angola High School and now a student in the Tri-State College of Engineering.

THE KNEIPP SANITARIUM, on the banks of Sylvan Lake, near Rome City, is one of the most remarkable institutions of its kind in the United States, and has the distinction of being the only Kneipp Sanitarium in the United States established and conducted by a physician who studied the original Kneipp treatment as instituted by Monsignor Kneipp at his famous institution at Woerishofen, Bavaria.

The Sanitarium, which was established in 1895, has probably done more to make the locality of Orange Township in Noble County well known throughout the length and breadth of this country than any other one circumstance or combination of circumstances. Sylvan Lake is an artificial lake, made by the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad Company, and is four miles long and three-quarters of a mile wide. It is a beautiful body of water in itself, and has attracted thousands of visitors every year, and is the scene of the annual gathering of the Western Chautauqua Assembly, and is surrounded by a number of hotels and resorts. Some years ago the Government stocked the lake with fish, and it furnishes some of the best fishing grounds in Northern Indiana.

But it is the Kneipp Sanitarium that has made Rome City and Sylvan Lake most famous. All intelligent people know something of the "Kneipp Cure," a method that originated in Central Europe, but, as already noted, has received its finest exemplification in the United States at Rome City. The physician in charge of the sanitarium, Dr. B. Pulskamp, was long a student at the original institution in Bavaria and has a diploma from the school there.

When the sanitarium was opened at Sylvan Lake in 1895 it had accommodations for but ten guests. Every year has witnessed an increase in these accommodations and today the magnificent grounds are dotted with buildings of elaborate architecture, and with individual accommodations for 250 guests. The sanitarium grounds proper comprise eighty acres of land, containing extensive lawns and walks, special grounds for sports and games, and there is also a large amount of land besides used for farming purposes. Besides the lake and grounds contain numerous mineral springs, and all of these have been adapted to the special feature of the Kneipp method of cure. Probably the best known feature of the Kneipp cure is diet, which has been developed to a highly scientific system, and yet does not run extreme practices as in some sanitariums. The diet is largely a generous variety of nature's best foods, with an absence of all stimulating and narcotic foods and drinks. The system of the Kneipp treatment is largely that of allowing nature to work its cure with the intelligent supervision of an expert and scientific staff of physicians and surgeons and their assistants.

The sanitarium is owned and operated by the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood, who took charge in 1901. While the property and management are therefore invested in a Catholic authority, the religious feature is not obtrusive, as the thousands of guests who have been in the sanitarium during the last twenty years have comprised every variety of religious creed. The chief reminder of the ownership is the beautiful chapel where, according to the custom of the Order of the Most Precious Blood, perpetual adoration is maintained day and night.

The Sister Superior in charge of the sanitarium is Sister Mary Agreda. She was born at St. Louis, Missouri, in 1868, and was educated in the parochial schools of Cincinnati and afterward in the

Normal School of the Sisters of the Most Precious Blood at Maria Stein, in Mercer County, Ohio. She taught at Lawrenceburg, Tennessee, for ten years, and in 1902 came to Rome City as assistant to the Sister Superior, and has held the office of Sister Superior since 1911.

DAVID W. RISER, who spent a large part of his earlier career over the state line in Ohio, in Williams County, has established a firm hold in DeKalb County, Indiana, as a farmer, business man and citizen and owns one of the attractive country places in Troy Township. His farm is in sections 31 and 32, and lies three and a half miles northeast of Butler.

Mr. Riser was born in Stark County, Ohio, October 8, 1854, a son of Martin and Catherine (Ott) Riser. The parents were both born in Germany, his father September 28, 1810, and his mother in March, 1828. They were married in the old country and on coming to the United States settled near Alliance, Ohio, where the father worked at common labor for several years. In 1861 he moved to Williams County, Ohio, settling near Edon, and afterward came to Stafford Township of DeKalb County, where he and his wife spent the rest of their years. They were members of the German Lutheran Church, and the father was a democrat in politics. In their family were the following children: John, a farmer in Williams County, Ohio; Margaret, who died in 1862; George, a farmer in Stafford Township; David W., also a farmer; Christ, of Butler, Indiana; Mary, wife of Isaac Hose, of Butler; Catherine, wife of Frederick Blaker, of Troy Township; and William, who died in infancy.

David W. Riser was reared in Stafford Township, attended the district schools and was at home with his parents to the age of twenty-one. After that he supported himself and managed to get some experience and a very modest equipment of capital by working out for others. May 17, 1888, he married Mary I. Jennings, member of an old and prominent family of DeKalb County. She was born in Troy Township, May 5, 1870, a daughter of Jacob and Susan (Higby) Jennings. Her mother was born in Cuyahoga County, Ohio, October 10, 1840, and was reared in Stafford Township of DeKalb County from August, 1851. Jacob Jennings was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, December 12, 1820, and moved to Wilmington Township of DeKalb County, September 23, 1848. He and his wife were married September 23, 1860, and moved to his farm in Troy Township in March, 1864. He died September 27, 1894, and his wife October 4, 1916. Mrs. Riser was the younger of two children, her brother, Eli L., born April 10, 1864, now lives at Elkhart, Indiana. Eli was a soldier in the Spanish-American war. Mrs. Riser grew up on a farm in Troy Township and had a good education in the local schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Riser lived in Williams County until 1898, when they located on their present farm. The home place has 110 acres, and altogether they own 158 acres. Mr. Riser and wife are members of the Christian Church at Butler. They are also members of the Grange at Butler. In politics he is a democrat, and he was trustee of Troy Township for two years. He is a stockholder in the First National Bank of Butler and a stockholder in the Arctic Co-operative Association. Mr. Riser enjoys fishing as his recreation, and he and his wife have spent a winter or two in Florida.

ANDREW J. CARPENTER. A long life and a busy one has been the record in brief of Andrew J. Carpenter,

one of the highly esteemed residents of Franklin Township, DeKalb County. He has lived nearly three-quarters of a century and is now enjoying a comfortable retirement. For about half a century he followed the trade and business of flour milling, and he also has owned and operated farms. He is living today on his farm in Franklin Township, near Hamilton.

Mr. Carpenter was born at Pontiac, Michigan, June 28, 1845, a son of Joshua and Mary (Church) Carpenter. Both the Church and Carpenter families were early settlers around Pontiac, Michigan, and acquired large tracts of land. Joshua Carpenter was born in New York State and his wife in Vermont. He was a stock man and also conducted a meat market at Pontiac. He died at the age of forty. He was a staunch republican in politics and he and his wife were active in church. Of their five children Andrew J. is the only one living.

He spent his boyhood days on his father's farm near Pontiac and was very much of a youth when he volunteered and joined the Union army. After the war he returned to Pontiac and learned the miller's trade. He followed that occupation with some intervals until a comparatively recent date. Mr. Carpenter has owned and operated several grist mills, owning the one at Hamilton, Indiana. He was head miller in several large mills at Topeka and also owned a mill at Edon, Ohio.

June 1, 1874, Mr. Carpenter married Mrs. Margaret R. (Fee) Taylor, widow of Jasper S. Taylor. Her first husband died February 19, 1869, leaving two children: Belle, wife of Theodore Hunt, of Franklin Township; and John S. Taylor, who lives on his farm four miles south of Egerton, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter have two sons: Frank W., who was born September 25, 1876, and Riley R., born December 3, 1878. Both sons are now married and are well known residents of Franklin Township. The family are active members of the United Brethren Church, and Frank W. is superintendent of the Sunday school of his home church. The sons are also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. Mr. Carpenter is a republican in politics. He is one of the directors of the Arctic Livestock Association.

SETH WALLACE. While Seth Wallace and all his children have long since passed away, there are memorials of their presence and beneficent activity in LaGrange County, particularly a fine farm in Springfield Township, now owned and occupied by a granddaughter of Seth Wallace, Mrs. Ellen Cowan.

Seth Wallace was born near the City of Boston, Massachusetts, November 21, 1791, about two years after the Government of the United States was instituted. His parents were Seth and Ann (Hulbert) Wallace, the former born December 1, 1761, and the latter June 2, 1765. It was a New England family, but originally Scotch-Irish. Seth Wallace grew up in his home community, was educated according to the standards of the time, and married Desire Belding (whose family name has in later generations been spelled Belden). They were married on November 3, 1815, and their children, born in the East, were as follows: Joseph W., born December 12, 1816, and died March 22, 1843; Denison Belden, born September 15, 1818, started for California at the time of the original discovery of gold, and was never heard from; Zabina H., born January 14, 1821, and died April 11, 1895; George W., born November 25, 1824, and died August 16, 1877; John Quincy Adams, born December 9, 1826, and died April 17, 1843; Charles C., born June 14, 1830, and died December 11, 1850; and Benjamin



F., born November 4, 1834, and died January 21, 1853.

Seth Wallace was a sturdy New England farmer and he came west for the purpose of acquiring land in more generous measure and on cheaper terms than could be obtained in the well settled districts around Boston. Before breaking up his home in the East he came west in 1841, prospecting over much of the country in Northern Indiana, and as a result of his examination bought the land where his descendant, Mrs. Cowan, now lives. This land he obtained from a Mr. Michael, who was the original entrant from the Government. After making some improvements he went back east and arranged to transport his family west. After some weeks of travel they arrived in the clearing in the midst of the woods, and from that time the Wallaces were fixtures in LaGrange County. Seth Wallace acquired 400 acres of land in his home farm and later bought other tracts in the same vicinity. His first buildings were of logs and stood directly behind the site of the present home, occupying ground in the center of the farm and half way between the North and South roads. It is said that he hauled logs and wheat to Fort Wayne, and brought back lumber with which to build the house now standing. This old resident landmark was erected about 1851. He also put up the substantial barns which still stand along the road on the west side of the farm. He hired as the carpenter to boss the job of construction his brother Thompson Wallace. The timber was cut on the land, and all the interior finish of this residence is of walnut, now almost priceless, the work having been done entirely by hand labor. Seth Wallace and his sons cleared up much of the land and he also set out an orchard. Some of his younger children attended school at the Association Farm.

His son Zabina H., mentioned above, had come with his father to Springfield Township and remained on the homestead when Seth Wallace went back to bring his family. Zabina is well remembered as a school teacher in the old community and later was a merchant at Sturgis, Michigan, where he died. During the Civil war Zabina served as a recruiting officer and sent many companies to the front.

George W. Wallace, son of Seth, received a good education in the East and after coming to LaGrange County spent his time and labors on the home farm, and after living there for over thirty-five years passed away August 16, 1877. Both he and his father were staunch republicans in politics, but neither of them ever sought public office.

On October 26, 1862, George W. Wallace married Catherine Griffith, who was born in Stark County, Ohio, a daughter of Henry Griffith. With her mother and stepfather she came to Indiana by way of canal and wagon to the site of the present Town of Waterloo, then covered with a dense forest. Her step-father made a shack of slabs and started there among pioneer circumstances. Mrs. Wallace's mother soon died, and Catherine went to live at the Wallace home and subsequently became the wife of George W. Wallace. She died August 8, 1913, leaving one child, Ellen May.

Ellen May Wallace, who lives in the dignified associations of the old Wallace homestead in Springfield Township, was married February 19, 1887, to Sheridan E. Hughes, of LaGrange. Mr. Hughes died in 1891, the father of one child, Hilda Wallace Hughes. In 1903 Mrs. Hughes became the wife of Charles C. Cowan, whose death occurred April 7, 1918. Mrs. Cowan has been a generous supporter of church and other community activi-

ties, and about 1890 she deeded the lot on which the Brushy Chapel stands.

Hilda Wallace Hughes, daughter of Mrs. Cowan, is a graduate of Northwestern University. She made a fine record as a teacher, and was superintendent of schools at Stroh and South Milford in LaGrange County, but declined to continue in that profession in order to give her time to the management of the farm which has been handed down from her great-grandfather.

L. D. HUGHES was born in Holmes County, Ohio, on Independence Day, 1839, one of the twelve children of Esrom and Rosanna (Shreve) Hughes, the former a settler in Holmes County as early as 1845. L. D. Hughes had a good practical education and on April 17, 1861, enlisted in Company H of the Twenty-Third Indiana Infantry. He served until discharged in June, 1864, and except for six days was ready for duty at every roll call and participated in all the engagements of his regiment. He was slightly wounded at Giles Court House in West Virginia. On leaving the army he engaged in farming and on April 19, 1866, married Ellen Drake, a daughter of his former captain in the army, later Maj. J. L. Drake. L. D. Hughes on account of impaired health gave up farming and in 1867 located at LaGrange, where for two years he clerked, and in 1869 engaged in the hardware business, an enterprise which he successfully prosecuted for many years. His first vote was given to Abraham Lincoln. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. He died in 1916 and his widow is still living. Their five children were Sheridan, James, Carl, Susie and Lulu.

Sheridan Hughes was born in LaGrange in 1867. He grew up in LaGrange, had a high school education, and after his marriage he became a farmer on the old Wallace homestead.

SHIRLEY R. TEEGARDIN. In Indiana, Ohio, and in the colonial records of Pennsylvania the name Teegardin frequently appears. They are a sturdy, long-lived and vigorous stock. Many of them were pioneers as the western wilderness was shorn away and gave place to homes and feats of civilization. They have been especially prominent in Steuben County, where several of its representatives still live.

Early in the last century William Teegardin lived in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. He was a prosperous farmer there but saw that he could not provide sufficiently for the wants of his numerous family among the hills and restricted valleys of Western Pennsylvania. He accordingly went to Western Ohio, and in Allen County, bought land when it was cheap, sufficient to give each of his children 160 acres. All of these quarter sections constituted one body of land. The thirteen children of William Teegardin and wife were named Margaret, John, Joseph, Katie, Henry, Susan, Daniel, Aaron, Huda, Abraham, Peter, Elizabeth and Susan. Of these Joseph Teegardin a native of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, married Hannah Kraus. He was married and reared his family in Allen County, Ohio. His children were: Abraham, William, Josiah, Anna, Elisha, Michael and David and Laura, twins, both of whom died when about fifteen years old. Of the children of William Teegardin, Aaron and Daniel and the children of Joseph, came to Steuben County, Indiana, during the latter '60s. The children of Joseph that came to this county were Josiah, Abraham and Elisha.

Josiah Teegardin was born in Allen County, Ohio, January 3, 1839. In 1869, with other members of

the family, he settled in Otsego Township of Steuben County and bought land of an owner who had acquired it direct from the Government. While prospecting for this land he made two trips to Steuben County on horseback before permanently settling. The land was covered with timber and consisted of 160 acres in section 24. Before the energies of his life were spent he had cleared up and put under cultivation most of this tract, and gave it the buildings which are still standing. Josiah Teegardin was a cabinet maker by trade, and he did work at his trade. He was very prosperous and thrifty and in the course of time had 400 acres. He died December 26, 1912. On October 17, 1861, Josiah Teegardin married Nancy E. Harmon, who was born in Putnam County, Ohio, July 7, 1844, a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth (Vandamarch) Harmon. Josiah Teegardin and wife had six children: Dorilas L., who married Sarah A. Baker; Melinda R., who became the wife of William Imhoof; Lovila A., wife of Calvin Beard; Lerotus V., who married Katie Wright; Shirley R., and Ethel B., wife of Clarence Barber.

Shirley R. Teegardin, who represents the fourth generation of the family as recorded above, was born on the farm where he now resides in section 24 of Otsego Township, November 18, 1883. He acquired a public school education and has always lived on the home place and farmed. He now owns 200 acres, and is one of the leading crop and live-stock raisers in Steuben Township. He and family are members of the Methodist Church.

September 5, 1906, he married Nellie C. Morley, daughter of Robert and Eugenia Morley. They are the parents of six children: Preston M., Aubrey G., Carroll F., Ruth I., Orville D. and Helen L. Aubrey and Carroll are both deceased.

MONROE REED has lived in Noble County nearly all his life, having been brought here as a child by his parents. He grew up in Sparta Township, and in the locality known as Indian Village his father at one time conducted an important local industry as a tanner. Monroe Reed has given the mature years of his life to farming. He started with little or no capital, and with the unselfish co-operation of his wife has planned and toiled and contrived to win a comfortable prosperity, now represented by their good farm in the northeast quarter of section 17 of Washington Township.

Mr. Reed was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, February 21, 1860, a son of Martin and Margaret (Duley) Reed. His parents were also natives of Ohio, and on coming to Indiana settled in Noble County, in Sparta Township, near Indian Village. His father, in addition to operating a tanyard also owned a small farm. He continued the business of tanner until he retired, and finally moved to the vicinity of North Webster, where he died. He was an active member of the United Brethren Church and a republican in politics. The children still living are: George; Letitia, wife of John Hahn; Eliza, wife of Dan Garber; Monroe, Jonathan, Grant and Norman.

Monroe Reed grew up in Noble County and attended the common schools until he was about sixteen years old, when he started out to make his own way in the world, and his chief employment since that time has been farming.

He married Miss Sarah Griesinger, who was born in Noble County. She was one of four children: Christian, who married Susie Stump; Sarah C.; Fannie, wife of Jacob Stricker; and Susie M., wife of D. C. Brown.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Reed rented land, and as renters they gradually acquired the

experience and the capital which brought them the ownership of their present home in the northeast quarter of section 17, known as the old Griesinger farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Reed have two children: Elsie M., wife of Vincent Prescott, and their one child, Charles M. Prescott, was born June 27, 1914. Cora E., the second daughter, is the wife of James Kile, and their one child is Elsie M. Kile. Mr. Reed is a republican in politics.

ADAM TRITCH is a man of interesting experiences and achievements, owner of a fine farm in Salem Township, and has made his prosperity and rendered a valuable service to the country by buying up, improving and selling many different parcels of real estate in this part of Northeast Indiana.

Mr. Tritch was born in Ohio April 7, 1857, a son of Frederick and Margaret (Troutman) Tritch. His parents were both natives of Germany, where they were married. Frederick Tritch came to the United States about 1853, and after two years of employment in New York he saved money with which he sent for his family. Later they settled in Ohio, in Wayne County, lived in Medina County and in 1861 moved to Allen County, Indiana. In August, 1864, they established their home in Steuben County, locating south of Lime Kiln Lake, on a tract of forty acres. This land was cleared up by Frederick Tritch, who afterward acquired another place of eighty acres. His first home in Steuben County was a log house and he built a log barn, and prosperity came to him over the route of hard labor and much self denial. He died in 1881, when about fifty-six years of age. His widow died in 1888, aged sixty-two. He was a democratic voter and a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church. Frederick Tritch and wife had the following children: Margaret, born December 31, 1849, in Germany; George, born January 14, 1852, also in Germany; Adam, born April 7, 1857; John, born October 17, 1858; Frederick, born June 4, 1862; William, born November 27, 1863; besides Jacob, Mary and Lydia, who died in infancy.

Adam Tritch was seven years old when brought to Steuben County. He acquired his education here in the public schools, and largely from experience trained and qualified himself for his career as a farmer and business man. The first land he bought, after renting for some time, was twenty acres in section 28 of Salem Township. Then followed a number of transactions, selling one place and buying another. His second deal was the purchase of sixty acres of the old farm. Then he rented for some years, bought forty acres, then sold and bought a place of eighty acres west of Helmer known as the Chris Shade farm, where he lived five years, next bought 120 acres north of his present home, and on selling this in 1917 bought the thirty acres where he now resides. He gives his time to general farming and stock raising and is an extensive buyer of poultry. He sells farm fertilizers and is now to a large extent retired from the strenuous duties of the fields. He is a large stockholder in the State Bank of Hudson, Indiana. In politics he is a democrat.

October 30, 1880, Mr. Tritch married Mary Shade. She was born in Salem Township January 20, 1861, a daughter of Richard and Sarah (Chasey) Shade, who were Steuben County settlers of about the year 1857. They lived in Salem Township, where her father died February, 1879, at the age of forty-six. Her mother passed away in 1904, at the age of seventy-one. The children in the Shade family were: Marion, Emma, Berlin, Mary, Clara, Adaline, Richard, Alice, Jennie and Monroe.



Mr. and Mrs. Tritch besides their material possessions have seen their labors rewarded by a large family of children growing up around them and later by the presence of a number of grandchildren. Maude, their oldest child, is the wife of George Erwin and has two children, Clair and Ruth. Hattie is the wife of Arthur Hoyer, and their family consists of Glyda, Paul and Merrie Anne. The third child, Jessie, died in infancy. Edna died when eighteen years old. Orville Ray married Viola Weber and has three children, Iylene, Dorothy and Helen. Daisy is the wife of Marilton D. Shumaker and has three children, Velma, Robert and John Burdette. Carl married Blanche Wood and has one child, Orlo. The youngest of the family is Eshu, who married Ethel Mane and has a daughter, Virginia.

EMERY E. SPADE is a native of Steuben County, has spent most of his life here as a successful agriculturist, and his work as a business man, his relations as a citizen and in all other respects have brought him a wealth of community esteem, which he enjoys as a resident of Jamestown Township.

He was born in Millgrove Township, March 29, 1884, son of Cyrus W. and Sarah E. (Henry) Spade. His father was born at Springfield, Ohio, January 22, 1842, and his wife in Pennsylvania in 1857, and died in 1889, in Sunbury, Pennsylvania. They were married in Ohio and in 1877 came to Steuben County, settling on a farm of 133 acres in Millgrove Township. Cyrus W. Spade died on that farm June 5, 1917. In 1862 Cyrus enlisted at Cleveland, Ohio, in an independent company of picked men known as Barber's Sharpshooters, chosen as expert marksmen. They were a part of the Army of the Cumberland and marched with Sherman to the sea. His wife died while visiting in Pennsylvania November 8, 1899. She was a daughter of John Mason and Mary Henry, the former born in 1800 and died in 1855, and the latter born in Sunbury, Pennsylvania, April 10, 1824, and died February 12, 1853.

Cyrus W. Spade is remembered as one of the capable farm improvers of Steuben County, and in every way a citizen of good judgment and thorough integrity. He was a republican, and he and his wife were members of the Evangelical Church. Their children were Oscar E., Neenan, Cora, Lottie, Fred A., Homer, Emery E. and Emma J., twins, and Eddie and Chippie, both deceased.

Emery E. Spade grew up on the old homestead, attended school in district No. 2 of Millgrove Township, and in 1902, at the age of eighteen, married Gertrude Ella Rice. After their marriage they rented a farm for two years in Ovid Township of Branch County, Michigan, then lived on a farm in Steuben County, in Millgrove Township, for one year, had a farm near Coldwater, Michigan, for three years, and on returning to Steuben County rented Mr. Spade's father's farm for eight years. In March, 1918, Mr. Spade bought his present place in Jamestown Township. It comprises 120 acres of well improved land, known as the old Oscar Mallory farm. Mr. Spade is young, enthusiastic, and has the experience and ability to make him successful in his chosen vocation.

He is a republican in politics, and he and his wife attend the Evangelical Church at East Gilead, Michigan. They became the parents of five children, Fabian, Clyde, Irene and two that died in infancy. Clyde is also deceased. Fabian is now a sophomore in the Fremont High School and Irene is in the seventh grade of the public school.

JACOB B. MYERS is an active farmer in Steuben Township near Pleasant Lake, who was recruited to

Northeast Indiana from Western Ohio, where the Myers family has lived since pioneer times.

Mr. Myers was born near Napoleon, the county seat of Henry County, Ohio, August 14, 1868, a son of John W. and Martha (Jennings) Myers. His parents were both born in Seneca County, his father July 15, 1833, and his mother February 15, 1833. The parental grandparents were Jacob and Rachel (Scott) Myers, who went to Tiffin, Ohio, from Pennsylvania, and were among the earliest settlers in that now thriving little city. Jacob Myers spent many years on his farm in Seneca County, and died when about sixty-three years of age. His widow afterward lived with her son John W. in Henry County. John W. Myers when twenty-six years of age bought a farm in Henry County, Ohio, and spent his active life there until after the death of his wife in 1905, and since then he has lived among his children. He is now in his eighty-seventh year, and makes his home with his son Jacob in Steuben County. He is a republican, is an active member and for many years a minister of the United Brethren Church, and in his time has preached hundreds of funerals and married scores of couples. John W. Myers and wife had a family of nine children: Henry, Jacob B., Albert, deceased, Irvin E., Myrta, Cora, Sherman, Della and Franklin, deceased.

Jacob B. Myers grew up on the old homestead of his father, attended public schools, and there being a number of children younger than he and demanding all that his parents by hard work could give them, he went to work when little more than a boy and has been self-supporting and independent of any aid outside of his own resources and character and industry. While a young man in Ohio he bought a small twenty-acre farm in Henry County, but later sold that and moved to Indiana, and in 1892 came to Steuben County. He rented a farm for seven years, and then bought his present place of eighty acres in Steuben Township, a mile and a half from Pleasant Lake and six miles from Angola. He has experienced many ups and downs as a farmer, but by hard work has acquired a good home, has effected many improvements and is enjoying the prosperity of these modern times on the farm. Mr. Myers is a republican, a member of the Ancient Order of Gleaners, and is active in the United Brethren Church.

He married Miss Phoebe Warner. She was born in Seneca County, Ohio, January 15, 1864, a daughter of George W. and Armina (Hollepeter) Warner. Her parents moved from Seneca to Henry County, Ohio, where Mrs. Myers' mother died July 13, 1915. She was born near Fostoria, Ohio, November 6, 1846. Mrs. Myers' father was born December 12, 1838, in Seneca County, and is still living.

Mr. and Mrs. Myers have four children: Coy Ray, who married Isabel Clossen, daughter of Carmen and Jennie Clossen, of Steuben Township, and has two children, Ellen and Ned; Clyde, who married Jessie Delong, and has two children, Wanda and Wilma; Clifford, who married Jessie Deetz; and Violet, who married Paul Swift, of Angola, and has a son, Kermit.

The son Clifford Myers served four years in the State militia, spent one year on the Mexican border, and early in the war with Germany went to Camp Shelby and was sent overseas to France, spending about three months abroad. He served as a private and was given his honorable discharge in January, 1919. He is an example of the young soldier who has made good after resuming his status as a civilian. He is employed in the automobile factory at Auburn, Indiana, and has twice been promoted since going to

work there. All of the sons of Jacob B. Myers served four-year terms in the militia.

ALBERT CASE, whose farm home is in Springfield Township, is a son of one of the very early settlers of LaGrange County, and the family name has been honored and respected here for about eighty years.

Albert Case was born in Milford Township June 10, 1852, and it was in that locality that his father, Andrew Perry Case, made his early settlement. The father was born in New York state in 1813 and came to Milford Township when a young man. He built the first frame house in the township, and a part of that old building is still standing. He also entered 180 acres of land, 120 acres in Milford and 60 acres in Johnson Township. He lived on the land in Milford Township. In the early days he hauled in his wheat to Fort Wayne, and went through all the difficulties and hardships of pioneering. He was a democrat in politics. He lived on his homestead until his death in 1893. He had married in Milford Township Elsie Hill, who was born in 1823 and died at the age of eighty-two. Their nine children were: Philemon, Randall Perry, Celia, Albert, Billings B., Alice, Ella, Artensis and Isadore.

Albert Case grew up on the home farm and had a public school education. He started out with little capital but considerable experience, and for several years rented land in Milford Township. Except for one year in Noble County he has spent all his life in LaGrange County. In 1906 he moved to Springfield Township, and was a renter there until 1917, when he bought forty acres of the old McKinsey farm. He is a democrat in politics.

Mr. Case married Mary Adaline Bolley in 1876. She was born in Ohio, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Dorrer) Bolley. Her mother is still living at the age of eighty-two. Mr. and Mrs. Case have eight children: Myrtle, the oldest, is the wife of Henry Misner, and their children are Eva, wife of Thomas Arthur, Maynard, Bernice, wife of Henry Anderson, and Helen. Florence, the second child, became the wife of Rollo Spearman, a son of Solomon Spearman. Dana Perry married Gertrude Huber and has a daughter, Elsie Mary. Dora is the wife of Guy Vandrew. Gladys was married to Clyde High, and her two children are Gwendolin and Albert. The three youngest children are Charles at home, Clela Bell, wife of Clyde Garlets, and Lan, at home.

DANIEL HANNA, who gave four years of his youth to the service of his country as a member of the gallant Forty-Eighth Ohio Infantry, has for many years been a leading farmer in Salem Township of Steuben County, and though his name has never appeared in connection with political office or affairs his life has been one long round of duty well performed, and is deserving of all the credit that belongs to a career now more than three-quarters of a century in length.

Mr. Hanna was born in Williams County, Ohio, October 4, 1842, a son of Hezekiah and Mary (Bourman) Hanna, Hezekiah Hanna, son of James and Sophia Hanna, was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, February 26, 1817. He died in Defiance County, Ohio, December 13, 1874. He was one of a family of twelve children. Mary Hanna, daughter of Henry and Susanna Borman, was born in Columbus, Ohio, July 14, 1816, and died in Wood County, Ohio, April 11, 1892. She was one of a family of five children. The Hanna family had established its home in Williams County in 1841, moving from Fairfield County. At that time there was only one

track or road across the black swamp of Northwestern Ohio, and the Hanna family could make only five miles in one day. They crossed the river at Tuttle's store in Defiance County. At that time Defiance included Williams County. Hezekiah Hanna secured forty acres, later traded for forty acres in Defiance County, three miles northeast of Ney, and built a log house and underwent all the privations of pioneer times. It happened that several times the family were without bread for six weeks. Hezekiah Hanna died in Defiance County and his wife in Wood County. Their children were: Mary; Daniel; Caroline, wife of Orrin Foster; Orlando, who lives near Angola; and John, deceased. The mother of these children by a previous marriage had a daughter, Rhoda Jane Rose, now deceased, who was the wife of George Strawser.

Daniel Hanna grew up in Prairie Creek Township of Defiance County, and at the age of eighteen removed to Napoleon in Henry County. He lived there with his half sister, Mrs. Higbee, but in the following year, on October 22, 1861, enlisted in Company F of the Forty-Eighth Ohio Infantry. He was not mustered out until May 10, 1866, and was with his company and regiment every day and never absent from the line of duty. The arduous service of the Forty-Eighth Ohio has been frequently recounted in history, and Mr. Hanna's individual record is that of the regiment. He was in the following great battles of the war: Shiloh, in 1862; Siege of Corinth, May 18, 1862; Holly Springs, July 1, 1862; Chickasaw Bluff, December 31, 1862; Arkansas Post, January 11, 1863; Port Gibson, May 1, 1863; Champion Hill, one of the early engagements in the Vicksburg campaign, May 16, 1863; Black River Bridge, May 17, 1863; siege and capture of Vicksburg, May 19 to July 4, 1863; siege and capture of Jackson, July 10 to July 16, 1863, following which the regiment participated in the Banks expedition at Red River and participated in the battle of Sabine Cross Roads, April 8, 1864; was at the siege and capture of Fort Blakeley, Alabama, April 2 to April 9, 1865.

After the war Mr. Hanna returned to Defiance County and bought thirty acres of land. In 1876 he moved to Paulding County, Ohio, and owned and operated ninety-two acres for seven years. He came to Steuben County in 1884, thirty-five years ago, and at that time acquired eighty acres in Salem Township. In that locality he has been greatly prospered, and today owns 175 acres of good land, with all the improvements of a modern farm. His place is known as the Rolling Valley Farm and is the home of some fine Jersey cattle.

While a loyal republican, Mr. Hanna has never sought public office. He is a thorough American patriot, and with vivid memories of his own service in the Civil war he has never lost an opportunity to impress upon the youth of modern times the obligations of loyalty, and his lessons were not forgotten by his own children when America was called into the list to fight the tyranny of German imperialism. Mr. Hanna for a number of years was a member of the United Brethren Church.

May 28, 1866, he married Vesta Gorrell. She was born in Holmes County, Ohio, November 18, 1844, a daughter of William and Martha Gorrell, who were early settlers of Holmes County and about 1853 moved to Defiance County, where her father died, February 14, 1899, at the age of ninety-five, and her mother passed away in Bryan, Ohio, September 21, 1913, aged ninety years, three months and ten days. Mrs. Hanna's parents were married in Holmes County, March 4, 1841.

Alvah, the oldest of Mr. Hanna's children, died April 4, 1912, at the age of forty-eight. He mar-



ried Sarah Morrison, and the grandchildren by this son were Vesta T., Royal Gale, Venus, Dewey, Worth and Edna. Two of these grandsons were still with the Expeditionary Forces in Germany in the early summer of 1919. Royal Gale was a member of Company B of the Twelfth Machine Gun Battalion of the Fourth Division, while Dewey is a corporal in the One Hundred and Sixty-Sixth Infantry in Company A.

Curtis Hanna, the second son, married Mary Morrison and had seven children: Orville, Orpha, Luella, Alta, Harrison, Harmon and Amy. Martin, the third child, married Elma Smith, of Toledo, and has a son, Walter. The fourth of the family is Martha, still at home. Jesse Ray was born March 15, 1885, and died December 13, 1886, aged one year and nine months.

Vesta, a daughter of Alvah Hanna and granddaughter of Daniel Hanna, married Everett Allen and has three children, named Marjorie, Jessie and Lloyd Maxwell.

**JOHN WALTER GRIFFITH.** For nearly seventy years there has been frequent occasion to refer to the name Griffith as that representing one of the most prominent families of Otsego Township in Steuben County. Many of the enviable qualities of the family are exemplified by John Walter Griffith, a son of the pioneer who came here and made settlement in the woods.

John Walter Griffith was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, July 24, 1849, and was about eight weeks old when his parents moved to Indiana, first locating in DeKalb County. He is a son of John and Jemima (Gossage) Griffith. His father was born in November, 1813, and his mother on April 21, 1813, both natives of Tuscarawas County. They were married in 1839.

On coming to Indiana John Griffith, Sr., entered 160 acres in Franklin Township of DeKalb County. In 1857 he became associated with his brother Lewis in business at Hamilton, and three years later he moved to a farm of 227 acres in Otsego Township. However, death came to him in September, 1860, and interfered with his ambitious plans he had for developing his farm. His widow survived him and died on the old homestead December 22, 1884. They were the parents of nine children: Susan, who became the wife of Jeremiah Kepler; Lewis, who entered the Union army in 1861 with the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry and served over four years, receiving a captain's commission at the battle of Chickamauga; Nancy, who became the wife of Hiram Oberlin; Leman, who was wounded at Chickamauga, went home on a furlough, having lain on the battlefield without his wound being dressed for eleven days, rejoined Sherman in time to march to the sea, and died immediately after the war, in 1865; Lydia, who married George Carpenter; Frank, who also served as a soldier and afterward lived on the home farm in Otsego Township; Cathrine, who died at the age of thirteen; John W.; and Sarah, who died in infancy.

John Walter Griffith acquired his early education in the public schools of Otsego Township and also of DeKalb County, and in early life learned the trade of cooper in connection with farming. He moved to Hamilton in 1897, and has been a resident of that village for over twenty years. He served as justice of the peace, township supervisor twelve years, and has been quite active in the republican party. He is a member of Hamilton Lodge No. 701, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and attends the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1870 Mr. Griffith married Mary Crandall. She

was born in Summit County, Ohio, October 28, 1850, daughter of W. A. and Harriet Eliza Crandall. Her parents were married in 1844 and came to Steuben County in 1853, settling on a farm in Otsego Township. This farm, much of which was cleared by Mr. Crandall, is now owned by William Kugler. Mrs. Griffith's father died there May 8, 1871, at the age of fifty. His widow continued to live on the farm for some years, then moved to Pleasant Lake, and in 1906 came to live with her daughter, Mrs. Griffith, in whose home she died in 1913, at the age of eighty-eight.

Mr. and Mrs. Griffith became the parents of four children. Charles, a resident of Pleasant Lake, married, Ella King, and their children are Weir, Ford, Edith and Gertrude; Lillian Jemimah married Sylvester Hoover and lives at Detroit, Michigan; Lauren, who is chief clerk in the postoffice at Fort Wayne, married Tessie O'Neal at Chicago, and their children are John, Virginia, Mary Catherine and Lawrence. Hattie, the youngest child, is the wife of Glenn Sweet, of Hamilton.

**SAMUEL E. DICKINSON** is superintendent of the water and light department of the City of Kendallville. He has been connected with this important public utility for over twenty years.

Mr. Dickinson was born at Wolcottville, Indiana, September 15, 1870, son of Newell J. and Elizabeth (Stroman) Dickinson. His father was born in New York State and his mother in Pennsylvania, and they were brought to Indiana by their respective parents when the father was eleven and the mother seven years of age. Both families settled near Wolcottville on farms, where Newell Dickinson and Elizabeth Stroman grew up and married. After their marriage they lived on a farm a time. Newell Dickinson was a mechanic and engineer, and was employed in that capacity in different factories at Kendallville for some years. In 1890 he became engineer of the water and light plant, and on April 17, 1895, his son Samuel became his assistant.

Samuel Dickinson was well educated and after following various lines of employment became a locomotive fireman with the New York Central lines in 1891. In 1895 he entered the waterworks and light plant at Kendallville, and has shown such capacity in that work that his services have been retained by the authorities ever since. He was made chief engineer and filled that post two and a half years, and since 1915 has been in charge of the entire business as superintendent.

In February, 1894, Mr. Dickinson married Miss Maggie A. Roche. She died in December, 1894. Mr. Dickinson is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and is a republican in politics.

**ELMER E. CLARK** since early youth has been a hard working business man, has been identified with several different lines of vocations, and until recently was manager of the Co-operative Store at Ashley.

He was born in Steuben County, Indiana, August 21, 1874, a son of Daniel and Lavina Clark. His father was born at Fairfield Center, DeKalb County, Indiana, in 1854. His mother was born at Plymouth, Ohio, in November, 1834, and came to Indiana with her first husband, Josiah Bevier, settling in Steuben County, two miles north of Hudson, where they cleared a farm and lived until the death of Mr. Bevier. By her first marriage she had two children, Samuel and Mrs. George W. Fisher. Elmer E. Clark is the only child of his mother's second marriage. His father was a minister of the United Brethren Church and for thirty-three years followed that calling in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan.

Elmer E. Clark grew up in the various communities where his father was engaged as a minister, and received a common school education, also attended high school and the United Brethren College at Hartsville. At the age of twenty-two he married Mertie G. Frederick, who was born at Hudson in Steuben County, Indiana.

After his marriage Mr. Clark was in the restaurant business about four years, spent four seasons on a farm, was a rural mail carrier five and a half years out of Hudson, and for a year and a half was a blacksmith, a trade he had learned as a boy. Until 1916 he was engaged in the general merchandise business at Hudson, selling out his store November 20, 1916. The following few months he spent with the B. F. Goodrich Company of Akron, Ohio, and in April, 1917, began selling stock for the Co-operative Association at Ashley, and on July 3 became manager of the store and so continued until August 25, 1919. Mr. Clark owns a farm of 120 acres seven miles north of Coldwater, Michigan. He is a republican in politics and is active in the United Brethren Church, being a trustee and superintendent of the Sunday school at Hudson. Mr. and Mrs. Clark have two children, Gail F., born December 30, 1898, a graduate of the Hudson High School and died October 30, 1918, when nearly twenty years of age; and Barbara Catherine, born December 4, 1911.

**WILLIAM SHERMAN BARBER.** If true success consists in a steady betterment of one's material circumstances, a growing enlargement of views and increasing influence as a member of the community, the life of William Sherman Barber has been exceptionally successful by all the standards that might be applied to it.

Mr. Barber, proprietor of a fine farm in Millgrove Township of Steuben County, was born in Jackson Township of the same county September 12, 1865, a son of William and Sidney (Slaybaugh) Barber. His father was born in England and came to Steuben County at the age of fifteen, two years after his father had settled here in 1840. The grandfather Barber first located in Angola when it was a town of a few log houses, later acquired land in the county, and lived here until his death. He had two sons, William and John. William Barber acquired his early education in England, and during his life in Steuben County was chiefly a farmer. He lived in several localities, was a renter as well as a farm owner, owned one place in Pleasant Township, later had a farm in Otsego Township, and for a time owned and operated a grist mill at Millersburg in Elkhart County. He finally bought 160 acres in Millgrove Township now occupied by his son William S. He died there in 1915, at the age of seventy-eight. His wife, who was a native of Ohio, died in 1905. Their family of children consisted of the following: Cynthia C., Benjamin F., Minerva, William S., Leonard Curtis, Emma, Bertha and John.

William Sherman Barber attended the public schools of Steuben County, including the Fremont High School. Since leaving school he has followed farming as his chief occupation. For a time he owned some property in Millersburg. He formerly rented the old homestead in Millgrove Township, but since 1911 has been its owner and proprietor. Besides the 160 acres there he has another eighty acres. Most of the improvements on the home farm were placed there by his father.

Mr. Barber is a republican. His wife is a member of the Congregational Church. January 24, 1905, he married Bertha Dudley, member of the old and prominent Dudley family in Steuben Coun-

ty. Her father is Grove H. Dudley elsewhere mentioned.

**OLIVER SCHAEFFER**, who died October 18, 1918, was a man of interesting personality and experience and spent most of his life in Steuben County. Farming was his main business, and it is an essential part of his record that he made a success of his undertakings, and withal reared a large family of sons and daughters, most of whom are married and in homes of their own. His two youngest sons started overseas with the American army for France just a month before the death of the father.

Oliver Schaeffer was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, May 6, 1844, a son of William and Margaret (Beck) Schaeffer. When he was about a year old he was brought to Steuben County and he grew up on a farm in Fremont Township, acquiring his education in the public schools. Oliver Schaeffer was a soldier in the Civil war, enlisting September 28, 1864, at the age of twenty, in Company F of the First Regiment, Michigan Cavalry. He remained in the service until honorably discharged June 7, 1865. From what he was able to save from his meager wages as a soldier he bought eighty acres of heavily timbered land in the southeastern part of Fremont Township. He sold that and bought the 120 acres where his widow now lives. Later he increased this to 120 acres, improved and added to the buildings and made a fine property. He was always industrious, used intelligence with his labors, and was able to make ample provision for the sons and daughters who grew up in his home. In politics he was a republican.

November 23, 1873, he married Mary Ellen Miller. She was born in Fremont Township, December 17, 1854, a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Schaeffer) Miller. Her parents came to Steuben County in 1852, settling on eighty acres of timbered land in Fremont Township. Daniel Miller was a cooper by trade, and followed that occupation to some extent while clearing and making a farm. His first house was built of logs. Daniel Miller died November 7, 1890, aged sixty-five, and his wife, November 7, 1905, aged seventy-seven.

Mr. and Mrs. Schaeffer had twelve children: Lucinda, the first born, died in infancy. Susanna is the wife of Clarence G. Pennell. Andrew is unmarried and lives at home with his mother. Aaron married Lucy Morgan and had three children, Polly, Isadora, deceased, and Arthur. Fred married Katie Friday and has two sons, Ralph and Harry. Lizzie May is the wife of Harry Pennell, and her two children are Oliver and Albert. Charles is also an unmarried son and at home. Margaret Anna was married to Jerome Morris. Clara B. is at home. Lydia E. died in 1911, wife of Lyle Fisher, who died October 31, 1918, and their one daughter, Vesta Marie, now lives with her grandmother, Mrs. Schaeffer. The two younger children are Mearl E. and Earl M., twins. Both were in service with the One Hundred and Ninth Engineers, and went overseas on September 18, 1918.

**LEVIN MILLIS ANTONIDES.** For more than sixty years the family name of Antonides has been known favorably in LaGrange County. The family was founded here by the parents of Levin Millis Antonides, who is a representative citizen and substantial farmer of the county. He was born at Fort Wayne, Indiana, August 26, 1854, and is a son of John and Sarah (Millis) Antonides.

John Antonides was born near Dayton, Ohio, in 1826. He was thirteen years of age when he came to Fort Wayne and joined his uncle, John Lillie,



who at that time was operating a hotel and running a stage line. In 1840 the youth was entrusted with the responsibility of carrying the mails, making the trips on horseback over an Indian trail, starting from Fort Wayne and stopping at Kendallville, Howe, and other points. In 1853 he was married to a young lady who had come to LaGrange County from Eastern Maryland, where her birth had taken place in 1825, the marriage ceremony being performed in Springfield Township by Reverend Connelly. Her name was Sarah Millis, and she belonged to an old English family that can be traced back 200 years. After marriage John Antonides and wife lived for a time in Springfield Township, then spent one year in Kendallville. In 1857 Mr. Antonides bought 120 acres of land in Clay Township, which he cleared, doing the work with an ox-team and subsequently made many improvements. In 1883 the family moved into LaGrange, where Mr. Antonides conducted a feed barn for some years. In his early years he was a democrat, but the issues of the Civil war brought about a change in his political opinion and caused him to vote for Abraham Lincoln and afterward until the close of his life to support the republican party. His wife died at LaGrange, June 2, 1900, when he retired to the home of a daughter in Iowa, and died there in 1905. They were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They had three children, namely: F. C., who is a resident of LaGrange; Lillie, who is the wife of Calvin Harrington, of Clinton, Iowa; and Levin Millis, who has passed his life in his native state.

Levin Millis Antonides attended the country schools in Clay Township in boyhood and later had further advantages at Ontario Academy. He assisted his father on the farm as long as his help was deemed necessary, then invested in farm land for himself, and has spent his time since then in carrying on the quiet pursuits of agriculture, than which no more important can be found in any direction. Mr. Antonides has 117 acres in one tract and he also owns forty acres of the old homestead. He raises grain and general produce and also gives attention to stock of all kinds. He is a careful, prudent farmer and his undertakings usually prove successful and profitable.

On February 27, 1878, Mr. Antonides was united in marriage to Miss Eunice Emma Woodward, who was born near the old Green saw mill in Clay Township, June 30, 1858. Her parents were William and Sophronia (Parish) Woodward, the former of whom came from Ohio to LaGrange County with his parents in 1837, they being among the early settlers in Clay Township. Mrs. Antonides owns a very interesting utensil brought from Ohio by her grandparents. It is a fire shovel moulded of solid iron, all in one piece and unbreakable. In what kind of early forge or furnace it was so fashioned is unknown. The father of Mrs. Antonides died in 1905, her mother having passed away in 1895. Seven children have been born to Mr. and Mrs. Antonides, namely: Maud, Claud, Arthur Levin, Florence Jerusha, Sarah Hattie, Eunice Bess, and John. The last named, born January 2, 1894, died at the age of eight months. The eldest daughter, Maud, was born February 9, 1879, and is the wife of Adrian Thomas, of LaGrange, Indiana. Claud, who was born April 21, 1880, was married August 3, 1904, to Opal Gage, a daughter of Owen Gage, and they have five children: Gerald, Donald, John Paul, Margaret and Dale. Arthur Levin, who was born June 27, 1881, married Nina Beal, and they have four children: Lloyd, Ruth, Dorothy and Lee Millis. Florence Jerusha, who was born October 10, 1886,

resides at home. Sarah Hattie, who was born September 10, 1888, is the wife of Albert Lytle, and they have three children: Vada, Eunice and Wava. Eunice Bess, who was born June 10, 1891, resides at home. The family attends the Methodist Episcopal Church at Shipshewana, and Mr. Antonides belongs to the Lodge of Odd Fellows there. He has always supported the principles of the republican party because he believes in their soundness, but at no time has he ever desired a public office, although undoubtedly well fitted by sterling character and natural good judgment to serve acceptably in many. Mr. Antonides has some interesting family heirlooms which he prizes highly. One of these is an English watch that has been handed down in the Millis family from generation to generation for 200 years, its engraved face reading "From Levin to Levin." It is a priceless treasure in this family and will continue to descend to the future generations.

**HENRY SHEETS.** After years of productive labor along agricultural lines Henry Sheets, of Pleasant Township, is enjoying a well earned rest in the midst of his family circle. During the time he conducted his farm he was well known for his skill in raising good crops, and at the same time he commanded respect for his solid and reliable characteristics. He was born in Bavaria, Germany, December 25, 1834, a son of Henry and Mary (Stovell) Sheets, both natives of Bavaria, Germany.

The elder Henry Sheets learned the blacksmithing trade in his native land, but after he came to the United States in 1835 he became a tool maker and dresser at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he rounded out his useful life. He and his excellent wife had three children, as follows: Michael, Jacob and Henry. Henry Sheets, whose name heads this biographical mention, was reared at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and attended its public schools. In 1854 he was married to Magdeline Peters, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Peters, and for six years thereafter lived at Pittsburgh, but in 1860 came to Steuben County, Indiana, first locating in Steuben Township, but five years later moved to his present farm in Pleasant Township. Here he was actively engaged in farming until 1893, when he retired and moved to Angola. On July 3, 1916, he lost his wife by death, and his home at Angola then became too lonely, so he closed it and returned to the farm, where he is now ministered to by his children.

Henry Sheets and his wife had the following children: William, who is a farmer of the old homestead; Charles H., who married Emma Longabaugh, and has one son, Harcourt; Tillie, who keeps house for her father and brothers; Elmer, who is also farming the homestead; Herman, who married Elsie Wood, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and has two children, Elsie and Magdaline; Fred, who conducts a store and hotel at Crooked Lake, Indiana; Eugene, who owns ten cottages and as many boats on Crooked Lake, conducts the Long Beach resort, but lives at home with his father and the rest of the family. The Sheets family have been very successful as farmers, the homestead now comprising 598 acres of very valuable land in the vicinity of Crooked Lake. While Mrs. Sheets lived Miss Tillie kept house for her brothers on the farm. The death of this estimable lady was felt all the more deeply because hers was the first this family has suffered, and the loss has bound the survivors still more closely together. They are regarded as being among the most desirable people in this section, and are progressive in their methods and upright in their dealings.

ISAAC N. COX. For nearly forty years Isaac N. Cox gave his best energies to farming and is now enjoying a well earned retirement. His home has been at Ashley since 1907. While accumulating a landed estate he has been active in many local affairs, including church, fraternity and civic responsibilities.

He was born in Smithfield Township of DeKalb County October 16, 1851, a son of William and Nancy (Van Aken) Cox. This branch of the Cox family is descended from an Englishman who came to America in colonial times. William Cox was born in Pennsylvania in 1811, was married in Portage County, Ohio, and in 1850 settled on the farm in Smithfield Township where his son Isaac was born. He acquired 120 acres of land. He was keenly interested in politics, was originally a whig and later a radical republican, and for nine years he held the office of trustee of Smithfield Township. He was also prominent in the Cedar Lake congregation of the Christian Church and served as an elder many years. Of his ten children four are still living: B. O. Cox, a retired farmer at Coldwater, Michigan; Sarah, widow of Levi Freed and living at Ashley; Harriet, widow of John Wilsey, of Traverse City, Michigan; and Isaac N.

Isaac N. Cox grew up on the home farm, attended district schools and also the Angola High School and the Waterloo High School. For two terms he was a teacher in his native township, but since then has followed farming.

June 8, 1871, he married Anna Stamets, who was born in Ohio December 2, 1851. She finished her education in the district schools of Indiana. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Cox rented his father's place for two years, and from 1874 to 1879 lived in LaGrange County. He then bought forty acres of his father's homestead and subsequently acquired another forty acres, giving him a good sized farm, from which he earned the greater part of his prosperity.

Mr. and Mrs. Cox had five children, four of whom are still living: Emmett, who is married and lives at Waterloo; Anna Rosezettie, a high school graduate, wife of John May; Arthur, who is married and lives on the old farm; and Harry H., who spent three years in high school and is married and a farmer. The family are leading members of the Cedar Lake Christian Church and Mr. Cox has served it as deacon, elder and trustee, and for twelve years as superintendent of the Sunday school. He is a past chancellor of Hudson Lodge No. 25, Knights of Pythias, and a member of the Grand Lodge, while his wife is a past chief of the Pythian Sisters. Mr. Cox has always been identified with the republican party, and has served as township supervisor.

FRED E. HALL, who for the past ten years has concentrated his energies upon the management of the Hall farm in Springfield Township of LaGrange County, is a member of a family whose activities have been influential in shaping the development of several communities in Northeast Indiana, beginning in pioneer times, more than eighty years ago.

Fred E. Hall was born in Wayne Township of Noble County June 3, 1879, and is a son of Benjamin Franklin and Catherine A. (Longyear) Hall. The paternal grandparents were William and Lucinda (Hall) Hall, who came to Springfield Township, LaGrange County, in 1835, and located at Brushy Prairie. William Hall entered land in section 16 of that township, but later acquired a tract of Government land in Kosciusko County, Indiana. His Kosciusko land he traded for 130 acres near

Lexington, now Brighton, in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County. William Hall was one of the pioneers thoroughly equipped for meeting the hard conditions of the early days, and his affairs were prospered so that at one time he owned 616 acres. Later he sold this property for \$27,000, then considered a large fortune. In 1867 he bought land near Kendallville and lived there until his death. He was born September 22, 1809, and died April 29, 1900. His wife was born in Clark County, Ohio, August 6, 1811, and died March 27, 1869.

Benjamin Franklin Hall was born in Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, June 11, 1847, and was well educated, attending Notre Dame University at South Bend and Kendallville High School. He spent a period working on his father's farm and in 1882 went out to Kansas and bought a 160-acre farm. After a year he returned east, spent one winter in Chicago and two years at Charlotte, Michigan, and then returned to Kendallville, Indiana. In 1909 he bought 115 acres in Springfield Township, and lived there until his death on May 31, 1916.

He married Catherine Longyear on January 17, 1869. She was born in Wayne Township, Noble County, June 11, 1847, daughter of John and Ann E. (Green) Longyear, both natives of New York. Her father was born February 7, 1815, in Ulster County, and her mother in Cayuga County, May 15, 1817. The Longyear family settled in Wayne Township of Noble County in 1844, where John Longyear acquired a heavily timbered tract of eighty acres. He put a road between his home and Kendallville. Soon afterward he moved to the old Plank Road north of Kendallville, to a farm of 160 acres. John Longyear was one of the notable men in the early day citizenship of Noble County. He was a man of great enterprise and had the keeping of six miles of the old Plank Road. He was also the first postmaster on that road, and the postoffice was called Marseilles. For a number of years he served as justice of the peace and assessor of Wayne Township. He was much interested in educational matters, and the schoolhouse established on his farm was known as the Longyear School. He was affiliated with the Masonic Order, in politics was a whig and later a republican, and he and his wife were Presbyterians and original members of the Presbyterian Church at Kendallville. John Longyear died at his home farm north of Kendallville June 8, 1890, while his wife passed away December 1, 1893. Their children were: Melissa and Bradford, deceased; Catherine; Charles, deceased; Emma; John and Calista, both deceased. John Longyear married for his first wife Angeline Winfield and had a son, William Winfield Longyear, who is now eighty-four years of age and lives with his daughter, Mrs. Orange Hill, in Wayne Township, Noble County.

Benjamin Franklin Hall and wife had three children: The oldest, Lucinda, died in infancy, while the second is Fred. Olive, the youngest, was educated in the schools of Kendallville and Wayne Township, and is the wife of John C. Prillaman and lives at Mason City, Iowa.

Fred E. Hall acquired his early education in Kendallville, attending high school there. For several years he worked in railroad shops in Grand Rapids, Michigan, but in 1909 came with his father to Springfield Township, LaGrange County, and since that date has rented and managed the home farm. He is a republican in politics.

June 21, 1900, Mr. Hall married Miss Maude Lucile Lyon. She was born in Noble County April 4, 1879, a daughter of Abraham and Mary (Fuller) Lyon. Her parents in 1881 removed to Stryker,







*Carl A. Hardy.*



Ohio, where her father died in 1895, aged sixty-two, and her mother in 1894, aged fifty-three. Mr. and Mrs. Hall have three children: Gordon, born April 10, 1901, a graduate of the township high school; Mildred Catharine, born May 10, 1912, and Bruce Eugene, born August 19, 1913.

ERNEST MAXWELL is a native of Steuben County, started his career as a farmer with some experience and little capital, rented a farm, and finally got a place of his own, which he has done much to improve and render productive. He is considered one of the best farmers in Otsego Township.

Mr. Maxwell was born in Richland Township, May 3, 1870. His father, Samuel Maxwell, who was born in Wayne County, Ohio, December 12, 1839, came to Richland Township before the Civil war. He was a blacksmith at Alvarado. On account of failing eyesight he sold his shop in 1881 and bought a farm in Pleasant Township, near Crooked Lake. After three years he sold that place and on March 6, 1884, moved to a farm four miles southeast of Fremont, was there four years and then located on a farm one mile south of Alvarado in Richland Township, where he spent the rest of his days. He died November 2, 1895. In 1865 Samuel Maxwell married Elizabeth Parrott. He was born in Springfield, Ohio, December 28, 1847, and died August 23, 1909. Their children were: Ernest; Loren, born October 7, 1872; Emmet, born June 2, 1876; Clifford, born November 15, 1879; and Glenn, born November 25, 1881, and died October 9, 1900.

Ernest Maxwell lived on the several places of his father as above noted, and acquired his education in the public schools of Alvarado and the district schools of Pleasant and Fremont townships. He began his independent career as a farmer on August 21, 1895. At that time he rented land adjoining the place he now owns. Then followed ten years of hard work, thrifty management and saving, and on August 5, 1905, he secured the farm of his choice when he bought eighty acres in section 36 of Otsego Township. Mr. Maxwell is thoroughly modern in his farm practices, has put up a good silo and has remodeled many of the buildings and increased the facilities of the place by thorough and productive management.

Mr. Maxwell is a member of the Christian Church and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Masons and Grange, and with his wife is a member of the Pythian Sisters and the Eastern Star. Mr. Maxwell is a man of unusual intelligence and has an exceptional memory which enables him to recall dates and facts readily without any reference to memoranda.

February 23, 1895, he married Martha Gilbert. They have no children. Mrs. Maxwell was born May 27, 1873, in Otsego Township, is a daughter of Hiram A. and Jane (Herriman) Gilbert. Hiram Gilbert was born in Otsego Township, July 24, 1852, son of Joseph and Martha Ann (Forder) Gilbert, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Portage County, Ohio, and grandson of John and Mary Gilbert. Joseph Gilbert came to Otsego Township in Steuben County about 1852 and located on a tract of wild land which he cleared up and made into a good farm. Hiram Gilbert frequently drove the oxen while his father handled the plow. Hiram Gilbert lived in Steuben County the rest of his life. By his first marriage he had three children, Hiram A., Setta and Flora. He married Emily Case for his second wife, and their children were Alton J., Victor and Verna.

Hiram A. Gilbert attended public school in Steuben County and at the age of twenty-one began farming on the place he now owns. He has 156 acres and devotes it to general farming. Mr. Gil-

bert is a member of the Christian Church. He and his wife, Jennie Herriman, have two children, Martha, wife of Ernest Maxwell, and J. C. Gilbert.

JOSEPH H. LEHMAN. The Lehman family is an old and honored one in LaGrange County, where the greater number of its representatives have devoted their time, money and energies to tilling the soil, and as a consequence have not only brought about a desirable improvement in their neighborhood but have gained for themselves a prosperity that is gratifying. One of these substantial farmers bearing the name above referred to is Joseph H. Lehman of Newbury Township, who is a native son of the township, having been born here October 21, 1869. His parents are Harmon and Christina (Hershbarger) Lehman.

Joseph H. Lehman was reared on his father's homestead, where he learned the fundamentals of farming, and at the same time he enjoyed the advantages of the country schools. After assisting his father for some time he went into partnership with his father-in-law, Daniel Mast, and another son-in-law of Mr. Mast, Jonathan Eash, which association continued for fourteen years, when it was dissolved, and Mr. Lehman began farming for himself on a farm of 160 acres he bought in Newbury Township, which he is still conducting. Ever since taking possession of it he had been engaged in effecting improvements, and now has one of the best rural properties in this part of the county. Here he is carrying on general farming and stock-raising. Assisted by his excellent wife, Mr. Lehman has earned all he now possesses, and they have reason to be proud of the result of their hard work and thrift.

On December 10, 1891, Joseph H. Lehman was united in marriage with Miss Mary Ann Mast, born in Newbury Township, May 1, 1875, a daughter of Daniel H. and Leah Mast, farming people of this township, both of whom are now deceased, he passing away at the age of sixty-nine years, and his widow, June 1, 1918. Mr. and Mrs. Lehman became the parents of the following children: Lizzie, Albert, Ada, Perry, Emma and Erwin. Lizzie married Reuben Bontreger, and their children are: Erwin, Samuel, Joseph, and Mary. Albert married Anna Hostetler, and they have one child, Katie Ann. Ada is now Mrs. John Lambright, and has two children, Emma and Erwin. Mr. and Mrs. Lehman are members of the Amish Mennonite Church. They are very well known in their neighborhood, where they have made numerous friends. Sincere and upright in character, their word is accepted at its face value, and if they give their support to any measures their associates know that they have not done so without studying the matter over and then acting as their consciences dictate.

CARL A. HARDY, one of the comparatively new comers to Steuben County, has earned and well justified a special distinction among the agriculturists of that section. Mr. Hardy is known far and wide as the chief onion grower in Steuben County. His own example has greatly stimulated that industry, and he has been the means of marketing much of the crops raised by other growers.

Mr. Hardy was born at North Madison, Lake County, Ohio, April 15, 1882, a son of Albert G. and Ellen (Buck) Hardy and a grandson of Parker F. Hardy. Albert Hardy was born in Pennsylvania and his wife in McCain County of that state. Albert Hardy was for many years one of the leading onion growers of Kendallville in Noble County, Indiana, and since 1900 has made his home in Kendallville. He keeps up his interest in onion culture,

and every year raises a small crop, though he is now no longer in the business on a commercial scale. He and his wife have three children, Carl A., Ethel and Wilbur.

Carl A. Hardy acquired his early education in the schools of Lake County, Ohio, also attended school in Pennsylvania, and as a boy learned the interesting details of onion culture by work in his father's field. He had the normal ambition for excitement and experience, and from 1901 to 1903 he served in the United States navy. That was a service of great educational value to him. He spent much of the time in foreign countries, in South America, West Indies islands and Europe. Ever since leaving the navy Mr. Hardy has been actively identified with onion growing.

He moved to Steuben County and located in Hudson Township in 1905. Practically all his time has been taken up with the onion industry. Several years he had as high as sixty acres of that crop, and from his fields has shipped fifty carloads in a single year. This is a big business in itself, as all who are in any degree familiar with onion culture realize. Besides looking after his own crops, from the planting of the seed to the harvest, Mr. Hardy has bought from other local growers and has sent hundreds of carloads to the markets.

On October 24, 1907, Mr. Hardy married Gayle M. Pike, a daughter of Morgan B. and Della (Charlton) Pike. They have three children, Robert B., Ardelle Lee and Gordon A. Mr. Hardy is prominent in the Masonic Order, being affiliated with the Lodge and Chapter at Hudson, the Commandery at Angola, and the Scottish Rite and Consistory at Fort Wayne.

CHARLES E. HALL is one of the oldest business men in point of service at Fremont, and combining his own business with that of his father and other members of the family the Halls have been continuously identified with the commercial enterprise of Fremont for over sixty-five years.

He was born at Fremont, March 25, 1861, a son of Joseph H. and Delia (Beach) Hall. Joseph H. Hall was born at Argyle in Washington County, New York, August 24, 1824, a son of John and Jane (Allen) Hall. John Hall served as a soldier in the war of 1812, and died in 1862. Joseph H. Hall in 1844, at the age of twenty, went West to Branch County, Michigan, and began work at the harness maker's trade, serving an apprenticeship of four years. The first year his wages were \$25.00 and the last \$100.00 and board. In 1853 he came to Fremont, Indiana, and opened a harness shop, a business he continued until 1864. He then enlisted in Company A of the Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry, and served in the quartermaster's department until mustered out. In 1873 he left his business at Fremont and moved to a farm, but finally resumed his trade and worked at it steadily until two years before his death, which occurred April 23, 1904. He was a republican, later a prohibitionist, and held the office of justice of the peace eighteen years. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge and the Grand Army of the Republic. In 1848, in Branch County, Michigan, he married Mary Beach, who was born in New York State November 13, 1839. They had four children, Ida, Effie, and two deceased. Mrs. Hall died in 1859, and in 1860 Mr. Hall married Adelia Beach. She is still living, and though eighty-seven years of age has never worn glasses. She became the mother of four children: Charles E.; Earl L., of Fremont; Irene, unmarried; and Joel, who died in infancy.

Charles E. Hall lived in the Village of Fremont until he was twelve years of age, when he went on

his father's farm in Michigan. At the age of twenty-one he returned to Fremont, and for a time worked for his uncle, C. J. Merwin, in a harness shop. In 1884 he engaged in the harness business for himself, and has continued it steadily for thirty-five years and has had the record of being the oldest merchant in Fremont. Mr. Hall was also one of the organizers of the Bank of Fremont, which later was consolidated with the First State Bank, and he has long served as a director and is now president of this bank. He began voting as a republican but later changed to the democratic party. He has been a member of the City Council and city treasurer, and is affiliated with Northeast Lodge No. 210, Free and Accepted Masons, Fremont Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, and has always been active in every community movement and especially in the interests of patriotism.

He has taken much satisfaction in the service of two of his sons in the war. In 1884 Mr. Hall married Miss Minnie Bovee, of Branch County, Michigan. Their four children are named Lillie, Frank, Burl and Clark. Frank was the first young man to join the National Army from Fremont. He enlisted May 24, 1917, joining the artillery, and is now stationed at Fort Bliss, Texas. The son Burl enlisted from Havre, Montana, in the navy in November, 1917. He went to San Francisco, thence around by sea through the Panama Canal to New York, and having been assigned to the transport service it has been his distinction to cross the ocean in the great Leviathan thirty-two times. The Leviathan is the greatest ship afloat, and was the old German steamship Vaterland.

DANIEL J. STAHLY has played a useful part in the farming community of Newbury Township, LaGrange County, and his activities and example have done much to exalt the business of breeding and raising high grade livestock in the county. Mr. Stahly is a man of personal worth and esteem in his locality, and is a member of a family of numerous influential connections with Northeast Indiana.

His people were early settlers in Pennsylvania as well as in Northern Indiana. His great-grandfather, Henry Stahly, was born in Germany in 1750 and died in the old country in 1825. His first wife was a Miss Hahn, by whom he had one child, Magdalena. He married for his second wife Barbara Summer, who several years after the death of her husband came to America with her children in 1832. Her children were John, Catherine, Jacob, Christian, Magdalena and Henry.

Christian Stahly, who was born in Germany July 27, 1820, was twelve years old when brought to America by his mother, and as a young man he came to Elkhart County, Indiana, and was a pioneer in the southwestern part of that county, occupying land that is not included in the City of Nappanee. He lived and reared his family there, having made the journey to Elkhart County by wagon from Wayne County, Ohio. Christian Stahly married Fannie Housour, who was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in August, 1822. Their children were Peter, Barbara, John, Mary Ann, Moses, Magdalena, Catherine, Levi and Samuel.

John C. Stahly, father of Daniel J., was born in Elkhart County September 23, 1846. He grew up in his native county, and at the age of twenty-one moved to Newbury Township of LaGrange County, where he spent the rest of his life. He was a very successful and energetic man, accumulating about 500 acres of land. His death occurred February 16, 1912. John C. Stahly married Elizabeth Johns. She was born in Cambria County, Pennsylvania. Her



father, Daniel Johns, was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, August 20, 1819, and married Polly Yoder, who was born in the same County November 9, 1818. Daniel Johns was a son of Joseph Johns, and his grandfather was also named Joseph. Joseph, Sr., was born in Switzerland November 8, 1749, came to America in 1768 and married Franey Holly, of Berks County, Pennsylvania. This Pennsylvania pioneer from Switzerland is distinguished as the man who laid out the ill-fated City of Johnstown, Pennsylvania in 1800. Joseph Johns, Jr., was born in Somerset County in 1792. He married Anna Blough, who was born in the same county in 1799. They were farming people in Somerset county. The family of Joseph Johns, Sr., consisted of the following children: David, born July 30, 1779, and died at the age of seventeen; Barbara, born January 22, 1782, and married John Borntrager; Franie, born January 22, 1786, married John Holly; Joseph, Jr., who was born January 19, 1792; and Sarah, born January 27, 1794, married Christian Eash.

Daniel Johns came from Pennsylvania to Newbury Township in 1853, and reared his family on a farm, but later moved to Elkhart County, where he died January 24, 1904. His wife passed away March 21, 1887. Their children were named Maria, Elizabeth and Catherine, the last becoming the wife of Joseph D. Miller.

The children of John C. Stahly and wife were: Daniel J.; Christian J., who married Anna Hostetler; John, who married Maude Harper; Pauline, who became the wife of William Messner; Fannie, deceased wife of S. E. Weaver; and Katie, wife of Samuel D. Miller. The parents of these children were members of the Amish Mennonite Church.

Daniel J. Stahly was born in Newbury Township October 14, 1869, acquired his education in the same locality, and from early manhood has farmed the place where he lives today in section 30. He built the house here, also improved the barn and has added many other facilities for comfort and convenience. As a breeder of pure bred livestock he handles Hampshire and Shropshire sheep, the big type Poland China hogs, Jersey cattle, and has a number of blooded Percheron horses. Mr. Stahly is a director of the First State Bank of Middlebury, Indiana, owns 240 acres in his home farm and fifty-five acres in Springfield Township.

October 9, 1892, he married Libbie Sunthimer, a daughter of Adam and Susan (Schroch) Sunthimer. Mrs. Stahly, who died March 15, 1915, was the mother of ten children: Ernest, who is a member of the American Expeditionary Forces and now engaged in reconstruction work in France; Mabel, who married Noble Showalter, and at her death left one child, Stahly; Charles, Elizabeth, Beulah, Albert, Ruth, Franklin, Paul and Daniel J., Jr., who comprise the younger members of the family. Mr. Stahly since the death of his first wife married Minerva Thompson, daughter of Ervin H. Thompson, of Ionia County, Michigan. Mr. Stahly and family are all members of the Mennonite Church.

**SOLOMON SPEAROW.** More than three score and ten years have passed since the Spearow family came to LaGrange County. At that time Solomon Spearow, who is one of the leading farm owners of Springfield Township, was about three years old, and was one of the youngest in a large family, many of whom have spent their lives in LaGrange County, to the benefit and enlightenment of their respective communities.

Solomon Spearow was born in Stark County, Ohio, August 15, 1843. His parents were James

and Susanna (Stauver) Spearow, while his grandparents were William and Rosanna (Ruth) Spearow. James Spearow was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, September 18, 1808, and his wife was born in the same state in 1801. They were married October 14, 1828, and about 1832 settled in Stark County, Ohio, where most of their children were born, and in the spring of 1846 they came west to LaGrange County. Here Susanna Spearow died in 1849. She was the mother of ten children. A brief individual record of these children is as follows: Mrs. Rosanna Helper, who was born July 25, 1829, was married August 5, 1857, and died January 6, 1913; John, born January 12, 1831, was married October 24, 1863, and again in June, 1880, and died April 5, 1901; Samuel, born October 14, 1832, married December 25, 1857, and died March 3, 1905; Mrs. Susanna Neifer, born July 4, 1834, was married in 1857, and died August 30, 1872; William, born January 24, 1836, married June 24, 1858, and again on September 16, 1905, and is deceased; James, born November 1, 1837, married October 15, 1863, and died September 26, 1899; Daniel, born November 13, 1839, was married September 17, 1863, and died September 5, 1907; Jacob, born October 15, 1841, married August 25, 1857, and is deceased; Solomon, who was the ninth and next to the youngest of the children; and Mrs. Mary Hunt, who was born December 25, 1845, and was married November 28, 1869.

On September 13, 1849, James Spearow, father of these children, married Mrs. Martha Millis, widow of John W. Millis and daughter of Robert and Mary (Connel) Burk, the former a native of Kentucky and the latter of Virginia and of Irish descent. Mrs. Spearow was born in Madison County, Kentucky, in 1811. By her first husband she had four children, named Elnora E., Helen S., Estella and Sarah C. James Spearow by his second marriage had three children: Sarah A. born May 15, 1851, and died March 17, 1853; Amelia, born April 9, 1853, was married March 18, 1874; Gibson, born September 17, 1855, and died July 5, 1856. James Spearow was a very active member of the United Brethren Church and for many years steadily affiliated with the republican party. For a number of years he regularly carried the mail from Brushy Prairie to Kendallville, making trips in all kinds of weather and over all sorts of roads on horseback. He owned a fine farm of 240 acres in Springfield Township. The death of this honored old time citizen occurred May 1, 1893, while his second wife passed away July 3, 1888.

Solomon Spearow grew up in the home of his parents in LaGrange County, and lived with his father until he was twenty-two years of age. On October 25, 1868, he married Mrs. Lydia A. Gage, widow of Samuel Gage and daughter of Elias and Roxia Gilbert. To their marriage were born four children, Addie, Hattie H., Flora and Rollin. Mrs. Spearow by her first marriage had a daughter, Ella R., now wife of Louis E. Deal.

The affairs of Solomon Spearow have prospered as a farmer and as a good citizen. He has been a sterling republican in politics, and an active member of the United Brethren Church.

Mrs. Spearow's father, Elias G. Gilbert, was born in New York state August 2, 1808, and when a boy went to Clark County, Ohio. In 1833 he married Mrs. Roxia (Hammond) Nickelson, of New York state. Two years later, in 1835, he came to LaGrange County, first settling on a farm belonging to Judge Seeley. Two years afterward he bought eighty acres on Brushy Prairie in Springfield Township, and from that time forward dili-

gently improved his circumstances until at his death he owned 500 acres, well improved with good buildings and other equipment. He died September 22, 1865.

Rollin E. Spearow, only son of Solomon, was born July 27, 1875. As a boy on the old farm he attended public schools, also the LaGrange High School, and has for twenty years been a practical farmer. He now owns a two-thirds interest in the farm of 160 acres in Springfield Township, and is giving a good account of himself as an agriculturist and stock man. He is a republican and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

In 1896 he married Miss Florence Case, a native of Milford Township and daughter of Albert and Mary (Boley) Case, formerly of Milford but now of Springfield Township. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Rollin Spearow: Retha and Stewart E., both graduates of the eighth grade, Wendall A., Harry S. and Luther A.

DAVID J. SCHAEFFER. Forty years is a long time, more than half a normal man's lifetime, to live and work in one locality. David J. Schaeffer, one of the well-known farmer citizens of Steuben County, has lived on his place in Fremont Township more than forty years, and his material success and his esteem among his neighbors and friends have grown corresponding to the length of his residence. Mr. Schaeffer was born in the same township and locality July 25, 1848, and is a son of John and Eve (Walmer) Schaeffer. Some of the interesting facts concerning his father, who settled in Steuben County in 1845, are told on other pages of this publication.

David J. Schaeffer grew up on the old homestead and at home learned a foreign tongue and was unable to speak English when he first entered the district schools. After getting his education he began farming, also did ditching and carpenter work, and in 1875 established a home of his own by his marriage to Mary Easterday, daughter of Dr. Lewis and Elizabeth (Dauber) Easterday. Her father came to Steuben County from Williams County, Ohio, in April, 1866, and was a widely known physician with a busy country practice. Doctor Easterday and wife had the following children: Lewis, Mary, Henry, Elizabeth, Caroline, Catherine, Johnie, Jacob and William.

Mr. and Mrs. Schaeffer moved to their present farm the year following their marriage. They have about seventy-five well cultivated acres and a good home, and are enjoying the rewards of long years of industry. They are members of the United Brethren Church in Fremont. Their two children are Henry F. and Margaret M. Henry F. Schaeffer married Florence Friday.

JACOB MISHLER. It is a generally admitted fact that whatever is worth having is worth working for, and also that what is earned is doubly prized. Judged by these two statements Jacob Mishler must appreciate his prosperity, for he has worked hard for it, and has at the same time earned a reputation in his neighborhood for sincere uprightness of character that is unquestioned. Ever since he came to LaGrange County in 1858 he has sought to make himself a part of the constructive element, and his work in his county has been worth while, and at the same time his efforts of a personal nature have brought him excellent returns, as they should, for they were directed by a desire to make himself useful and provide for those dependent upon him. Jacob Mishler was born in Pennsylvania, August 18, 1840, a son of Christian and Barbara (Eash) Mishler, the former of whom died in January, 1857,

aged sixty-one years. In 1858 the widowed mother came with Jacob Mishler to LaGrange County, Indiana. The children born to Christian Mishler and his wife were as follows: Susie, William, Joseph, Polly, Henry, Katie, Jacob, John, Barbara and Isaac. The good mother died at the home of her son Jacob when she was eighty-three years old.

When the war between sections was in progress Jacob Mishler did his duty as a patriot, enlisting in Company B, One Hundred and Forty-Eighth Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry, in September, 1863, and he received his honorable discharge July 8, 1865. For a short time following the close of the war, he was in Pennsylvania, and then he returned to LaGrange County, and worked as a carpenter until he embarked in an ice business, conducting it for a time.

In 1867 Mr. Mishler was married in Newbury Township to Sarah Miller, and they had six children, as follows: Elias, Daniel, Barbara, Susie, Polly and Moses. Mrs. Mishler died in January, 1914, aged fifty-nine years. In April, 1915, Mr. Mishler was married to Mrs. Susan (Hershbarger) Miller, widow of Abraham D. Miller. She was born in Pennsylvania December 18, 1841. She and Mr. Miller had no children. He died February 12, 1911, aged seventy-two years. Mrs. Mishler is a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Lehman) Hershbarger, natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, where he was born in 1810 and she in 1808. They came to LaGrange County, Indiana, in June, 1842, settling on 160 acres of land in Newbury Township, which they bought for \$10 an acre. On it they erected a log cabin, and cleared off the land. Within six years' time the cabin was replaced with a comfortable frame residence, in which he died in 1881 and she in 1885. They were of the old order of Mennonites, and the very best of good people. They had the following children: Fannie, Barbara, Lydia, Noah, Joseph and Susan.

The paternal grandfather of Mrs. Mishler, Abraham Hershbarger, was married to Magdalena Yoder, and they came to LaGrange County from Pennsylvania by wagon in 1842, bringing with them their two sons and three daughters. The grandmother died in 1846, the grandfather surviving her until 1850. The children of the grandparents were as follows: John, Joseph, Rachel, Leah and Fannie. The maternal grandparents of Mrs. Mishler were John and Elizabeth (Bontreger) Lehman, both of whom died in Pennsylvania. Their children were as follows: Mary, Anne, Elizabeth, Gehmide, Margaret, Barbara, David and John. Mr. and Mrs. Mishler are members of the Amish Mennonite Church.

S. T. LEEK has been connected with the Baltimore & Ohio Railway, with headquarters at Garrett, for over thirty years. The greater part of that time he has been a locomotive engineer and is one of the oldest engineers in the service of the road and has one of the best records.

Mr. Leek was born in Bryan, Ohio, June 26, 1865, a son of Isaac and Ellen (Lindesmith) Leek. His parents were natives of Columbiana County, Ohio, his father born in 1832 and his mother in 1840. They were married at Bryan, Ohio, and the father followed different occupations, being a skilled mechanic, a millwright, thresherman, sawmill operator and contractor. Both he and his wife were prominent members of the Christian Church at Bryan and in politics he was a republican. The two living children are Rose and S. T. The former is the wife of Sherman Kelley, and they live at Bryan, Ohio.

S. T. Leek grew up in Bryan, attended the public schools and learned the machinist trade. He also



became a sign writer and interior decorator. He had a real fondness, however, for railroading, and on October 1, 1887, came to Garrett and went to work for the Baltimore & Ohio road as a fireman. January 10, 1896, came his promotion to the responsibilities of locomotive engineer, and now for a number of years he has had a good passenger run between Garrett and Willard, Ohio. Mr. Leek has held various chairs in the Order of Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers, while Mrs. Leek is a charter member of the Ladies' Auxiliary of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, and has served as representative of the order in convention at Denver. Mr. Leek is a republican in politics and owns a good home at 406 Randolph Street.

May 7, 1887, he married Mary Turner, who was born at Montpelier, Ohio, and was educated in the common schools. She was the widow of Harry Turner and has a son, John L. Turner, who lives with Mr. and Mrs. Leek.

**MELVIN A. YODER.** Among the men whose careers and characters entitle them to the respect and esteem of their community around Topeka is Melvin A. Yoder, who is still giving diligent attention to his farm a mile west and a half mile south of the village.

Mr. Yoder was born in Clear Spring Township of LaGrange County September 4, 1865, a son of John S. and Catherine (Stahly) Yoder. His father was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, in 1829, and his mother in Stark County, Ohio, in 1834. The former died in 1907 and the latter in 1911. They were married in LaGrange County and began house-keeping in Eden Township in 1853, and spent the rest of their days in LaGrange County. They were active members of the Mennonite Church at Maple Grove and John Yoder was a republican in political affiliations. They had a family of five sons: Samuel W., a farmer in Eden Township; Daniel J., a farmer in the same township; Emanuel C., whose home is in Goshen, Indiana; Melvin A.; and Alvin E., of Goshen.

Melvin A. Yoder grew up on a farm and had a district school education. At the age of twenty-one he began farming in association with his father and on December 10, 1891, he married Maggie Reese. After his marriage he started farming with fifty or sixty acres, and gradually enlarged the scope of his operations until he is one of the leading agriculturists of this section. He is one of the directors of the State Bank of Topeka. He is a man of good business ability, and his integrity has caused him to be selected as administrator of several estates. He also served one term as trustee of Eden Township and is a republican in politics. He and his family are members of the Maple Grove Mennonite Church.

His first wife died in 1909, the mother of four children. Erman B., a graduate of the high school, is married and has one daughter; Clara, a high school graduate and unmarried; Floyd C., a graduate of high school, married and living in Eden Township; and Virgil, who completed his high school work in 1919. In 1911 Mr. Yoder married Amanda Mullet.

**EDWARD H. CURTIS** is one of the prominent stock feeders of LaGrange County, and owns a large farm adjoining Howe as the basis of his operations in this industry.

Mr. Curtis was born at Howe December 1, 1876. About five years before his birth his parents, Henry and Elizabeth Curtis, had come from England and settled in LaGrange County. Henry Curtis was a flower gardener by trade, but after coming to

LaGrange County engaged in farming near Howe and still owns a farm there. Edward H. was one of ten children, nine of whom are still living.

Edward H. Curtis attended public schools at Howe and early took much interest in livestock. He was a buyer and shipper of stock for eight years in connection with farming. He began farming for himself in 1904 at his present location, just east of Howe. He now has 280 acres, in three different places, much of which constitutes a feeding lot for his livestock, and he buys much feeding stock every year and prepares it for market. He was also one of the organizers of the Lima Elevator Company and is a director.

Mr. Curtis and family are members of the Methodist Church. He married Miss Ida A. Damer July 3, 1902. She is a daughter of William Damer and Caroline (Mohler) of Brighton. The family of six children of Mr. and Mrs. Curtis are named Mary K., Ralph E., Ruth C., William D., Isabel and Dorothy May.

**CLYDE J. LETTS** is one of the younger farmers of Steuben County, has an immense fund of energy, enthusiasm and enterprise and is already well launched as an agriculturist and stockman.

Mr. Letts, whose home is in Fremont Township, was born in Jamestown Township of the same county, February 3, 1890. His paternal grandparents were Edward and Mary (Van Nattan) Letts, the former a native of New Jersey and the latter of New York State. Edward Letts was an early settler in Steuben County arriving in York Township in 1855. He located on forty acres, afterward moved to Scott Township, and lived there until his death. His children were: Daniel, who died in young manhood; Nelson; Diana and Edward, both deceased, and Millard.

Millard C. Letts was born in Huron County, Ohio, August 8, 1849, but grew up in Steuben County. He began as a farmer in Scott Township, afterward lived on a place of 54½ acres in Jamestown Township, subsequently returned to Scott Township, where he had an eighty-acre farm, and in 1915 moved to Fremont Township, where he is now living with his son Clyde. His wife, who died in 1916, was Matilda C. Schritchfield. She was born in Fremont Township of Steuben County, April 13, 1858, a daughter of James and Sarah (Bowers) Schritchfield. James Schritchfield and wife had eleven children, four of whom came to maturity, George, Ellen, Linnie and Matilda, all of whom are now deceased. Millard Letts and wife had four children: Jesse, who married Allie Loose; Bessie, wife of Ernest Parrish; Clark M., who married Ethel Brockway and died in 1902; and Clyde.

Clyde J. Letts acquired a good education, beginning in the district schools of Jamestown Township and after graduating from the high school in the Village of Jamestown took up work at the Tri-State Normal College in Angola. During his fourth term he was taken ill and was obliged to discontinue his further education. Since then he has given his time and energies to farming, and in 1915 bought 160 acres in section 17 of Fremont Township. He does general farming and stock raising.

Mr. Letts is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Fremont. March 9, 1910, he married Maud N. Waller, a daughter of Andrew and Erabelle (Nichols) Waller. They have two children: Lewis L. and Russell W.

**LEVI J. BONTRAGER** gathered crops for nearly forty consecutive years from his home place in Newbury Township, but in the past four or five years has

largely surrendered his heavy burdens as an agriculturist and is now enjoying well earned leisure but still occupies his farm, which is endeared to him by many associations, his children having grown up there and most of them are now married and well established in homes of their own.

Mr. Bontrager was born in Eden Township of LaGrange County March 8, 1856. His grandparents were John and Anna (Yoder) Bontrager, natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, who settled in Eden Township in 1843, and were factors in the early development of that region. John Bontrager spent the rest of his life in Eden Township. He and his wife, Anna, had eight children, Christian, Joseph, Magdalena, John, Daniel, Barbara, Anna and Manassas. John Bontrager married for his second wife Magdalena Miller, and by that union had two children, Susan and Isaac.

John J. Bontrager, father of Levi J., was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, April 27, 1834, and was about nine years old when his father settled in LaGrange County. He began farming in Eden Township, and about 1864 moved to Van Buren Township, where he lived until his death in 1910. He married Fannie Kauffman, who survived him until 1918. She was born in Holmes County, Ohio, February 5, 1834, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Miller) Kauffman. Her father was reared in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, and settled in Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1841. He was a resident of Elkhart County the rest of his life. John J. Bontrager and wife had seven children: Elizabeth, Levi J., Simon, who died soon after his marriage, Daniel, Mattie, deceased, Manassas and Fannie.

Levi J. Bontrager acquired his early education chiefly in the schools of Van Buren Township. On November 12, 1877, at the age of twenty-two, he married Sarah Yoder, daughter of John and Catherine (Schrock) Yoder. The spring after his marriage Mr. Bontrager began farming in section 34 of Newbury Township, and has lived there ever since. He owns 160 acres in that section, and altogether has 627½ acres. He has been retired from active farming since 1914. Mr. Bontrager and family have for many years given their sturdy allegiance to the old order of the Amish Mennonite Church.

John, his oldest son, who died in 1911, married Kittie Yoder, and their children were Edna, Levi, Amelia, Obediah, Lena and Sarah. Enos, the second son, married Katie Miller, who died February 15, 1919, leaving four children, Ammon, Irvin, Amelia and Jerry. Amelia Bontrager, the third child, was the wife of Manassas J. Yoder and has a family of Sarah, Lena, Mary, Andrew, Monroe and Ezra. Andrew Bontrager married Polly Miller and has two sons, Levi and Perry. William, who married Mattie Yoder, is the father of Sarah, Milo and Lydia. Levi Bontrager married Rebecca Schrock, while Ezra, the youngest of the family, married Susan Lehman.

EDWARD KELHAM is a prominent farmer and land owner of Keyser Township, DeKalb County, having 300 acres in his ownership. He is practically retired from the responsibilities of farming and lives at Altona. His name is well known in connection with several important offices which he has filled with signal credit and efficiency.

Mr. Kelham was born in Richland County, Ohio, September 30, 1854, a son of Edward and Sarah Downend (Huston) Kelham. His parents were both natives of England. His father was born in Lincolnshire, November 3, 1826, and his mother in Yorkshire, March 5, 1826. He came to the United

States at the age of twenty-two while his wife came to this country when only eight years old. They were married in Richland County, Ohio, and Edward Kelham, Sr., was a farmer. In 1858 he came to DeKalb County, Indiana, and bought eighty acres of land in Keyser Township. Eventually he accumulated much valuable farming land in the county, and on account of his business ability and probity of character he was widely known and honored and was entrusted with the administrative settlement of some of the largest estates in the county. He also served as county commissioner one term and was an active democrat. He and his wife had ten children, seven of whom reached mature years, and the six now living are: Thomas, of Avilla, Indiana; Edward; Mary, of Garrett; Joseph and George, of Laotto, Indiana; and Charles, of Troy, Idaho.

Edward Kelham was four years old when brought to Indiana, and he received his early education in the district schools of DeKalb County. At the age of twenty-one he left home and began earning his living in a brick yard. On February 1, 1880, he married Viola Whetsel, who was born in Keyser Township June 8, 1859, a daughter of Michael and Caroline (Simons) Whetsel.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kelham took up farming, and that has been his steady vocation until he accumulated the competency which enabled him to retire. Mr. and Mrs. Kelham have four children. Chloe G., who is a graduate of the common schools, and is the wife of W. A. Helme, of Angola; Claude K., a graduate of the common schools, is a machinist by trade but in practice a farmer, married Frennie Crowe; Mary M. is the widow of Arthur Gump; Caroline is the wife of Newton DePew.

Mrs. Kelham is an active member of the Methodist Protestant Church at Altona. He is affiliated with Garrett City Lodge No. 537, Accepted Free and Ancient Masons, and is a democrat in politics. Mr. Kelham filled the office of trustee of Keyser Township for five years and three months, also served two terms as county commissioner, and is at present a member of the County Council.

HOMER G. WATERHOUSE. Some of the best land in the vicinity of Kendallville has been under the ownership of the Waterhouse family for many years. A splendid farm at the north edge of Kendallville is the home of Homer G. Waterhouse, a progressive young farmer who has given an excellent account of his business ability and all around good citizenship.

Mr. Waterhouse was born January 14, 1880, in Wayne Township, and has lived on his present farm since he was a year and a half old. His parents were Chauncey G. R. and Harriet (Vine) Waterhouse. His father was a native of New York and his mother of Pennsylvania. Chauncey Waterhouse was nine years of age when his parents in 1836 pioneered to LaGrange County, Indiana, settling in Milford Township. He lived there until he moved to Kendallville about 1880. He was a highly successful farmer and accumulated about 2,000 acres in this part of Indiana. He died June 29, 1917. He was a member and liberal supporter of the Methodist Church at Kendallville, and was one of the leading republicans of Wayne Township. In the family were three sons, Albert B., of Kendallville; Frank R., of Kendallville, and Homer G.

Homer G. Waterhouse grew up near Kendallville, attended the public schools, and for the past fifteen years has been successfully engaged in general farming. On his land he raises and feeds many cattle



and hogs, and sends three or four carloads to market every year.

He married Miss Irene Brainard. She was born in LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1880 and was educated in the public schools of that county. They have one son, Dale, born September 13, 1903, a graduate of the common schools and now a student in the Culver Military Academy. Mr. Waterhouse owns 600 acres, all of it in Wayne Township. He is a republican and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

GEORGE WILLIAM DOLL gave thirty years of his active life to the business of farming in LaGrange County, and was always accounted a man of splendid industry and of fine influence in the community where he lived from childhood until death.

He was born at Fredonia, Michigan, April 20, 1863, a son of George and Angeline (Fiesler) Doll. His parents were both natives of Germany, his father being born September 22, 1823, and his mother March 20, 1825. Both came to America when children, the father at twelve and the mother at nine, with their respective parents. George Doll joined two of his brothers at Erie, Pennsylvania, in 1837, and there learned the trade of cobbler. When twenty-two years of age he presented himself to the Conference at Fairfield, Ohio, and was ordained a minister of the Evangelical Church, a profession he followed the rest of his life. He was one of the early itinerant ministers of his denomination in Ohio and Michigan. He married Angeline Fiesler at Erie January 16, 1851, and in 1855 he went back to Erie for a time. He was in pastoral work in Michigan in the sixties, and in 1869 became pastor of the Evangelical Church west of Lima or Howe. That was his last regular charge, though he preached many sermons and otherwise officiated as a minister. In 1870 he bought a farm about a mile west of Howe, and in 1872 he moved to the farm as a permanent home. In 1897 he turned over the responsibilities of this place to younger members of the family and moved a little further west to a small farm and in 1904 retired to the village of Howe, where his wife died in September, 1911. He spent his remaining months with his son, George William, and died June 15, 1912, aged eighty-eight years. He and his wife had six children, John Abner, Joseph, Jacob, Samuel, Sarah Margaret and George William. Only two are now living, Joseph, of Howe, and Samuel, of Alma, Illinois. Sarah Margaret died when seventeen years of age.

George William Doll received his early education at Howe and in 1886 attended the Valparaiso Business College. He then went to farming on the old homestead, where he lived from the age of six years until his death on August 20, 1913. Mr. Doll had 133 acres in his home place and also owned 160 acres in Clay Township. The spring following his death Mrs. Doll moved to Howe, and from that point has managed and supervised the farms.

Mr. Doll was a member of the Presbyterian Church, of which Mrs. Doll is also a member. At one time he was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, and both he and his wife were members of the Knights of the Maccabees.

April 14, 1897, Mr. Doll married Miss Elsie Kline. She was born in Van Buren Township and is a graduate of the LaGrange High School. Her parents were James and Calista (Shoup) Kline. Her father was born in Marion, Ohio, March 15, 1830, and her mother at Sandusky, Ohio, August 26, 1834. Both of them spent their last years in their

home in Van Buren Township, where her father died November 13, 1879, and her mother September 9, 1873. Mrs. Doll's maternal grandparents were Sebastian and Eliza Shoup. Sebastian Shoup, son of Jacob and Elizabeth Shoup, was born in Pennsylvania in 1797 and died at Howe in 1856, being an early settler in Greenfield Township. His wife was born at Wheeling, West Virginia, January 17, 1797. The children of James Kline and wife were: George H., of Newton, Kansas; Lucinda, wife of Abner Berger, of Van Buren Township; Alice, deceased wife of Charles Seybert, the village of Seybert being on his farm in LaGrange County; Willard, deceased; two that died in infancy; James, of Bedford, Indiana; Celia, wife of Sidney Glime, of Howe; Mrs. Doll; and Elva, wife of Norman Jacobs, living in Kansas. Mrs. Doll is the mother of one daughter, Sarah Marguerite.

JOHN W. SCHAEFFER is a member of a family of long standing and much prominence in Fremont Township, is a native of that township, was in business for many years and is now devoting his energies to a good farm in that locality.

He was born July 11, 1852, son of John and Eva (Walmer) Schaeffer. His father was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, April 10, 1820, son of William and Margaret (Beck) Schaeffer. John Schaeffer came to Steuben County in the spring of 1845, entered a tract of land and afterward walked back to Pennsylvania to get his bride, and in 1848 brought his family and settled permanently on a farm in Fremont Township. He and his wife had seven children, five of whom reached mature years, David, John W., Eleanore, Daniel A. and Margaret M.

John W. Schaeffer grew up on his father's homestead and acquired a public school education. In early manhood he engaged in the retail meat business at Fremont, and sold meat to his customers in and around that village for eleven years and two months. He was in a similar line of business at Reading, Michigan, for about twelve years. He owns the building in which he did business at Fremont. His farm comprises seventy acres of land, and has up-to-date improvements and is well fitted for general agriculture and stock raising. An important specialty on his farm is handling a flock of White Leghorn chickens, about 225 in number.

Mr. Schaeffer is a prohibitionist in politics, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Church at Fremont. January 1, 1879, he married Frances McNickle, of California, Michigan. Their one son is Lewis, a graduate of the Fremont High School, and now a distributor at Tiffin, Ohio, for the Delco Lighting System. He is head of the office with four men under him. Lewis married Mazie Montz, and their children are Pauline, Neddie and Helen.

MRS. JULIA A. HONTZ, who lives on the Hontz farm a half a mile north of Cromwell, known as the Upson Farm, has spent over seventy years in Noble County, belongs to one of the early families, and is the widow of the late John Hontz, one of the most capable farmers of Sparta Township.

She was born in the immediate locality of her present home October 16, 1846, a daughter of Hiram H. and Priscilla M. (Vail) Upson. Her father was born in the State of New York, May 2, 1820, and her mother in Pennsylvania January 20, 1827. The Upson family came to Noble County, Indiana, in pioneer times, settling here in 1837, while the Vails settled in Elkhart County in 1836. Hiram and Priscilla were married in Benton County, and then settled on a farm a half mile north of Cromwell on

July 17, 1844. They lived there until 1869, when they removed to Ligonier, where Hiram Upson died October 13, 1878. His widow then returned to Sparta Township, and spent the rest of her days in that locality with her daughter, dying January 25, 1902. Both were members of the Presbyterian Church, and Hiram was a Republican in politics.

Julia A. Upson grew up on the home farm and had such advantages as were supplied by the schools of that day, including a very meager curriculum, and on November 2, 1864, she became the wife of John Hontz. Mr. Hontz was born in Stark County, Ohio, May 17, 1838, and came to Noble County when a boy. He was always a republican in politics. His death occurred on the 2d of June, 1880. Mr. and Mrs. Hontz had three children: Harry T., born July 23, 1866, now a resident of South Bend, Indiana; Bertha F., born May 26, 1869, and died August 8, 1870; and Harvey H., born October 5, 1874, is married and lives at Cromwell and is a traveling salesman. Mrs. Hontz owns 140 acres of land, and rents this farm, and has proved herself a very capable manager. Eighty acres of this estate was included in her grandfather Upson's old home place.

**JOSEPH BUTLER.** The activities of the Butler family have been a distinct contribution to the life and affairs of Steuben County for over eighty years. Joseph Butler is a lawyer of long and prominent record, but in the main has been devoted to his extensive agricultural interests in Jackson Township, where he owns a large farm now under the management of his son. His father was Justus Butler, who was born in New York State July 2, 1802, at Canandaigua, Ontario County. When a young man he removed to Lorain County, Ohio. November 23, 1829, he married Anna Clark. She was born in Vermont August 6, 1812, and was two years old when her parents removed to Lorain County. Justus Butler in 1836 came to Steuben County, accompanied by his wife's father, Samuel Clark. At that time he entered 315 acres in section 2 of Jackson Township, and fifty-four acres in section 35 of Millgrove Township. Having entered the land and made some other preparations he moved his family to the new home in the spring of 1837. His first log house stood on the south side of Lake Gage, in the same locality where the enterprise of Joseph Butler has since developed an important summer resort. For fifteen years the labors of Justus Butler contributed to the improvement of his own land and the community. He died March 1, 1853, and his widow survived him until February 10, 1885. They were the parents of eleven children. Three were born in Ohio, Jackson W., Sarah Ann and Samuel E. Jackson died at the age of eight years, Sarah Ann, on September 20, 1846, at the age of fifteen, and Samuel was killed by lightning and burned in a barn in 1854, at the age of nineteen. Of the children born in Steuben County only two reached mature years, Joseph and Mark Justus.

Mark Justus Butler, who was born in 1850, spent his active life in Nebraska. He died at Lincoln in that state February 28, 1914. He was a thirty-second degree Mason. He married Harriet N. Smith, who survived him and died at Boise, Idaho, May 6, 1919. Their children were Bessie Josephine, Maud Ann, Newell and Dorothy G.

On the old homestead farm in Jackson Township Joseph Butler was born July 24, 1846. He spent his early life on the farm and early became interested in politics. He was elected to the office of clerk of courts of Steuben County in 1874, and served in that capacity four years. This official experience kindled in him an ambition to become a lawyer, and

on leaving public office he entered the law offices of Woodhull & Croxton at Angola, and also took a course in the law department of the Illinois Wesleyan University at Bloomington. In November, 1881, he formed a partnership for practice at Angola, being head of the firm Butler, Walls & Cline. After the spring of 1882 the firm continued as Butler & Cline until July, 1884. From 1891 to 1895 Mr. Butler was prosecuting attorney for Steuben and DeKalb counties.

Through all these years Mr. Butler has been one of the leading farmers in Jackson Township, has been the real head of the business for fifty-four years, but has gradually turned over the heavier responsibilities to his son. He also served a term as trustee of Pleasant Township.

In 1881 Mr. Butler married Salena Weicht, daughter of Doctor Weicht of Angola. Two children were born to their marriage: Bessie Nola and Joseph William Justus Butler. Bessie Nola, born March 28, 1882, is the wife of Clarence Green and has three children, named Laura Mary, Josephine and Clara Elizabeth. Joseph W. J. Butler was born August 13, 1885, and married Maggie White. Their two sons were Joseph William and John White, the former of whom died on October 4, 1917. The latter was born July 4, 1917.

It is expressing only a tribute which has been expressed a thousand times when some special reference is made to Mrs. Joseph Butler, who died September 1, 1910. The influence of her personality radiated among hundreds of friends and neighbors. She was everyone's friend and through her life she expressed the highest nobility of womanhood.

Mr. Butler and his son are the owners of 360 acres of land in Jackson Township. For the last fifteen years part of this land has been used for a summer resort. There are five cottages on Lake Gage near the old farmstead, and during the summer season these cottages are in great demand by city families. Mr. Butler and his son are members of the Masonic Lodge.

**GEORGE WATSON** is proprietor of Fairview Farm in Jackson Township, DeKalb County. He is a native of DeKalb County, was left an orphan in early childhood, and for many years had to struggle against obstacles to win his place in life.

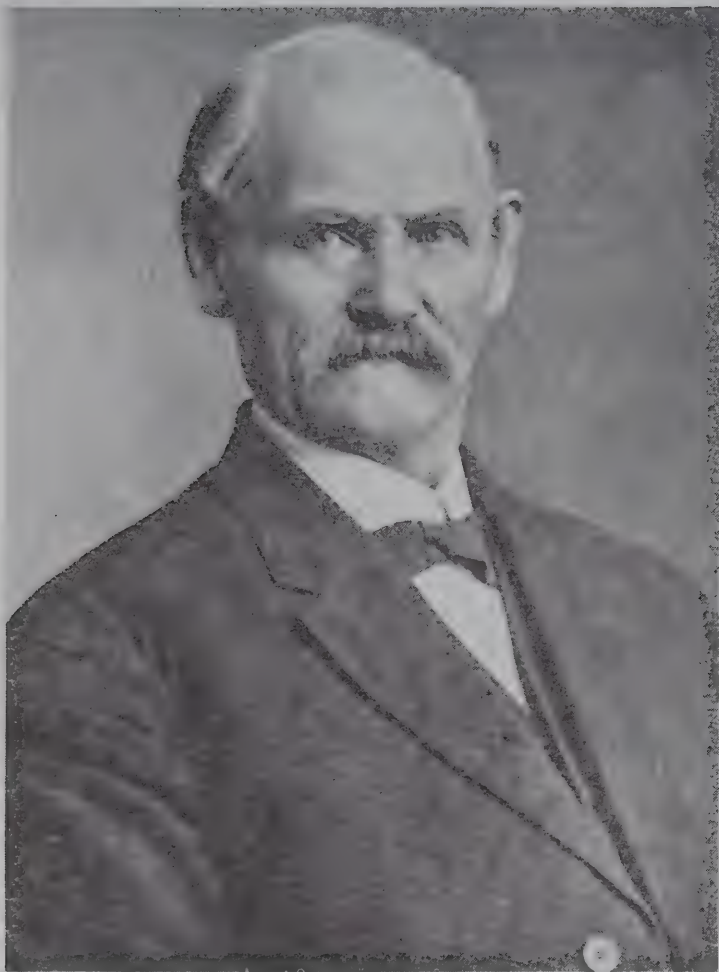
He was born in Jackson Township, September 13, 1869, a son of Benjamin and Sarah (Zimmerman) Watson, the former a native of Ashland County, Ohio, and the latter of DeKalb County, Indiana. His parents were married in DeKalb County, and then settled on a farm in section 25 of Jackson Township. The father died there in 1875 and the mother in 1873. Both were members of the Methodist Protestant Church.

George Watson was only six years old when his father died, and as an orphan child he was taken into the home of the W. H. Hollepeter family, with whom he remained seven years, and acquired his education in the local schools. On leaving the Hollepeters he started out for himself and ever since has been diligently working as a farmer, part of the time independently and part of the time for others.

In 1898 he married Alice C. Bailey of Allen County, Indiana. For twenty years Mr. Watson has owned his present farm of 100 acres. He does general farming, keeps good grades of livestock, and is a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Spencerville.

Mr. and Mrs. Watson have one daughter, Gladys, who is now the wife of Ray Wasson, a railway man living at Spencerville. The family attend the Methodist Episcopal Church at Spencerville and





Joseph Butler



J. M. G. Butler





Mr. Watson is one of the trustees and is very active in the Sunday School.

**LEROY W. MERONEY.** This is one of the best known names in LaGrange County, and particularly in Eden Township. Leroy W. Meroney is known and esteemed as a man of many varied interests. He is at present township trustee, is a banker and also an extensive farmer.

He was born in Eden Township September 9, 1877, a son of John R. and Isabelle (Latta) Meroney. His father was born near Benton, Indiana. His mother is a native of Eden Township and a daughter of Dr. Johnson Latta, for many years a prominent physician at Topeka. Dr. Latta's father was one of the earliest pioneers of Eden Township, and acquired and developed a large tract of land. John R. Meroney after his marriage located on a farm and was also quite prominent in politics and served several years as county ditch commissioner. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. Of four children one died at the early age of ten years. The other three are: Reader J., a farmer in Eden Township; Leroy W.; and Ruth, wife of Ralph Kerr.

Leroy W. Meroney grew up on a farm and acquired his education in the common and high schools. At the age of twenty-one he began farming for himself, and on December 25, 1902, married Miss Minnie B. Harrington, a graduate of the common schools. They have two living children, Mildred in the high school, and Carlylite, who is seven years old. Mrs. Meroney is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

He is affiliated with Topeka Lodge No. 760, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a past noble grand and a member of the Encampment. He also belongs to the Knights of the Maccabees. Mr. Meroney has been identified with the republican party since early manhood. He served six years as township trustee, and in that office he is making a record that is giving Eden Township an enviable reputation for its schools and general management. Mr. Meroney as a banker is serving as cashier of the State Bank of Topeka, and as a farmer he controls the operation of 200 acres a mile west and a half-mile north of Topeka.

**ELMER O. GRADY** is one of the younger business men of LaGrange, an auctioneer by profession, connected with several of the substantial concerns at LaGrange, and is also a practical farmer and farm owner.

Mr. Grady was born at Milford in Kosciusko County, Indiana, April 7, 1881, a son of Amos and Nancy (Kenaga) Grady, the former a native of Holmes County and the latter of Tuscarawas County, Ohio. They were married after they came to Indiana, and lived for a time on Pretty Prairie, then moved to Milford, and finally located in LaGrange County. The mother died in 1912 and the father is now a resident of Angola. Elmer O. Grady is one of the two children of his mother. His brother, Clair Lloyd, was educated in the high school and is a farmer in Clay Township.

Elmer O. Grady grew up in LaGrange County, attended the LaGrange High School, and worked on the farm until he reached his majority.

February 18, 1904, he married Bertha Steuernagel, daughter of John and Rebecca (Long) Steuernagel, both natives of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Steuernagel had five children, three of whom are still living. Emma is the wife of Chauncey Kauffman. William is a graduate of the State University and for several years was in the government

service on the Geodetic Survey and is now a contractor. Bertha, born November 18, 1881, was educated in the common schools of LaGrange County and has a keen and intelligent interest in the making of a home and in her husband's business affairs.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Grady lived on a farm in Greenfield Township, and they now own two good farms, one in Springfield and the other in Clear Spring Township.

Elmer O. Grady's father was an auctioneer for thirty-five years, and the son learned the business from him and has been crying sales on his own account now for eleven years. He is secretary and a stockholder in the LaGrange Combination Sales Company and is auctioneer for the firm. He is one of the directors of the LaGrange County Trust Company. In politics he votes as a democrat, and his wife is a member of the United Brethren Church. Mr. and Mrs. Grady have a modern home at LaGrange, which he built in 1913.

**GEORGE O. WISEL**, son of the late George K. Wisel, and member of the Wisel family which has figured so conspicuously in the affairs of Salem Township from earliest pioneer times, was born on the farm where he now lives, November 5, 1883.

He acquired his education in the district schools, the Tri-State College at Angola for two terms, and in the spring of 1903 began farming the home place. He farms eighty acres of the old homestead and owns forty acres in section 22. Mr. Wisel is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Hudson and his wife is a Methodist.

March 30, 1914, he married Agnes McClish, daughter of Artemus and Catherine (Kimble) McClish. At the time of her marriage she was the widow of Ross Watkins and has a daughter by that marriage, Virginia. Mr. and Mrs. Wisel have three children: Catherine, born August 19, 1915; Loraine Elizabeth, born April 28, 1917; and George Artemus, born May 20, 1919.

**JACOB HOYER**, now in his eightieth year, is one of the interesting citizens of Steuben County, a man whose faculties are all preserved, who has lived a life of great energy and purpose, and in old age finds himself surrounded with children and grandchildren and with the esteem of a large community in which he has resided for over thirty years.

Mr. Hoyer was born in Wyandot County, Ohio, November 13, 1839, a son of Samuel and Rebecca (Stahl) Hoyer. His father, a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, moved to Wyandot County, Ohio, in 1836, was a pioneer there, and in 1878, late in life, moved to a farm in section 17 of Steuben Township, Steuben County, Indiana. That was his home until his death in 1898, and his widow passed away in 1902. They had eight children, William, Jacob, Mary, John, Catherine, Samuel, William and Jane. It will be noted there were two Williams, the first dying in early childhood. All of the children are now deceased with the exception of Jacob, Catherine and Jane.

Jacob Hoyer acquired his early education in the district schools of Hancock County, Ohio, also attended school in Williams County, Ohio, and first came to Northeast Indiana in 1876, locating in Steuben Township. In 1878 he returned to Williams County, but in 1888 joined his father on the farm. His father was then getting old, and told his son that if he would come and occupy the place and pay off the mortgage he might have full title. Jacob Hoyer fulfilled those conditions and has lived there and prospered for over thirty years. He formerly owned 100 acres, constituting a well improved

farm, but has sold forty acres to his son Arthur, who now manages the whole place. Mr. Hoyer though fourscore years of age reads well without glasses and writes a steady hand.

He married Sarah A. Saul, a daughter of George and Hester (Fetters) Saul. Mrs. Hoyer died in 1916. A brief record of their children and grandchildren follows. Their children are Ida, Charley (deceased), Dora, Hayes, Pearl and Arthur.

Ida, the first born, married Willard Chapman, and their children are J. O., L. I., Roy, Wilbur and Villa. J. O. married Helen Sanders, and has one son, Fred Wilbur, and L. I. married Wilma Shore. Dora, the third child, married Henry Sunday, and they have two daughters, Vera and Dessie. Vera married Bert Snager, and has one son, Robert Ned. Hayes, the fourth child, married Emma Dayhoff and they have the following children: Wayne, Wyman, Bassil and Bernise (twins), Doris, Fay and Ray (twins), and Zema. Pearl, the fifth child, married Clark Wheaton, and has one son, Lawrence. Arthur, the sixth child, married Hattie Trich, and they have three children, Glyda, Paul and Merrie Anne.

George Saul, father of Mrs. Jacob Hoyer, was a pioneer of Williams County, Ohio, entering 120 acres of the wilderness land from the Government and eventually clearing it all and improving it with good buildings. He and his wife had a large family of children, named Sarah, who became the wife of Jacob Hoyer; James; Mary, deceased; Jacob, deceased; Edward; Leander and Alexander, twins, the latter deceased; Lydia, wife of Henry Rittenhouse; Martha, who died in childhood; Emma, wife of Harmon Pasch; John; and Richard, deceased.

**DAVID GUMP.** A resident of DeKalb County over forty years, identified with the practical agriculture of that section and a man widely known for his good influence in the community, David Gump has a well improved farm of 120 acres in section 17 of Butler Township.

He was born in Miami County, Ohio, March 18, 1847, a son of Jacob and Sarah (Detrick) Gump, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Virginia. His parents were married in Ohio and from that state moved to Allen County, Indiana, and finally came to DeKalb County, where they spent the rest of their lives. They were active members and the father was for forty-five years a minister of the Church of the Brethren. In politics he was a republican. Jacob Gump and wife had eight children, and four of them are still living: Louisa, wife of Henry Kuhns, of Keyser Township; David; Emma, widow of Carl Fair; and Perry, who lives in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

David Gump was eighteen months old when his parents moved to Allen County, Indiana, and he grew up there, acquiring a common school education. At the age of twenty-five he came to DeKalb County, and since that date has been identified with the farming interests of Butler Township. In January, 1879, he married Amanda Rinehold. She was born in Seneca County, Ohio, in 1853, and when she was three months old her parents moved to DeKalb County, Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Gump have four living children: Gary, who is a graduate of the common schools and is farming on his father's place; Perry, who married Bertha Downend; Lena, who is unmarried and at home; and Effie, a graduate of the Garrett High School and formerly a teacher. There were two children who died young, Jeremiah, who died aged eight years, and Arthur, who died aged thirty years. He married Mary Kelham. The family are members of the Church of the Brethren and Mr. Gump is a deacon. Politically he is a

democrat. Besides his farm he is a stockholder in the Garrett Elevator.

**RUDY F. MILLER** is one of the proprietors of the Butter and Creamery Company at Topeka, and has been a factor in varied business affairs in LaGrange County for many years.

He was born in LaGrange County July 27, 1862, grew up in LaGrange County and attended the common schools and is a graduate in the commercial and scientific courses from Valparaiso University with the class of 1900. He had a successful experience as a teacher and was formerly superintendent of the Topeka schools.

In 1898 he married Miss Alma Babcock, a native of Portage County, Ohio, and daughter of the late J. N. Babcock, whose career is a part of the history of LaGrange County and is described in a following paragraph. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have one son, John Harold. Politically he is a republican.

Some years ago Mr. Miller bought the creamery at Topeka and by his energy developed it into a paying institution. He conducted it alone until six years ago, when he took in his brother-in-law, Lyman Babcock, as partner. The business now employs about twenty persons, and is one of the important institutions in the farming and dairying community around Topeka. Mr. Miller also has a farm of sixty acres in Clear Spring Township.

Jaynes N. Babcock, father of Mrs. Miller, was born in Portage County, Ohio, February 11, 1846. He attended the common schools and took a commercial course in Hiram College. During a visit to a brother in Michigan he first became acquainted with LaGrange County, and while here took the examination for a teacher's license and taught a term of school in Clear Spring Township. He taught near Topeka for a number of years, and while in this country met and married his wife. For a time they lived on his father's farm in Ohio and then returned to Topeka and bought a place north of that village. Mr. Babcock farmed, taught school, and also did some work as a cobbler for a number of years. In 1916 he moved to the Village of Topeka and helped organize the State Bank. He was president of this institution until his death. He was also instrumental in establishing the Sycamore Literary Society, and a personal interview with Andrew Carnegie brought a contribution from that philanthropist to the cause of this institution. He was a liberal supporter of all good things for the benefit of his community, was an ardent republican and one time represented LaGrange County in the State Legislature.

Mr. and Mrs. Babcock had five children, four of whom are still living: Alma, Mrs. Miller; L. K. Babcock, who is a graduate from the law school of the State University, is an attorney by profession, and is adjutor for the Aetna Insurance Company, with headquarters at Indianapolis; Lyman, business associated in the creamery with Mr. R. F. Miller; and Dena, a graduate of Hillsdale College in Michigan, and now a stenographer in the office of her brother at Indianapolis. Mrs. Miller took the scientific course in Valparaiso University and was a successful teacher both before and after she graduated. At one time she was principal of the Topeka public schools and also taught in the grades.

**CYRUS B. DIRRIM**, who has long played an important part in the business affairs of Hamilton, represents one of the oldest and most widely known families of Northeast Indiana.

He was born in Franklin Township of DeKalb County June 11, 1873, a son of Peter R. and Han-



nah (Myers) Dirrim and a grandson of Isaac and Helen (Wycoff) Dirrim. Isaac Dirrim was born April 11, 1812, and settled in DeKalb County in 1844. He died in August, 1891, at Hamilton. He had moved to Steuben County in 1858. His wife survived him until 1901.

Peter R. Dirrim was born in DeKalb County October 12, 1851, and his wife on April 20, 1852. He has spent his active career as a farmer and is owner of a place of 132 acres in Otsego Township. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church. Their three sons are Cyrus B., Frank E. and Bert.

Cyrus B. Dirrim was educated in the public schools and for twenty-one years has been a successful jeweler at Hamilton. He also filled the office of postmaster thirteen years and was a member of the Town Board when it was first organized and was the first president of the Village of Hamilton. He is connected with the Steuben Oil Company, is a republican, a member of the Masonic Order, Knights of Pythias and the Christian Church.

In 1895 he married Miss Mary L. Nichols, of DeKalb County, daughter of Norman and Sarah (Holton) Nichols. They have one daughter, Vella May, born August 19, 1901, a student in the Hamilton High School.

GUSTAV WOLFF, who died at Hamilton, August 29, 1918, was for many years a business man of enviable reputation in Northeast Indiana. He exemplified the principles that business success is only a return for an adequate service rendered, and the business he founded and which is still conducted as G. Wolff & Sons, grain merchants and elevator owners, has prospered because of the personality of the men behind it.

Gustav Wolff was born in Germany, June 12, 1849, and died at the age of sixty-nine years, two months and seventeen days. He came to America when a young man, and to an unusual degree realized the opportunities and benefits of this land of liberty. In 1877 he moved to Butler, Indiana, where he was in the mercantile business for a number of years. He moved to Hamilton in 1903 and 1913 established the firm of G. Wolff & Sons at Hamilton, being associated with his three sons in the business. The firm conducted the elevator at Hamilton and also elevators at Edon, Ohio, and Lakeville, Indiana. It was Mr. Wolff's policies to do business on a narrow margin consistent with good service and he had the confidence of all the farmers and grain growers in his vicinity because of his liberal and fair treatment. He was equally public-spirited, kind and sympathetic and helpful to the man who needed his help. He was active in the republican party and became a member of the Masonic Lodge at West Unity, Ohio, in 1873, having his membership later transferred to Butler and still later to Hamilton. He was also affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias, Knights of the Maccabees, Eastern Star, Rebekahs, Pythian Sisters and the Jewish Order of B'Nai B'Rith, of Fort Wayne.

The Steuben Republican of Angola commenting upon his death, said: "In the fifteen years of his residence in Hamilton, Mr. Wolff was a supporter of every movement for the good of the community. He was a kind and sympathetic friend to all applying to him for help or comfort. He was an upright business man and enjoyed the confidence of a large clientele."

In 1877, the year he located at Butler, Mr. Wolff married Jennie Hirsch at Waterloo, Indiana. They

had four children: Nettie, who died in infancy; Lee, Moses and Harry. The active manager of the business at Hamilton today is Moses Wolff.

JAMES A. LECOUNT, a native of Noble County, has spent nearly all his life here, has been a busy farmer and livestock buyer, and is identified with a number of the growing concerns and business interests of his locality. His home is on a farm at Indian Village, but he has now given up the active responsibilities of farming.

He was born in Sparta Township January 26, 1852, son of William and Hilinda J. (Terry) Lecount, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of New York State. His grandfather, James Lecount, was a Frenchman by birth and ancestry, and on coming to the United States lived for some years in Ohio, and finally came to Indiana, and spent his last days in Elkhart County. William Lecount grew up on the farm and had a district school education. He lived in Kosciusko County for some time, and finally moved to Sparta Township, west of Cromwell, where he died. He was a republican in politics. He was the father of thirteen children, nine of whom are still living: Zachary, of Kosciusko County; James A.; Amanda, widow of Ansel E. Smith; Warren, of Sparta Township; Naomi, widow of Jehu Davault; William, a farmer in Sparta Township, as is also Grant; Margaret, wife of James Holabaugh; and Angie, wife of Gross Galloway.

James A. Lecount remained on his father's farm in Sparta Township until he was twenty-one years of age. In the meantime he took advantage of the district schools. On leaving home he had some arduous experience as a worker in the pine woods of Michigan. Afterward he worked out by the month in Noble County, and thus continued until he was past twenty-three years of age.

January 13, 1875, he married Mary Stumbaugh, who was born in Sparta Township July 15, 1857, a daughter of John and Susanna (William) Stumbaugh. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania and her mother of Ohio, in which state they were married, and two years later, in the spring of 1858, settled in Sparta Township of Noble County. John Stumbaugh, who died in May, 1911, saw eighteen months of service as a Union soldier. He was a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, was a republican in politics, and he and his wife were very active members of the Christian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Lecount after their marriage had no capital and from that humble start they have acquired a substantial competence, represented by 108 acres in their home farm and also eighty-five acres which they own in Turkey Creek Township of Kosciusko County. Mr. Lecount is also a stockholder in the Cromwell State Bank and the Kimmel State Bank, in the Farmers National Insurance Company, and has interests in other business concerns. At the present time he buys and ships livestock and puts in most of his time at that occupation.

Mr. and Mrs. Lecount have two daughters: Lillie A. is the wife of Samuel Reed, of Sparta Township, and Blanche is a graduate of the common schools, of the Fort Wayne Business College, and is the wife of Ben Miller of Columbia City, Indiana. Mr. Lecount is affiliated with Lodge No. 408 of the Knights of Pythias at Cromwell.

PERRY T. OBER, whose active career has been an interesting round of duties as a practical farmer and stock man in Butler Township of DeKalb County, represents one of the old and sturdy names in that locality.

Mr. Ober, whose home and farm are in section 19 of Butler Township, was born in section 17 of the same township, October 29, 1871, a son of Levi S. and Elizabeth (Teeter) Ober. The parents are both natives of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, where his father was born June 20, 1836, and his mother January 10, 1839. Levi Ober died December 5, 1913, and his wife May 5, 1904. On coming to Indiana they located in Butler Township and bought land in section 17, where they spent the rest of their lives. Both he and his wife were members of the Brethren Church. He was a republican in politics.

The record of the children of this worthy old couple is as follows: Sabina, who like all the other children bore the middle initial T, representing her mother's name, was born October 29, 1860, and is the wife of Joseph Heitz. Anna, born August 28, 1862, is the deceased wife of M. A. Hanson. She died August 9, 1907. David, born June 10, 1864, is a resident of Butler Township. Amanda born October 17, 1865, is the wife of Franklin Teeter, of Keyser Township. Ida, born September 11, 1870, is the wife of Henry Yarde, of Keyser Township. The next in age is Perry, who was born October 29, 1871. Ettie, born October 30, 1873, is the wife of William Gump, of Keyser Township. Arthur born November 3, 1877, lives in Butler Township.

Perry T. Ober was reared on the old farm and attended the district schools, working in the fields during the summer and also acquiring an expert acquaintance with the carpenter's trade, which he followed as a means of livelihood for about six years. On April 27, 1907, he married Clara V. Rhodes. She was born in Swan Township of Noble County, Indiana, in 1875. She acquired a good education and before her marriage was a teacher in Noble County. Mr. and Mrs. Ober had three children, Ralph T., Goldie and one that died in infancy. Mr. Ober owns eighty acres, keeps good grades of livestock, and is one of the stockholders in the Laotto Bank. Politically he is a republican.

**SAMUEL W. YODER.** Hardly any family has contributed more prosperous, hard working and intelligent citizens to the community of Eden Township in LaGrange County than that of Yoder, which has been connected with the history of LaGrange County for nearly seventy years. One of the representatives of the family is Samuel W. Yoder, a prosperous farmer living a mile west of Topeka, in section 36.

He was born in Eden Township March 6, 1854, a son of John S. and Catherine (Stahly) Yoder. His father was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, and his mother in Stark County, Ohio, and they grew up in Indiana and after their marriage lived in Noble and LaGrange counties. The father bought his first farm in Perry Township of Noble County, but a few years later sold and bought another place in Clear Spring Township of LaGrange County, and in the fall of 1879 moved to Eden Township, where he and his wife spent the rest of their days, the father dying in 1907 and the mother in 1911. He was one of the founders of the Amish Mennonite Church at Maple Grove, and for many years was an active member therein. In politics he was a republican. Their five sons were Samuel W., Daniel J., Emanuel C., Melvin A. and Alvin E.

Samuel W. Yoder grew up on his father's farm and attended winter terms of the district schools to the age of nineteen. After that until his marriage he remained at home working for his father, and had accumulated a very little capital and equipment when he established a home of his own. Since then his labors have enabled him to acquire and develop a good farm of 160 acres, and he is also one of the

stockholders of the State Bank of Topeka. He is a republican voter, and with his family worships in the Maple Grove Mennonite Church.

September 7, 1879, he married Amanda Dugan, who was born in LaGrange County. She died June 2, 1888, the mother of one son, Ernest. This son was born March 3, 1881, is a graduate of the Topeka High School, married Edith Lantz, and now lives on a farm a mile and a half west of Topeka. On December 5, 1889, Mr. Yoder married Lizzie Kroft. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, June 26, 1860. They have one daughter Leetta, born February 4, 1897, a graduate of the common schools and still at home.

**FRANK J. BEIL**, of Angola, is a member of a family of well deserved prominence in Steuben County. He was born at Angola May 3, 1871, a son of Joseph T. and Lucy (Morrow) Beil.

William Beil, father of Joseph T. Beil, married Prudence Sowle, and they came to Steuben County in 1854. William Beil was a blacksmith by trade and had a shop at Angola. He died in 1898 and his wife in 1886. Their children were Isaac, Joseph, Mary Jane, Artlisa, Janette, Charlotte and Belle.

Joseph T. Beil was born in Pennsylvania May 2, 1849, was educated in Steuben County, was a farmer, later a brick and tile manufacturer at Angola, and at one time manager of the Bachelor Brick and Tile Company of that city. He died at Angola March 4, 1915. He was a democrat and Odd Fellow, and his wife was a member of the Christian Church. In 1870 he married Lucy Morrow. She was born in Steuben County, New York. September 8, 1850, a daughter of Henry and Harriet A. (Towles) Morrow. Henry Morrow was born in Sligo, Ireland, August 15, 1818, and came to this country when twelve years old. His wife was born in Steuben County, New York, October 30, 1828. In 1855 the Morrow family came to Indiana and located at Orland, where Henry Morrow conducted a shoe shop. In 1864 he moved to Angola, later lived for about fourteen years at Applemanburg, and then returned to Angola, where he died July 22, 1898. His widow passed away November 23, 1918. Henry Morrow and wife had the following children: Elizabeth, who is the widow of John Richardson and has three children, Alta, Fred and Rosetta; Lucy; and Hattie, wife of Charles Wells.

The children of Joseph T. Beil and wife were: Frank J., Eugene, who died April 2, 1914, at the age of thirty-seven, and Ana, who was born June 6, 1889, taught for eight years after finishing his course in the Tri-State College, and is now employed by the Lampman Tool Company.

Frank J. Beil was educated in the Tri-State College, and for twenty years was a traveling salesman. Since April, 1918, he has been connected with the Angola Bank and Trust Company. In 1897 he married Miss Ada Hendry, daughter of Lewis A. Hendry.

**WILLIAM S. LINCOLN** for many years has had the active superintendence and responsibility of one of the large and fine farms of Jackson Township in Steuben County, where he is successfully engaged in general farming and stock raising. Mr. Lincoln is a machinist by trade, and has used his trade skill and experience to much profit since he became a farmer.

He was born in Dennyville, Maine, September 12, 1860, a son of Benjamin and Deborah (Gardner) Lincoln, and member of an old and prominent family of that state. His parents spent all their lives there. Mr. Lincoln has in his possession a sword,







*Sherman J. German*



one of the rare relics of the kind found in Steuben County. This sword was presented by General Washington to Mr. Lincoln's great-great-grandfather, Benjamin Lincoln, during the Revolutionary war. The handle of the sword is silver and the names of giver and receiver are on the handle. Mr. Lincoln has another interesting relic in the form of a peach sprout cane cut by his father on the battlefield of Gettysburg.

Mr. Lincoln grew up in his native state until he was eighteen years of age, and finished his education in the high school at Dennysville. Coming West, he located at Fort Wayne, Indiana, and put in four years' apprenticeship at the machinist's trade. He worked at that trade for a number of years and in different places. He took up farming a quarter of a century ago, in 1894, locating in Jackson Township, on the farm of his wife's father, Hibbard Roberts. He has 320 acres, and for many years has been an extensive cattle and hog feeder. He put up the fine residence where his family reside, and has also done much to improve the other buildings and facilities. Mr. Lincoln is a republican and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Orland and the Knights of Pythias at Angola.

At Orland in 1887 he married Miss Marian Roberts. She was born on her father's farm north of Orland, August 31, 1861, a daughter of Hibbard and Clarissa (Twitchel) Roberts. Her father was born in New York State, November 16, 1819, and her mother in the same state in 1827. Hibbard Roberts came to Indiana with his parents, Daniel and Mary (Hibbard) Roberts, in 1836. They were pioneers of Jackson Township, where the family acquired a large amount of land. Daniel Roberts died March 13, 1841, and his wife October 18, 1857. Their ten children were named Daniel Hibbard, Mary, Nathan, Merinda, Emily, Erastus, John, Urania, Ziba and Sarah. Mrs. Lincoln's maternal grandparents were Jonas and Melinda Twitchel, who were likewise identified with the early settlement of Jackson Township. Mrs. Lincoln's father grew up in this county and acquired most of his education through his own efforts. He was seventeen years old when he came to Steuben County, and was a man of great enterprise, owning the Orland grist mill, was a merchant at that village, and owned a farm north of town, where he and his wife started housekeeping, and eventually owned several places. As above noted, he was owner of the farm where Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln now live, and in this locality he died January 10, 1906. Mrs. Lincoln's mother died February 24, 1891. Mr. Roberts was a republican and was an active churchman. He and his wife had five children, named Augustus, Helen, Homer, Mary and Marian.

Mr. and Mrs. Lincoln have four daughters. Ruth was born October 17, 1888, was educated in the Orland High School and in business colleges at Fort Wayne and Milwaukee, and is now the wife of Henry K. Cowen, of Milwaukee. Helen, who was born March 23, 1895, is a graduate of the Orland High School, and by her marriage to Frederick Booth has one son, William Lincoln. Hannah was born May 18, 1897, graduated from the Orland High School and was a student in Hillsdale College in Michigan. Alice, the youngest, was born May 14, 1899, and is now the wife of Leslie Whipple.

FRED N. HUNT, one of the most widely traveled, experienced and capable men of affairs in Noble County, is president of the Sparta State Bank at Cromwell, and also head of the finest stock farms in this section of Indiana.

Mr. Hunt was born in Etna Township of Whitley

County, Indiana, August 6, 1878, a son of Franklin and Martha J. (Long) Hunt. His father, who was born in Wayne County, Indiana, February 22, 1828, had the great adventure of a trip to California in 1850, and was a gold seeker in the West for a year and a half. For many years he lived in Etna Township of Whitley County, became prominent there as a farmer and citizen, serving as trustee, and died in September, 1910. His wife was born July 10, 1834. They were members of the Presbyterian Church, and in politics he was a Republican. There were twelve children in the Hunt family, named Lee, Thomas, James, Haskell, Frank, Fred, Ellen, Elizabeth, Catherine, Frances, Martha and Minnie.

Fred N. Hunt grew up on the old farm and attended district schools to the age of fourteen. He then entered the Methodist College at Fort Wayne and also spent two years in the Michigan Military Academy at Orchard Lake. After that he satisfied himself with the quiet routine of the farm until 1901, when he took a trip to the Orient, spending most of his time in Corea, where for a year he was connected with the Oriental Consolidated Mining Company. On returning to America he followed different activities in North Carolina for a year and a half and then returned to Indiana.

Besides heading the Sparta State Bank at Cromwell Mr. Hunt is president and general manager of the Gray Dawn Stock Farm Company. This farm is the home of some splendid specimens of Short-horn cattle.

On January 21, 1903, Mr. Hunt married Nelle F. Beezley, who was born in Washington Township of Noble County, Indiana, January 18, 1877. She is a graduate in music from Hillsdale College in Michigan, and is a woman of real culture and refinement. They have one daughter, Martha A., born October 6, 1905, now attending high school. Mrs. Hunt is a member of the Baptist Church. He is affiliated with the Masons, Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in politics is a republican.

SHERMEY J. GERMAN represents the third generation of the German family in Northeast Indiana. He has some of the land which was cleared of the forest by his grandfather. It is now a fine stock farm, and his enterprise has done much to stimulate high class livestock husbandry in the county.

The old home of the Germans is in Jackson Township, and Sherme J. was born near where he lives today October 4, 1884, a son of William and Mary (Hilton) German. His paternal grandparents were Edward and Rebecca German, pioneer settlers in Jackson Township who located 187 acres of land and built their log house and cleared up much of the land during their lifetime. They had the following children: George, Samuel, Cassie, John, Edward, William, Milo, Romie, May and Frank. The maternal grandparents of Sherme J. German were James and Lydia Jane (Smith) Hilton, likewise identified with the early settlement of Steuben County. Their children were: Ulrich Jack, Dora, Charles, Mary, Jarvis D., Edith May, Angela and Myrtie.

William German was born on the farm now owned by his son Sherme J. August 30, 1863. He was reared there, had a public school education, and has spent his active career as a farmer. He still owns forty acres of the old homestead but is living retired in the village of Flint. He is a republican in politics. His wife was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, July 28, 1866. They have two children: Sherme J. and Letha, the latter the wife of Ralph DeLancey, a son of Charles DeLancey of Angola.

Sherme J. German grew up on the home farm, and since leaving school has busied himself with

farming and stock raising. He is one of the leading threshermen in this section of Northeast Indiana, operating two threshing outfits. His farm is well improved and he has specialized in thoroughbred stock, including Duroc Jersey hogs, Belgian horses and Shorthorn cattle. He owns a fine stallion weighing 2,200 pounds. His farm comprises eighty acres.

Mr. German is a republican but has been too busy to identify himself with partisan politics. He is a member of the Order of Moose at Angola. In 1907 he married Miss Nellie Slick, daughter of George and Emma (Green) Slick, of an old and prominent family. They have four children: Violet, born May 25, 1911; Ray, born July 25, 1913; Gladys, born April 22, 1916; and Evelyn, born June 10, 1918.

HARRY S. CARROLL is a veteran railroad telegrapher and dispatcher and for over a quarter of a century has been on duty with the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad as dispatcher at Garrett for the Chicago Division. For a number of years he has been chief train dispatcher at that point.

Mr. Carroll, whose only son won fame by his extraordinary heroism while in the air service in France, comes of a long line of patriotic American ancestors. He was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, July 1, 1871, a son of George T. and Lucy (Cummins) Carroll. His parents were also natives of Pennsylvania, his mother of Green and his father of Washington County. George T. Carroll was a Union soldier during the Civil war and had a brother, Thomas M. Carroll, who was a captain in that struggle and at the close of the war went west and became prominent as a banker and attorney. Harry S. Carroll's maternal grandmother was Elizabeth McCaslean. She was a native of Scotland and had a brother who served as a colonel in the Civil war. George T. Carroll after the war returned to Pennsylvania, married, settled down in business for a time and later was a traveling salesman. He lived in Wheeling, West Virginia, for a number of years. He was a republican, a member of the Presbyterian Church, and was active in the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, being a district deputy grand of the former order. In the family were six children, only two of whom are now living: Elizabeth, who is married and lives at Washington, Pennsylvania, and Harry S.

Harry S. Carroll grew up in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, attended common schools in the former state, and is a graduate of the high school at Quaker City, Ohio. While there he also learned telegraphy and has been continuously in the service of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad since early youth. In 1890 he was moved to Garrett as a telegraph operator and from 1893 for three years was stationed in Chicago.

July 7, 1896, he returned to Garrett and was assigned the important role of train dispatcher, and has been at his post with a splendid record of fidelity and efficiency ever since. A number of years ago he was made chief train dispatcher. Mr. Carroll is a republican and a member of the Masonic Order.

In 1890 he married Anna A. Johnson, of Guernsey County, Ohio. She is also a graduate of the Quaker City High School. Their son, George C. Carroll, born August 22, 1892, is a graduate of the Garrett High School, attended Northwestern University at Chicago two years, and subsequently graduated from the University of Virginia with the A. B. degree. Before his army service he had a successful record as an educator, being principal of the Garrett High School two years and in 1917

was elected superintendent of the city schools of Garrett. He soon afterward resigned to enter the second officers training camp at Fort Benjamin Harrison and ten weeks later was commissioned a first lieutenant in the air service. He went overseas and was in France fifteen months and received the distinguished service cross and also honors from the French army. He returned to the United States February 21, 1919. The school board had granted him a leave of absence and immediately upon his return he was again elected superintendent of the graded schools.

The following citation by the commander in chief of the American armies is an appropriate matter of record and speaks for itself: "First Lieutenant George C. Carroll. For extraordinary heroism in action near Fort Dumarr, France, September 26, 1918. Lieutenant Carroll had ascended in a balloon to a height of one kilometer on a reglage mission, when he was attacked by enemy planes; but he refused to leave his post and fired on the planes with his pistol while incendiary bullets were striking his basket and balloon. He was finally forced to jump when his balloon burst into flames, but he reascended as soon as a new balloon could be inflated. Carroll also gave proof of exceptional courage by remaining in his balloon in the face of airplane attacks, jumping only when his balloon caught fire, and immediately reascending when a new balloon could be inflated. Home address, Harry S. Carroll, father, Garrett, Indiana."

LOUIS G. WHITTEN is president and treasurer of the Auburn Post Card Manufacturing Company at Auburn. This is an industry which serves to make this Indiana city widely known over the country, since the thousand of post cards manufactured at the plant has a national if not in international distribution and sale. Mr. Whitten is founder and chief owner of the business, though the company is incorporated, the other officers being W. H. Schaab, vice president, and C. P. Dennison, secretary.

Mr. Whitten was born in the State of Maine March 10, 1873, a son of Charles W. and Rachel (Pottle) Whitten. His father was a highly educated man and spent much of his life as a teacher and school principal. Louis G. Whitten, one of a family of five children, attended the public schools in his native state, graduating in 1896 from the Maine Central Institute at Pittsfield and took the regular collegiate course in Bates College of Lewistown, where he graduated with the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1900. The following year he pursued a post-graduate course at Harvard, and before engaging in the printing business was a well known educator in New England. For two years he was principal of the Marshfield High School in Massachusetts, was principal of the high school at Stoughton, Massachusetts, four years, and left school work to begin the manufacture of post cards and general printing. For three years he had his business at West Bethel, Maine, and in the fall of 1910 moved to Auburn. Much of the business of the company is a mail order business.

Mr. Whitten married Martha Dennison, who is also a graduate of Bates College, taking the Bachelor of Arts degree in 1901. They have five daughters, Esther, Ruth, Barbara, Elizabeth and Alice. Esther finished the work of the common schools of Auburn in 1919. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church, Mr. Whitten being president of the Board of Trustees. He is president of the local Young Men's Christian Association, has served as president of the Auburn Commercial Club, is a library trustee, and one of the men of influence in the



civic and business affairs of the county seat. Fraternally he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and is a democrat in politics.

GATES BEARD, a well known farmer and public official of Steuben County, was born in Canada August 12, 1860, a son of Horace and Amanda (Randall) Beard. The year following his birth his parents settled in Branch County, Michigan. Horace Beard was a saw mill operator, being head sawyer for a number of years. He died in 1873. He and his wife had eight children: Wallace, Alice, Alma, Gates, Dora, Melvin, Carrie and Esther.

Gates Beard attended the public schools of Branch County to the age of thirteen and then came to Steuben County and has since been dependent entirely upon his own exertions. He worked as a farm hand in Scott Township, and about 1893 was able to buy the farm of eighty acres where he still lives. He has since increased his farm to 118 acres, and has made it profitable and a valuable property.

Mr. Beard is a republican, served on the Township Advisory Board and is now in his second term of four years as township assessor. He is a member of the Christian Church.

In 1882 he married Louisa Rummell, of Steuben County. She died September 9, 1909, the mother of four children: Shirley, Pearl, who is the wife of Ernest B. Chard, Earl, deceased, and Alma, wife of Frank L. Davis.

FRED KOMP was born on a farm in Milford Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, August 3, 1871, a son of Frederick and Elizabeth (Parker) Komp and a grandson of Henry and Margaret (Deetz) Komp. His grandparents, as also his father, were natives of Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, his father born in 1829. In 1832 the family came to America. They were on shipboard three months, and during the last week had a fare limited to sauerkraut and water. Their first location was in Mercer County, Ohio, and later they moved to Whitley County, Indiana. The children of Henry and Margaret Komp were: Frederick, Catherine, Daniel, John, Caroline and Sarah.

Frederick Komp was three years old when brought to America. He grew up on a farm in the Middle West, and at the age of eighteen his powers and talents as a worker in the Church of God were recognized and he then started on his career as a preacher, which he continued practically all the rest of his life. He carried on his work in six counties in Northern Indiana and three or four counties in Ohio, and in early days rode horseback from one congregation to another. As a means of paying expenses he also sold patent medicine and books. Frederick Komp also owned a good farm in Milford Township of LaGrange County and another in Noble County, and with the aid of his children carried on these farms. He died January 21, 1917. His wife, who was born in Pennsylvania, June 22, 1832, a daughter of Isaac Parker, died June 8, 1891. They had a family of six children: George E.; Margaret, who was married to George Pratt; Lodema, wife of Van Rasler; Eva, who married John Rasler; Dessie, who died in infancy; and Fred, who is the youngest of the family.

Fred Komp acquired his early education in the public schools of Milford Township, attended for one year the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, and then took up the role of teacher. For ten years he was connected with the schools of Salem Township and four years were given to educational work

in DeKalb County. During vacation seasons he did some work as a carpenter. On May 10, 1903, Mr. Komp married Pearl Bodley, daughter of Jesse and Nellie (Wolf) Bodley. After their marriage they lived for four years at Helmer and in 1907 Mr. Komp bought his present farm of eighty-eight acres in section 4 of Salem Township. Along with general farming and stock raising he has reconstructed practically all the buildings and added other facilities. Besides farming Mr. Komp writes fire insurance, representing one of the prominent companies of New York. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

They have three children: Kenneth B., born June 29, 1906; Alfred Robert, born August 25, 1909; and Harold E., born November 9, 1912.

MILES CURTIS MCCURDY has spent all his life in Northeast Indiana, has had a wide range of experience both as a business man and agriculturist and is now living in prosperity on a good farm in Swan Township of Noble County.

He was born in Allen County, Indiana, April 1, 1862, son of William and Elizabeth (Freeman) McCurdy. His father was a native of Allen County, Indiana, and his mother of Miami County, Ohio, he having come to Allen County when young and married there. Miles Curtis McCurdy was the only child of his parents. He was only three weeks old when his mother died, and he grew up in the home of his grandmother McCurdy, who sent him to a country school. He remained with his grandparents until he was twenty-one.

August 13, 1888, Mr. McCurdy married Miss Nora Gump. She was born in Allen County, Indiana, April 9, 1865, daughter of Jerry and Sarah (Shultz) Gump. Her father was born in Miami County, Ohio, May 7, 1830, and her mother in Pennsylvania March 22, 1833. They were married in Ohio in 1854, established a home in Allen County, Indiana, and Mrs. McCurdy's mother has lived there continuously for over sixty years. Of the ten children in the Gump family two died in infancy and the six still living are: Mina, widow of William Finney; Anna E., widow of Albert Pepple; Albert, who lives in Allen County and married Jennie Brown; Villa, wife of Alva Disler; Nora C.; and Jesse, who married Mary Shively. Mrs. McCurdy was reared on the old home farm and was educated in the district schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McCurdy moved to Fort Wayne and lived there three years, during which time he was an employe of the Nickel Plate Railway. He then moved to Laotto, where for eighteen years he conducted a successful livery and hotel business, and he still owns property in that village. They have lived on their good farm in Swan Township and own eighty-nine well cultivated and improved acres.

Mr. and Mrs. McCurdy have five children: Vada is a graduate of the common schools and the wife of John Knisley. Floyd lives at Garrett, Indiana, and married Hazel Stoner. Jesse is a graduate of the common schools and married Edith Bilger. Troas is a high school graduate and wife of Lawrence Slaughter. Thelma is a graduate of the common and high schools and married Kenneth Erickson, and they live on the home farm. Mrs. McCurdy is a member of the Church of the Brethren, and one of her brothers is a minister of that faith. Mr. McCurdy is a republican in politics.

PERCY B. CORNELL is one of the highly thought of citizens of Butler Township, DeKalb County, has lived there all his life and has achieved prosperity as a farmer, and is still active in the cultivation and

management of his place five and a half miles south of Auburn.

He represents an old and honored family of DeKalb County. His grandfather, William Cornell, was born in Carroll County, Maryland, January 14, 1813, a son of Smith and Mary Cornell. He grew up and married in his native state, and in 1850 brought his wife and five children to Indiana, making the journey overland with wagons. He bought eighty acres in Butler Township, and afterward acquired more land and developed a good farm, on which he lived until his death, February 16, 1882. It is said that he brought with him to Indiana only \$300.00 in money besides his team, wagon and household goods. He was a member of the Lutheran Church. Two of his sons served as Union soldiers.

William H. H. Cornell, father of Percy B., was born in Maryland in 1840 and grew up from the age of ten years on his father's place in Butler Township. In 1861 he enlisted in Company K of the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry, and participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Perryville, Stone River and other campaigns. He was out three years and received an honorable discharge. After the war he began farming and in 1870 married Eliza Timberlain, a daughter of Isaac Timberlain of Butler Township. He was a republican and served as assessor of Butler Township six years. He was also a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Methodist Church. There were four children in the family: Percy B.; Jesse O., who is a farmer four miles west of Garrett; Charles, a farmer in Michigan; and Pearl I., who died at the age of sixteen.

Percy B. Carroll was born in Butler Township, May 12, 1871, was reared on his father's farm and had a common school education. At the age of nineteen he left home and went to Williams County, Ohio, where he worked in a basket factory seven months and on a farm six months. After returning to DeKalb County he married, March 10, 1894, Sarah C. Schopf. She was reared in Keyser Township of DeKalb County. After their marriage they took up their residence at their present location, beginning with fifty acres and since then Mr. Cornell has added eighty acres. He devotes his time to general farming and stock raising. He is a member and chief of the Ancient Order of Gleaners, has been active in the Grange and is a republican in politics. He has served as a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife have four children: Ethel M., born June 9, 1895; Esther, born October 1, 1896; Ernest, born April 18, 1898, and Myrtle, born July 7, 1905. All the children were educated in the common schools and are still at home.

FOREST E. FIELD, a lawyer by profession and formerly a teacher in Noble County, has been prominent in affairs at Kendallville for a number of years. He is a former mayor of the city, an ex-representative in the Legislature, and is now recorder of Noble County.

His birth occurred on a farm south of Kendallville December 11, 1860. His parents were Aaron and Nancy Field, the former a native of New York and the latter of New York State. They married in Ohio and were early settlers of Noble County. Of their eight children four are still living: Frank, of Kendallville; Alice, who is also married; Maude, wife of Harry Throckmorton; and Forest E.

Forest E. Field spent his early life on a farm. While there he attended common schools and later had normal training and also work in the Indiana University. He began teaching in the district schools, for a time was connected with the public schools of

Kendallville, and for twelve years was principal of a school at Racine, Wisconsin. Mr. Field studied law in the Chicago Law School, and was admitted to the bar in October, 1900. After two years of steady practice he lost his health, and was in the West some time recuperating. After returning to Kendallville he resumed practice, served a time as mayor, and in 1913 was a member of the State Legislature. He took his present office as county recorder in January, 1918.

Mr. Field married Miss Ginevra Johnston, who was born at Decatur, Indiana, April 8, 1861, and was educated in the public schools. They have one child, Ralph E. Field, who graduated from the University of Cincinnati and spent three years in the University of Chicago. He served as second lieutenant in the Engineer Corps with the armies in France. Lieutenant Field married Dorothy Llewellyn, a graduate of the University of Chicago, and during the absence of her husband served as private secretary to the American Sheet and Tin Plate Company in Chicago. Mr. Field and wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge of Elks.

WALLACE A. BELDEN. A life of successful effort and broad influence came to a close with the death of Wallace A. Belden on May 23, 1917. Mr. Belden had lived more than half a century in Springfield Township, and his life was significant not only through his farming and stock raising activities but as a broad minded and public spirited citizen.

He was born in Syracuse, New York, November 10, 1840, a son of Merritt and Mary A. (Schuyler) Belden, both natives of New York. Mary A. Schuyler was born April 14, 1811, and died on the Belden homestead in 1895, at the advanced age of eighty-four. Merritt Belden died March 16, 1871. The family had come to Springfield Township in 1860, and the parents spent the rest of their days there. Wallace Belden was the youngest of their seven children. After reaching mature years he bought eighty acres from Seth Wallace and continued to acquire land until he owned 440 acres, and for fully half a century gave his time and labors to farming. He sold 120 acres from his first purchase, so that he owned 320 acres at the time of his death. He made his farm the scene of extensive sheep feeding and sheep raising activities, and was one of the leading men in the sheep industry of LaGrange County. He put up many buildings and improvements that still stand as a monument to his enterprise. The home is lighted by acetylene lights and has every modern convenience.

From 1911 to 1914 Mr. Belden served as a member of the Board of County Commissioners, and was affiliated with LaGrange Lodge of Masons and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at South Milford. He was a director in the LaGrange State Bank and the Mongo State Bank, and for a number of years was a director of the Farmers Rescue Insurance Company of LaGrange County.

May 26, 1886, he married Miss Carrie Jerome, who was born in New York State in 1845 and died in June, 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Belden had no children of their own, but they reared in their home Miss Clara Roy, and she was a faithful daughter to them for twenty-eight years. Miss Roy inherited from Mr. and Mrs. Belden the homestead of eighty acres, which she still occupies.

AUSTIN M. PARSELL. The scope of Mr. Parsell's influence has not been confined to the farm where



he resides and which he capably manages in Jackson Township of Steuben County. He is one of the best known citizens of the county, especially through his service a few years ago as sheriff. He has been active in public affairs and politics, and is a worthy representative of a family that has been represented in Steuben County for over eighty years.

His father was the late Abijah D. Parsell, who was born in New Jersey in 1827, a son of Moses Parsell, born in 1797. The Parsell family have a number of representatives in Steuben County, accounting for the frequent references made to the name at different points in these pages. Moses Parsell brought his family to Steuben County in 1838, settling in Jackson Township. Abijah D. Parsell grew up there, and in 1851 bought a farm in section 35. He was also in business at Angola for several years, and died at the county seat in 1882. He married in 1851, Jane T. Alcott, who was born in Ohio in 1829. Abijah D. Parsell and wife had seven children, and the three to reach mature years were Austin M., Ichabod S. and Michael A.

Austin M. Parsell was born on the old homestead in Jackson Township where he is still living November 1, 1855. As a boy he attended school in Salem and Jackson Township, graduated from the Angola High School, and has made farming his principal vocation, and chiefly on the old home place, which he has owned a number of years. His farm is eighty acres in extent and is situated in section 35.

January 30, 1878, Mr. Parsell married Adaline M. Weicht, a daughter of Frederick and Susan Weicht, of a well known family in Salem Township. Mr. and Mrs. Parsell had five children: Leona E., wife of Frank D. Hughes; Archie, who died when three months old; Abijah D., who married Eula Golden; Louis F., who married Audra Doudt and has two daughters, Dorothea and Lois; and Inez T., who died in young womanhood.

Mr. Parsell is affiliated with Salem Lodge No. 639 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His record of public service covers more than twenty years. From 1895 to 1900 he was assessor of Jackson Township and from 1900 to 1905 was township trustee. His service as sheriff was rendered to the county from January 1, 1909, to 1913.

SAMUEL B. NEFF came to LaGrange County when a youth, dependent upon his labor as a farm hand for a time, and gradually has worked himself into the possession of a good farm a mile north and a half mile east of Topeka, in section 30 of Clear Spring Township.

He was born in Franklin County, near Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, June 5, 1869, a son of Samuel I. and Lottie (Rinehart) Neff. His parents were born and reared in the same locality, and they came to Indiana in 1889, locating in LaGrange County and later moved near Kendallville, in Noble County, where Samuel Neff is still engaged in farming at the age of seventy-five. He is a member of the United Brethren Church and a republican. There were five children in the family: Samuel B.; Anna, wife of Archie Crofoot; Minnie, wife of John Pifer, of Kendallville; Roberta, wife of Warren W. Manchester, of Detroit; and Zora, who is the wife of Fletcher Sackett, of Noble County.

Samuel B. Neff grew up on his father's farm in Pennsylvania to the age of seventeen. He had a common school education and at the age of eighteen came to Indiana and worked as a farm hand by the month for one year in LaGrange County. He then went to farming with his father and left home when he married Lettie Schermerhorn, daughter of James Schermerhorn. Mrs. Neff died in 1896, the mother

of one daughter, Lettie E. The latter is a graduate of the Topeka High School and is the wife of Irwin Thompson, a son of Robert L. Thompson. After the death of his first wife Mr. Neff married Lucy Schermerhorn, her sister. Mr. Neff's son-in-law and daughter are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and he is a liberal supporter of that denomination. He is a past noble grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and has been a member of the Grand Lodge, while politically he is a republican. Besides his farm he is interested in the State Bank of Topeka as a stockholder.

JOSEPH W. HEITZ when a boy was thrown largely on his own responsibilities and went through the various stages of farm hand, renter, tenant, and gradually became an independent farm owner. To-day he owns a fine farm in Butler Township of DeKalb County, situated four miles south of Garrett.

On that farm he was born September 26, 1856, a son of Joseph and Rebecca (Prince) Heitz. His father was a native of Germany and as a boy came to the United States with a brother who died in Virginia. He established a home in Champaign County, Ohio, in 1830, settling near Millerstown, where he married. On moving to Indiana he bought 160 acres in sections 22 and 28 of Butler Township, DeKalb County, and remained an agriculturist and respected citizen of that locality until his death. He and his wife were active members in the Lutheran Church and in politics he was a democrat. In Germany he had learned the trade of jeweler. There were eleven children in the family, and those to reach mature years were: Elizabeth, wife of George Reber, of Butler Township; John, deceased; Lavina, widow of John Wiant; Ada, who lives at Auburn; Joseph; David and Ambrose, both of Butler Township.

Joseph Heitz had only the advantages of the district schools. He was fourteen when his father died, and after that he assumed increasing responsibilities on the home farm and also worked out for others.

Mr. Heitz married Sabina Ober. She was born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, October 29, 1860, and her father and mother were natives of the same locality. In 1866 the Ober family moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, and Mr. and Mrs. Heitz were married March 18, 1886.

After their marriage they moved to Butler Center, rented several farms, and later bought their present property, which comprises 270 acres. Mr. Heitz for a number of years has been a breeder of Poland China hogs and Durham cattle. He is a democrat in politics.

To his marriage were born four children: Audrey, who finished her education in the Tri-State College; Arthur, unmarried and at home; Walter, a resident of Butler Township, married Bernice Ray, and they have one child, Margaret J.; and Gladys, who finished her education in high school, is the wife of Francis Parker and resides in Fort Wayne. They have one child, Eleanora Mary.

ALEXANDER PROVINES, a member of a family that has been in DeKalb County for over sixty-five years, has for half a century been a farmer in Jackson Township, and along with the duties imposed by a large and growing family has played a worthy and public spirited part in the upbuilding and progress of the community.

Mr. Provines was born in Ashland County, Ohio, July 18, 1845, a son of Alexander and Dorcas (Adams) Provines. His father was a native of

Washington County, Pennsylvania, and his mother of Wayne County, Ohio. They were married in Ohio, lived on a farm in Ashland County for several years, and Alexander, Sr., in addition to cultivating the soil also followed the trade of carpenter and contractor. In April, 1853, he located in section 9 of Jackson Township, DeKalb County, and lived there until his death at a good old age, in August, 1898. The mother passed away in March, 1897. She was a member of the Lutheran Church. In politics he was a republican. They were the parents of seven children: John A., deceased; James, of Jackson Township; Alexander; Lucian, who died in 1897; Robert, of Oklahoma; Jane, wife of James H. Farber, of Jackson Township; Mary, who is unmarried and lives at Auburn.

Mr. Alexander Provines has lived in Jackson Township since he was four years old. He made good use of his advantages in the local schools and for ten winters was a teacher. He married Samantha Knight, of Concord Township. She died October 3, 1911, the mother of eight children, named as follows: Harris G., who is a graduate of the common schools and of the University of Chicago and has a teacher's license in Chicago and Oklahoma; Effie, wife of Samuel Morr, of Fairfield Township; Lola, wife of B. W. Carper, of Jackson Township; Mary, wife of Claude Moore and a graduate of the Auburn High School; Roy, of Jackson Township; Dorcas, who is a high school graduate and the wife of O. D. Sherer; Emma, who is deceased; and Edna, wife of E. M. Gifford and a graduate of the Auburn High School, the State Normal, was superintendent of schools at Warren, Indiana, three years and now lives in Indiana Harbor.

As a farmer Mr. Provines is owner and still manages the cultivation of 173.7 acres in Jackson Township. He has filled several local offices, is a republican in politics, and is one of the trustees of Auburn Lodge No. 191 of the Knights of Pythias.

CLYDE HUGH SMITH. Into a life of barely fifty years Clyde Hugh Smith compressed a great amount of business activity, and one that radiated many influences of usefulness and benefit to his community in Lima Township of LaGrange County.

He was a son of James Smith, and of a family referred to in several places in this publication. The farm where he was born in Lima Township February 11, 1862, he owned at the time of his death on January 16, 1912. But he was living in Howe. He had an education in the township schools, the LaGrange County Normal and the Indiana State Normal at Terre Haute, but left that institution before graduating on account of his father's impaired health. He then lived on the farm, giving supervision to the farm management and also taught school for nine or ten winters. After his marriage he took charge or rented what was known as the Gunther Farm in Greenfield township. His father had before this lived there and rented the same farm for several years. He later returned to his farm in Lima Township, and for one year was in the grain business at Leonidas, Michigan. He then resumed his home on the farm in Greenfield Township, and for two years before his death lived retired at Howe. At his death he owned 400 acres of land. He was thoroughly progressive, and was one of the first that introduced Jersey cattle into his neighborhood on English Prairie, and was also an extensive sheep feeder. Politically he was a staunch republican, active in public affairs, and a member of the Brethren Church.

August 27, 1891, he married Miss Mary C. Damer.

She was born in Michigan in 1868, a daughter of William Damer, whose career is described below. Mrs. Smith became the mother of two children, the first, a son, dying in infancy. The daughter lives at home and is a student in the Western College for Women at Oxford, Ohio.

William Damer, father of Mrs. Smith, was born in Ohio February 23, 1847, son of John Y. and Mary Catherine (Stillenbaer) Damer, both natives of Germany. The latter was born in 1803. John Y. Damer had six years of enforced military service in Germany, and in order to escape further duty as a soldier he ran away from the Fatherland when about twenty-six years of age, became a stoway on an ocean vessel, was discovered and had to work his passage across. He had on a sailor's uniform when he landed in America, and soon afterward he found his way to Myersdale, Pennsylvania. Probably while in Pennsylvania he married his first wife, Elizabeth Baker, and when he went to Tuscarawas County, Ohio, he had a daughter, Elizabeth. In Tuscarawas County he married Mary Catherine Stillenbaer, and in 1849 they moved to Owen County, Indiana, where he bought school land. The first winter he and his family lived in an old log house without windows, and in the following spring he built a house on his own land, and was diligently engaged in its cultivation and made it his home until his death in 1871. His widow remained in that community until her death in 1901. They had nine children: Levi, Mary, Jacob, John, Daniel, William, Noah, Samuel and Catherine. Those still living are Daniel, William and Samuel.

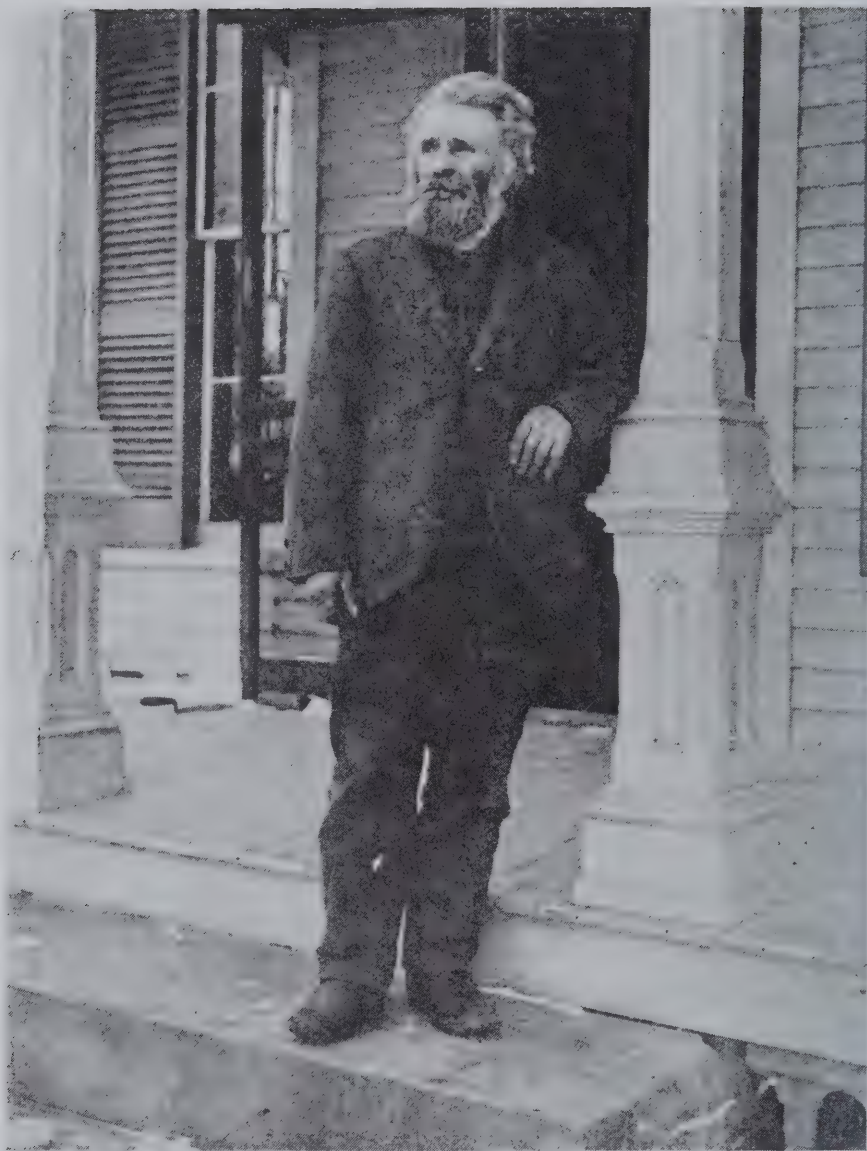
William Damer was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, grew up in Owen County, Indiana, and at the age of eighteen started out to make his own way in the world. He came to the vicinity of Brighton in 1866, and worked on farms in that community for several years. In 1871 he bought twenty acres in Greenfield Township, made his home there for a time, and later owned different farms, all in LaGrange County except one which he owned near Hastings, Michigan, but which he never occupied as a home. Mr. Damer continued farming until he retired to Howe in 1910, and is still living there. Politically his support has always been given to the prohibition party and he was once a candidate for county treasurer on that ticket. He is a member of the Dunkard Church. In 1868 Mr. Damer married Miss Caroline Mohler, who was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of William Mohler. They had four children: Mary Catherine; Samuel Elza, born in 1871 and died in 1897; Clarence Allen; and Ida Adella.

LEWIS M. MUNDY is proprietor of a large farm in Jackson Township, part of which was formerly owned by his father, Lewis Mundy, one of the early settlers in Steuben County. The Mundy family has always maintained the traditions of good American citizenship, honest industry and integrity in all of their relations, and those characteristics have been emphasized in the personal record of Lewis M. Mundy and his children.

Mr. Mundy was born on the farm where he now resides in section 28 of Jackson Township, November 25, 1864. He was the child of his father's third marriage. Lewis Mundy, Sr., was born in New Jersey in 1813, a son of David and Sarah Mundy. He came to Steuben county in 1852, settling in section 28, on eighty acres of land, and in course of time had a fine farm with a commodious residence built in 1877 and still in use. He was an abolitionist and a republican in politics. Lewis Mundy mar-







JONAS TWICHELL



ried in 1839 Sallie Stevenson, who died in 1849. Both their sons, Jasper and Alanson, were soldiers in the Union army. In 1850 Lewis Mundy married Mrs. Mercy B. (King) Purce. She died in 1863, the mother of two children, Otis and Julia. For his third wife he married Mrs. Mary (Doudt) Bolin, who was born in Seneca County, Ohio, in December, 1834. She was the mother of three sons by her first marriage to Levi Bolin, who died in Steuben County. Lewis Mundy and his third wife had three children, Lewis M., Hattie and Nellie.

Lewis M. Mundy acquired his early education in the district schools of Jackson Township, attending the Morgan schoolhouse, and all his life has been spent on the farm where he was born and where he worked in the fields for his father when a boy. About 1885 he began renting the place and farmed on his own account, and a few years later bought eighty acres of the homestead. Eventually he acquired the entire property, 120 acres, and as his means increased he has since extended his ownership to 220 acres, devoted to general farming and stock raising. For thirty years Mr. Mundy has been a successful breeder of blooded Percheron horses. At the present time his farm enterprise is tending toward the development of a dairy herd. He still has the old home, but the other buildings have been added chiefly by him.

In 1888 he married Amanda J. Harpster, daughter of John and Amanda Harpster. They have three children. Vera G. is a graduate of the college of Huntington, Indiana, and is a teacher in Iowa. Wilbur E. studied at the Tri-State Normal at Angola, also at Huntington College, and is now renting his father's farm. Wava L. is a graduate of Huntington College and is now a student in the Tri-State College at Angola. Mr. and Mrs. Mundy are members of the Hopewell Church of the United Brethren.

**WALTER ATWATER.** A hard working and successful young farmer, Walter Atwater was honored by his fellow citizens of Clay Township, LaGrange County, in November, 1918, with the important responsibilities of township trustee. He has been handling the duties of that office since January, 1919.

Mr. Atwater was born in Clay Township, April 18, 1877, and is a son of Myron and Ann (Brinley) Atwater. The history of the Atwater family in the older generations is described on other pages. Walter Atwater grew up on his father's farm, attended the district schools, and worked on the home farm and lived with his father to the age of twenty-four. In 1900 he married Miss Clara Latta, daughter of William and Laura Latta.

The spring following his marriage he rented a farm in Clay Township, and during the next year showed he had the real stuff in him as a farmer. He then bought forty acres of the place where he now lives, and as his means justified has increased his holdings until he now has a farm of 116 acres. He also improved it with a good house and barn, and as a man of constructive ability has proved a useful factor in the community. Mr. and Mrs. Atwater have two children, Maynard and Marion.

William S. Latta, father of Mrs. Walter Atwater, was born in Clay Township, January 4, 1855, a son of Silas and Sarah (Franks) Latta. Silas was born in Ohio in 1821 and his wife in Hardy County, Virginia, in the same year. They came to LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1844, and were early settlers in Clay Township. They rented for six years and in 1847 bought the forty acres where David M. Latta now lives. Later Silas bought forty acres in another place, also an eighty-acre tract, all in Clay Township, and eventually had a good farm of 106 acres. He died in 1860 while his widow survived until May

12, 1906. He was a Republican and Methodist, and he and his wife had children named Ephraim, Isaac, Mary Ann, Hannah U., John Franklin, William S., David M. and Sarah Jane, who died in April, 1919.

William S. Latta grew up on his father's farm, had a public school education and has owned several different farms. In 1909 he bought the ninety-six acres where he has lived since 1910. He is a republican. July 2, 1879, he married Miss Laura Hoffman. She was born in Ohio, August 17, 1854, a daughter of Israel and Catherine Hoffman, who were natives of Pennsylvania, moved from there to Ohio and spent their last days in Michigan. William S. Latta and wife had five children: Cora C., who is a graduate of the LaGrange High School, attended the State University, was a teacher seven years and is now the wife of Harvey Myers, being the mother of Sylvia, Elsie and Birdena. Clara Latta, also a graduate of the LaGrange High School, is the wife of Walter Atwater. Harry finished the eighth grade in school and married Izora Gooch. Grace is a graduate of the LaGrange High School, was a teacher one term, and is the wife of Earl Bullock and has a son, Dean. The third child of Mr. and Mrs. Latta was George W., who died when eleven months old.

**JONAS TWICHELL** is one of the oldest residents of Steuben County. He was born a few weeks before his parents came here and has lived in Jackson Township for eighty-three years. The Twichells were in fact among the very first families to settle anywhere in Steuben County.

Mr. Twichell, who has grown old and gray in the useful routine of duties as a farmer, home builder and generous provider for his family, was born in Chenango County, New York, January 18, 1836. His parents were Jonas and Malinda (Scott) Twichell. His father was born at Oxford in Salem County, Connecticut, in 1800, and his mother in Simsbury of the same state March 12, 1802. When children they went with their respective parents to Chenango County, New York, where they grew up and married. Jonas Twichell, Sr., was reared on a farm but learned the stone engraver's trade, which he followed for a number of years. Many of the corner stones in Steuben County were cut by him. In 1833 he moved to Catskill, New York, and in 1835 came to Steuben County, Indiana, which was then largely a wilderness. He bought a tract of land in Jackson Township and the following year brought his family west. He had prepared for their reception a log cabin. This old home was in section 9 of Jackson Township. The eighty acres first acquired was increased by the proprietor to 200 acres. He lived there until 1856, and then moved to Orland and died in that village in February, 1887, his wife passing away in December, 1886. They had a family of nine children, Harriet, Clarissa, Charles, Jonas, Benjamin, Marcus, Sterling, Bliss and Malinda. Those still living are Jonas, Marcus, of California, and Bliss, of Orland.

It will be noted that Jonas Twichell, Jr., was only a few weeks old when brought to Steuben County. He grew up on the farm and attended some of the pioneer schools. In 1858, at the age of twenty-two, he bought 100 acres of the old homestead, and later he bought his brother Marcus' interest in the remainder. He has since increased his property to 240 acres, and during an ownership of sixty years has introduced many modern improvements. His comfortable home is one of the oldest in the township, having been erected forty-six years ago. His father also entered eighty acres of land in LaGrange County, but sold it after about two years.

Mr. Twichell is a republican in politics. His father was a member of the first Board of County Commissioners of Steuben County, and the son likewise held that office for one term, refusing a reelection.

He married for his first wife Catherine Johnson, who died May 5, 1866. She was the mother of three children: Augusta, William and Eugene, the last two still living. In October, 1867, Mr. Twichell married Miss Anna Milner, who was born in Scotland in 1844, daughter of Ebenezer and Jane Milner. Her parents came to this country and settled in LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1850, and spent their last years at Kinderhook, Michigan. Mrs. Twichell died January 1, 1917, the mother of five children: Victor Scott, who died at Kendallville in 1916; Bertice Anna, at home with her father; Benjamin Homer, of Jackson Township; Charles Elfred; and Robert Ebenezer, who is now the active manager of the home farm.

FAYETTE R. WOODWORTH. There is much besides his success in business and farming to distinguish Fayette R. Woodworth among the citizenship of Clay Township, LaGrange County. He is a man of sound intelligence and progressive ideas, whether applied to his private affairs or any community undertaking. He is a persistent advocate of progress, and in the community where he was born and reared has found all the rewards and durable satisfactions of a busy life.

He was born in Clay Township, LaGrange County, February 11, 1860, a son of Ira M. and Melissa (Robbins) Woodworth. His father, a native of New York State, came to LaGrange County, Indiana, with his parents when he was a child. He grew up there and in young manhood became a farmer in Clay Township of LaGrange County. In 1861 he enlisted in the Eightieth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and was a Union soldier from that time until the close of the war. He was in most the battles in which his regiment engaged, but for a time endured confinement in the notorious Libby prison. After the war he resumed his place as a Clay Township farmer, and lived there until his death on June 1, 1887. His wife, who was born in LaGrange County, a daughter of John and Sarah Robbins, became the mother of four children, named Sarah C., Fayette R., Mary E. and Ira Bela.

Fayette R. Woodworth attended the public schools of Clay Township, also attended LaGrange schools, and for over thirty-five years has given the best that was in him to the task of agriculture in Clay Township. He and his wife together owned 200 acres of land there, and their good home is in section 21. Mr. Woodworth has served one term as assessor of Clay Township.

He married Ikey V. Greene, a daughter of James and Ann (Brown) Greene. Her parents were married May 28, 1842, and about 1848 they came from Ohio to Clay Township of LaGrange County. James Greene acquired 120 acres of timbered land, and was noted as one of the well-to-do and substantial farmers of Clay Township the rest of his life. In 1851 he built the first steam saw mill in that township.

Mr. and Mrs. Woodworth have a family of seven children: Ira Cecil, who married Sylvia Todd; James D., who married Lettie Warner; Beulah Ann, wife of Frank V. Carney; Mary M., wife of Charles G. Miller; Fayette McKinley, John O. and Bela R.

FRANK W. SILBERG, who has practiced his profession as a veterinary surgeon at Spencerville for the past ten years, is one of the best qualified men in this profession in Northeast Indiana.

Doctor Silberg was born in Spencer Township, formerly Concord Township, of De Kalb County, April 12, 1886. He represents one of the first families to settle at the old town of Spencerville. He is a son of Warren W. and Mary J. (White) Silberg. His grandfather, Michael M. Silberg, came from Germany to the United States, lived in Ashland County, Ohio, for a time, and later moved to Spencerville, where he put up the first frame house in the village. He was a blacksmith and worked at his trade until his death, performing a useful service to his community. His children were Warren W., William, Stephen, Cash, Mary and Lillie. The only one now living is Cash. Warren Silberg grew up in Spencerville and attended the common schools and spent his active career as a farmer. He and his wife had nine children.

Dr. Frank W. Silberg grew up at Spencerville, graduated from the high school, and is a graduate of the Chicago Veterinary College. He took post-graduate work at Cornell University in New York, and received the degrees of M. D. C. and D. V. M. He has been in active practice at Spencerville since 1909 and has well equipped facilities, including stables and operating room both at Spencerville and the Village of St. Joe. He has prospered in his business affairs and owns property in Spencerville and St. Joe and is a stockholder in the local bank and one of its directors.

Doctor Silberg married Florence Miller, who is a graduate of the common schools. They have one daughter, Orpha M., born in 1918. Doctor Silberg is a Scottish Rite Mason, being a member of the Scottish Rite Consistory at Fort Wayne. He is a member of the North American and Indiana and Illinois associations of veterinary surgeons and has won a deservedly high reputation in his profession. He is a democrat in politics.

JOHN H. SISSON, who for many years has worked industriously at clearing and improving and cultivating a farm in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County, is related to several well known families in this county and in other portions of Northeast Indiana.

He was born at Montpelier, Ohio, March 28, 1853, a son of Orman and Ann (Brooks) Sisson. His father was a native of New York state, where the paternal grandparents both died. Orman Sisson moved from Ohio to LaGrange County in 1856. He located at McCoy's Crossing in Bloomfield Township, and in that locality he cleared up and improved 120 acres and was a highly respected citizen for many years. His wife was born in England, a daughter of George and Elizabeth Brooks, who in 1827, when she was ten years old, came to this country and from the state of New York they later moved to Steuben County, Indiana. George Brooks was a farmer and also did a great deal of ditching and clearing of land in Steuben County. He died in that county and his wife passed away at Coldwater, Michigan. Orman Sisson and wife had the following children: Elizabeth, wife of William Metzger; William; Lora, who married William Spears; Amie, who became Mrs. Henry Munger; Oran; Albert; George, who was a Union soldier and died in Libby prison; John H.; Edgar; Alma, deceased; Sinda, who died in infancy.

John H. Sisson has lived in LaGrange County since early boyhood, and attended the country schools and also the Seminary at Ontario for his education. For many years he has occupied his present farm, obtaining the land when it was a wilderness of brush and unproductiveness. He put



up the first shanty there, has broadened the area of cultivation, and now has good improvements and an all around valuable farm of 100 acres.

Mr. Sisson and family are members of the Brethren Church. He married Martha Rose, a daughter of John Rose. She was born in Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Sisson had the following children: Hattie, Laura, Lulu, William, Bessie, J. Merle, Verne, Marjorie and Lillian, all living except the last named, Lillian.

OAKLEY AMERMAN represents the third generation of a family that has lived in Steuben County for over sixty years. His own enterprise as a farmer and stock man in Salem Township has been greatly prospered, and his individual career reflects credit upon the record of his ancestors.

He was born in Salem Township, July 23, 1879, a son of William and Frances (Silvey) Amerman, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Salem Township, Steuben County. His grandparents, Peter and Margaret (Hall) Amerman, came to Salem Township about 1857, and spent the rest of their days on a farm there. Their children were named Garrett, William, Henry, Sophia, Ida and Addie.

William Amerman when a young man took up the serious vocation of agriculture in Salem Township, his first home being a half mile south and quarter of a mile west of Salem Village. He lived there and farmed for fourteen years. For two years he conducted a store in Salem, and then had a farm at Bronson, Michigan, for seven years. Returning to the old home place, he remained about five years and then bought a farm a mile south of Orland, which was his home locality until the spring of 1918. His present home farm is a half mile north of Kinderhook, Michigan. He and his wife have four children, Mabel, Oakley, Benjamin and James.

As a boy Oakley Amerman attended country schools in Salem Township, spent three terms in a district school in Michigan, and on reaching the age of twenty-one began working out at monthly wages. He pursued that course about three years and in 1904 took up farming as an independent vocation. He bought eighty acres in Jackson Township in 1907, and lived there for ten years. In the fall of 1917, having sold his first place, he moved to his present farm, which he had bought the spring before. This contains 160 acres, constituting the southeast quarter of section 4. He is a successful general farmer and stock raiser.

Mr. Amerman married Blanch Ewing, daughter of Henry and Florence Ewing. They have two children, Florence and Geneva. Mr. Amerman is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife are Presbyterians.

ABRAHAM L. HOSTETLER, a native of LaGrange County, spent some years of his early life as a successful teacher, but for the past fifteen years has applied his time and energies profitably and efficiently to the management of a farm in Clay Township.

He was born in Eden Township, September 8, 1876. The Hostetlers are one of the widely known families of Northeast Indiana. His parents were John M. and Susan (Hostetler) Hostetler, the former a native of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and the latter a daughter of Noah and Elizabeth Hostetler. John M. Hostetler was a son of Moses J. and Elizabeth (Mast) Hostetler, both natives of Somerset County, the former born in 1812 and the latter in 1822. Moses J. Hostetler came to LaGrange County, and a year after his arrival his son, John M.

Hostetler came. He had been married in Holmes County, Ohio, and settled in Newbury Township, but a year later went to Eden Township, where he lived until his death in July, 1914. He and his first wife, who died in January, 1879, were the parents of five children, named Lucy, wife of Joseph Hershberger; Carrie, wife of M. S. Yoder; Ira J.; Noah J.; and Abraham L. John M. Hostetler for his second wife married Barbara Suntheimer, and their children were: Lizzie, who was the wife of George Y. Miller and died in July, 1916; Ida, wife of Phineas Weaver; Allen; Fred; Katie, who married Todd Bontrager; and Mima, wife of Ezra J. Schla-bach.

Abraham L. Hostetler attended the district schools of Edeon Township, the Topeka High School, and took a normal course at Bushnell, Illinois. For two years he taught in Illinois and for five years one of the leading young educators of LaGrange County. In 1904 he moved to his farm in Clay Township, and has carried on a general farming and stock raising business.

So far as possible he has also given his time to local affairs, is a member of the Clay County Advisory Board, and is affiliated with the Lodge of Masons at Topeka and the Royal Arch Chapter at Ligonier. December 24, 1902, he married Winnie B. Beatty, daughter of Lewis C. and Mary Elizabeth (Kline) Beatty. They have two children, Lolita and John Beatty.

ELDON M. HOSTETLER. The Hostetlers are a very numerous and prominent family in Northeast Indiana, and many of its representatives are found in the different counties comprised in this publication. Eldon M. Hostetler, whose position is that of a successful farmer in Newbury Township of LaGrange County, is a member of the branch of the family comprising a brother, Dr. A. J. Hostetler, at LaGrange and is a son of Moses M. and Mary Ann (Mehl) Hostetler.

He was born on the farm where he now lives in Newbury Township, June 15, 1885, and was educated in the common schools. On January 26, 1905, he married Opal Davis, member of another well known family of LaGrange County, her father being Eugene Davis.

After his marriage Mr. Hostetler farmed in Van Buren Township four years and in 1909 moved to Elkhart County and was employed as a carpenter about two years. Since then he has been farming in Newbury Township and since 1913 has operated the old homestead in section 36. In the spring of 1919 he also bought a farm of forty-four acres in Clay Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Hostetler are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They had four children: Alice Marie, Ruth Marguerite, Paul Davis and Elizabeth Mae. Paul and Elizabeth are both deceased.

JOSEPH R. WILEY, a former trustee of Troy Township, DeKalb County, has been a successful farmer in that locality for many years, and both he and his wife are people of culture and influence and leaders in community affairs.

Mr. Wiley was born in Crawford County, Ohio, December 25, 1865, a son of James and Harriet (White) Wiley, the former a native of Harrison County, Ohio, and the latter of Bangor, Maine. The mother was a well educated woman and on coming west to Crawford County, Ohio, was a teacher until her marriage. She and her husband then settled in Harrison County, Ohio, where James Wiley and brother owned and operated a foundry. During the

Civil war this foundry's chief output was cannon balls for the Government. After selling out his interest in that business he moved to Crawford County, Ohio, locating on a farm near Leesville, subsequently bought another place near Galion, Ohio, and in 1869 left the Buckeye state and came to DeKalb County, settling on a farm in Troy Township, where he spent the rest of his life. He was a Presbyterian and his wife a Lutheran, and politically he was a republican and served as a township trustee in Ohio. Of their nine children six are still living: William, of Los Angeles, California; Charles, of Fort Benton, Montana; James C., a farmer in Troy Township; Joseph R.; Stella, wife of Ambrose McGlaughlin; and Harriet, who is a graduate of the Woman's Medical College of Chicago and a practicing physician at Portland, Indiana.

Joseph R. Wiley was past four years old when brought to DeKalb County and he grew up here, attending the common schools and taking a special course in Valparaiso College for one year. He married Nellie Wertz, a daughter of D. W. Wertz, of Troy Township. They have one daughter, Harriet M., who was born June 13, 1900, is a graduate of the Butler High School, taught a term or two and is now attending the James Milliken University at Decatur, Illinois.

Mrs. Wiley is a graduate of the high school at Edgerton, Ohio, and received the Bachelor of Science degree from the Tri-State College at Angola. Before her marriage she taught school for eight years.

Mr. and Mrs. Wiley are members of the Lutheran Church and he is one of the trustees and is superintendent of its Sunday school. He is a republican and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. He served four years as trustee of Troy Township. His farm in that locality comprises 196 acres.

**WELDON HASKINS.** While his early education and training was directed so as to fit him for technical responsibilities in industrial affairs, Weldon Haskins since coming out of the army, in which he served with the Chemical Warfare Division, has taken up farming as the serious business of his life, and is now operating the old farm on which he was born in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County.

His family were among the earliest settlers of LaGrange County, and he represents the fourth generation here. His grandfather, Willis Haskins, was born in Cayuga County, New York, August 21, 1797, and was one of the earliest settlers in Springfield Township of LaGrange County, coming with his parents, Erastus and Mary (Moore) Haskins, in August, 1836. Willis spent practically all the rest of his life on the farm where his parents located and where his father died at the age of seventy-two and his mother at seventy. Willis Haskins improved 208 acres, became prominent in agricultural affairs, and lived to very advanced years. He was one of the early trustees of the township. On November 21, 1830, he married Miss Jane Jackson, who died April 5, 1856. She was the mother of eight children, named Elizabeth, Franklin, Charles, George, Albert, Mary J., Edith and Willis. For his second wife Willis Haskins married Mrs. Clarissa L. Murray, a daughter of John Kemp. They were married October 25, 1858, and two children were born to that union, Eugene and Ella. Three of the sons of Willis Haskins were Union soldiers in the Civil war, Franklin, Charles and Albert. Franklin died in service and was buried at Nashville, Tennessee.

The third generation of the family in LaGrange County was represented by George Haskins, who was born on the old Haskins place in Springfield Township. He married Emma Hoad, who was born near Ontario in LaGrange County. George Haskins had his education in the home schools and began farming in early manhood. About 1880 he located on the farm where his son Weldon lives. He has 300 acres, and had much of it cleared up and was a breeder of Shorthorn cattle. He was still in his prime when he died in 1898. The splendid building improvements on the farm were placed there during the ownership and management of his widow, who died in 1912. George Haskins was affiliated with the Masonic Lodge in Orland. He and his wife had four children: Pearl, Mrs. Peter L. Stauffer, of Howe; Lulu, who died at the age of three years; Weldon; and Elwood, who died when twenty-one.

Weldon Haskins was born on the farm where he lives today in Greenfield Township May 11, 1894. He received good advantages in the public schools of his home district, graduated in 1911 from the Orland High School, and later entered Kalamazoo College in Michigan, where he finished his work in 1917, receiving the Bachelor of Science degree. He made chemistry his major study. He then entered Yale University, but soon enlisted in the army, and was in the Chemical Warfare Service for one year. January 1, 1919, he returned home, and is now busily engaged with farming. Mr. Haskins is affiliated with the Masonic Order and the Eastern Star. June 25, 1919, he married Miss Pearl Scudder, daughter of Charles Scudder, of Clinton County, Michigan.

**WILLIAM E. BLACKMAN,** who recently retired from the office of township trustee of Fremont Township, has spent all his life on one farm in that locality. His people were early settlers, and the work which his father did as a pioneer has been carried on by the son and has made one of the best farms in Steuben County.

William E. Blackman was born on the farm where he lives today, July 23, 1860, a son of Allen P. and Margaret (Corbett) Blackman, and a grandson of Eleazer Blackman and William H. Corbett. His father was born in Massachusetts, March 3, 1812, and his mother in New York State. Allen P. Blackman moved from Genesee County, New York, to Branch County, Michigan, in 1855, and the following year came to Steuben County, locating in Fremont Township. He acquired land in section 17, most of it unimproved and uncleared, and in course of time had a well-developed farm of 102 acres. He died at the old home in 1899 and his wife in 1885. William E. Blackman is the youngest in a family of five children and the only son. His sisters were: Anna, deceased wife of James Turley; Elizabeth, also deceased, who married Solomon Alis; Martha, wife of F. R. Drury; and Amie, wife of Isaac Foss.

William E. Blackman attended the district schools of Fremont Township, also the village schools of Fremont, and as a boy helped his father with the farm and in young manhood took over its management independently. He has owned the home place since 1900, and since it has been in his possession the house has been remodeled and given added comfort. He has also built two barns and a silo. He has his farm well equipped for stock raising.

In 1887 Mr. Blackman married Miss Jeanette Sowle, a daughter of Francis and Elizabeth Sowle. They have a family of seven children, named Vere C., Eleazer, Frank, Kenneth, Margaret, Malvern and



Luana. Mrs. Blackman died in 1904. Mr. Blackman is affiliated with the Moose at Angola and the Masonic Lodge at Fremont. He has always enjoyed the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens, and he justified that trust during his term as trustee of the township from January, 1915, to January, 1919.

J. EDWARD EATON. Though Mr. Eaton is living today practically amid the scenes where he was born and reared, he has made his successful progress not by changing his location, but by diligently working to prosper and alter his material circumstances. He is one of the leading farmers of Clay Township in LaGrange County, and with the exception of a year and a half spent at Sturgis, Michigan, and eleven months in California has been in that township all his life.

He was born August 14, 1862, a son of Josiah and Rachel (Preston) Eaton. His parents were both natives of Sandusky County, Ohio. Josiah Eaton came to LaGrange County in 1845, and grew to manhood in Lima Township, but about 1856 moved to Clay Township, and for many years was one of the leading farmers of that locality. He and his wife had five children: Sarah E., J. Edward, Charles C., William and Alton H.

J. Edward Eaton grew up on his father's farm, had a district school education, and for many years has lived in section 15 of Clay Township, where he owns 141 6-10 acres of good farming land. In 1891 he married Lottie White, daughter of Washington White. They have six children; Lelah who died in 1917, the wife of James Fuller, leaving one child, Edna; Marie; Bertha, wife of John Howard and the mother of a son, John Calvin; Wava; Kenneth and Gilbert.

EUGENE DAVIS is one of the largest land owners in LaGrange County. For a quarter of a century he has planted crops and looked after his extensive interests as a farmer and stock raiser at his present home in Newbury Township.

Mr. Davis, who was born in Newbury Township, a half mile north of Shipshewana, January 22, 1857, is a member of an old and prominent family of the county, a more complete account of whom is given on other pages. His father was Hezekiah Davis, who was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, October 9, 1825.

Eugene Davis as a boy attended district school in Newbury, also was a student in the Ontario Collegiate Institute, and since early manhood has been a practical farmer. He did his first independent work as a farmer in Van Buren Township, but in the fall of 1893 came to his present home in section 12 of Newbury Township. Mr. Davis is the owner of about 1,230 acres in Newbury and Van Buren townships.

He is the head of a large family, he and his wife having had ten children, and there are a number of grandchildren which gather at the old home place in Newbury. On April 19, 1877, Mr. Davis married Alice Summey, daughter of Abraham and Rachel (Chambers) Summey. Abraham Summey, a son of John and Susanna Summey, was born in York County, Pennsylvania, in 1827, and in 1837 accompanied his parents to Wayne County, Ohio. Later he lived in Elkhart County, Indiana, and in 1850 married Rachel Chambers, who was born near Columbus, Ohio. In 1851 Abraham Summey moved to Newbury Township of LaGrange County, and he became the owner of 572 acres of land in that locality. He died in June, 1900, and his wife January 14, 1914. In the Summey family were six children, Susan, Eliza, John E., Ellis, Alice and Oliver. The

oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Davis was Stewart, who married Retha Newell and died February 27, 1904. The second, Beulah, is the wife of Edson Oxender and has four children, Ethel D., Ralph O., Helen Mae and Mildred O. Niles H., who is at present superintendent of schools in North Dakota, but expects to return and make LaGrange County his home, married Ida Foss, and their family consists of Esther Alethea, Doris Vivian, Keith Foss and Alice E., but the last named died when three months old. Opal, the fourth in the family, is the wife of Eldon M. Hostetler. Their children are Alice, Ruth, Paul, who died in infancy, and Elizabeth Mae, who was burned to death when three years old. Pearl Davis is the wife of Jay Conrad and has one child, Marion J. Eugene H. is still at home. Ocie married Willard E. Murray, and their children are Vera Beulah, Roscoe D. and Rachel Dorothy. Josie is the wife of Glenn E. Norris and the mother of Davis J. and Dorothy Melissa. Retha, the ninth in the family, died April 14, 1911, while Hewlitt M., the youngest, died March 21, 1900.

MICHAEL F. LONG. The life of the subject of this sketch has been such as to elicit just praise from those who know him best, owing to the fact that he has always been true to the trusts reposed in him and has been upright in his dealings with his fellow men, at the same time lending his support to the advancement of any cause looking to the welfare of the community at large.

Michael F. Long is a native of DeKalb County, having been born near Auburn on June 4, 1849. His parents, Michael and Caroline (Baird) Long, were natives of Georgetown, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, where they were reared and married. Subsequently they moved to Ohio, locating near Orville, Wayne County, but in 1845 moved to Auburn, Indiana, where they located on a farm. Seven years later they moved into Auburn, where Mr. Long opened a meat market, being a pioneer in that line here. That was prior to the use of refrigerators and most of the meat was peddled by wagon. This business he conducted until his death. He was a democrat in his political affiliations, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They were the parents of two children, Henry J., of Grand Rapids, Michigan, and Michael F.

Michael F. Long received a good education in the public schools of Auburn and then for a number of years he was engaged in teaching schools, being employed in the district schools and in Auburn. He then engaged in the mercantile business at Auburn, which claimed his attention for three years. Mr. Long then took the United States civil service examination and received an appointment as railway mail clerk. He held some of the earliest "runs" in this part of the country, having those from Chicago to Cleveland on the Lake Shore Railroad, from Chicago to Newark, Ohio, on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and then opened the route from Toledo to Dayton. Eventually, tiring of that vocation, Mr. Long came to Butler and opened a fine meat market, which he conducted about eight years. Then for six years he was engaged in the farming implement business, relinquishing that vocation to enter the office of county clerk, to which he had been elected on the republican ticket. He faithfully and efficiently discharged the duties of this responsible office for four years, and at the expiration of his term he returned to Butler and entered the employ of the McCormick Harvester Company, for whom he traveled for about seventeen years. Because of failing health he was compelled to resign that position, and

he then opened the Overland Garage at Butler, which he is now conducting and in which he has met with well-deserved success.

On October 8, 1871, Mr. Long was married to Vianna Stonebraker, and to them were born four children, namely: Blanche, the widow of Charles Felske; Lenore, the wife of Charles LaDue, of New Rochelle, New York; Louise, wife of Albert E. Whitehead; George, who was drowned near Butler when fourteen years of age. The mother of these children died in 1881 and in 1885 Mr. Long married Eva Share. To this union two children have been born, Frank L., a butter salesman, and T. M., who is interested with his father in the garage.

Politically Mr. Long has been a life-long republican and has taken an active part in the affairs of his community. His fraternal relations are with the Free and Accepted Masons and the Knights of Pythias. His life has become a part of the history of his community, and his long and honorable business career has brought him before the public in such a way as to gain the esteem and confidence of his fellowmen.

JOHN P. CATON is a member of the Caton Brothers, furniture and undertaking, having built up one of the largest and finest establishments of the kind in Northern Indiana. Mr. Caton, who started his career without fortune, has achieved definite success, and is rated as one of LaGrange's leading men of affairs and with a public spirit responsive to every community demand.

He was born at LaGrange, April 11, 1877, a son of Capt. John H. and Annetta (Kingsley) Caton. Concerning his father and mother's families extended reference is made on other pages. Mr. Caton was five years old when his father and mother moved to the farm in Milford Township where he grew up and lived until he was twenty years of age. He attended public schools near the farm home, also the South Milford High School, and took a business course in the Hawkins Commercial School at Huntington, Indiana. On leaving the farm he was for about six years employed in the Hawk Mills at Mongo. He left there and in order to prepare himself for the undertaking profession entered the Carl L. Barnes School of Embalming and Sanitary Science at Chicago, of which he is a graduate. After finishing his course he returned to LaGrange, for 2½ years was employed by Johnston Brothers, furniture and undertaking, and then joined his brother Claud in the undertaking business. A year and a half later they leased their present store in the Brown Block, and under the name of Caton Brothers have rapidly expanded their business as dealers in high class furniture and have an unsurpassed equipment and service for undertaking.

In 1917 Mr. Caton with Charles Smith, C. B. Hinkley and Rolland Van Kirk bought out the W. W. Murray plant and organized the LaGrange Creamery and Ice Company. He is one of the directors of that important local utility. He was also one of the organizers of the LaGrange County Trust Company and has been its vice president since organization. Mr. Caton owns eighty-five acres of good land in Milford Township, constituting a well improved and valuable farm.

He has been quite active in county politics as a republican and for the past ten years has held the office of county coroner. He is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of Mizpah Temple of the Mystic Shrine at Fort Wayne. He received his early degrees in Masonry in Meridian Sun Lodge No. 76, Ancient Free and Accepted

Masons, at La Grange. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias at LaGrange. In religious matters he is liberal, giving his chief support to the Methodist Episcopal Church.

May 21, 1899, he married Miss Maud Hawk, daughter of William C. and Augusta (Shepardson) Hawk, of Mongo, Indiana. Mrs. Caton died in January, 1902.

OTTO SIMMONS. Fully eighty years have passed since the Simmons family became identified with Steuben County. In that time three generations have contributed to the improvement and advancement of this section of Northeast Indiana. Otto Simmons is a member of the third generation, and is handling the operation of one of the fine farms in Jackson Township, which was developed from a wild estate by his father.

Mr. Simmons was born on the farm where he is now living August 10, 1880, son of Henry Simmons, who still lives with him, and grandson of Cephus and Lizzie (Churchill) Simmons. Cephus Simmons was born in Vermont and his wife near Plymouth Rock, Massachusetts. They were married in Vermont and in about 1837 started for the West. At that time there were no railroads, and they traveled partly by stage and partly by ox-team until they reached Steuben County. He lived most of his life in Jackson Township and as a mason followed his trade in Salem, Jackson and Millgrove townships. At the time of his death he owned a farm of forty acres in Jackson Township. His children were Harriett, Ellen, Henry, Maria, Lucy and Viola.

Henry Simmons, who was born in Jackson Township October 27, 1840, grew up in the pioneer days, attended local schools and after his marriage secured eighty acres of the present homestead farm. It was wild and uncleared land, and his first home was a log house. As he prospered he added more land until he had 110 acres, and all he spent on building improvements represents his investment and labor. Henry Simmons married Nancy Parker, a daughter of Isaac and Margaret Parker. They had four children: Philena and Hattie, both of whom died in childhood; Abbie, who is the wife of Oliver Walter; and Otto.

Otto Simmons secured his education in the Morgan District School of Jackson Township, and from early boyhood has been working on the home farm. For twenty months he lived on a nearby farm, and with that exception his entire life has been spent on the place developed by his father. Since 1900 he has been renting the farm and does general farming and stock raising.

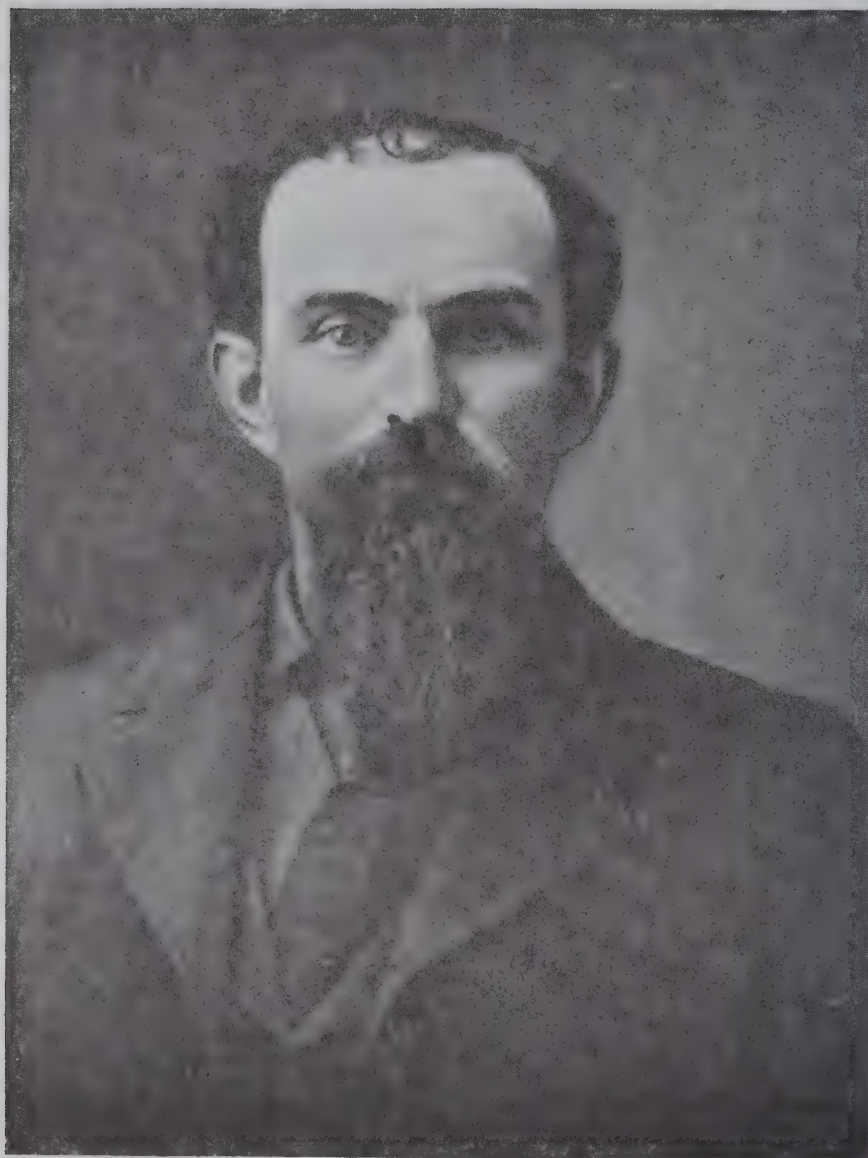
Mr. Simmons married in 1899 Mabel Tubbs, a daughter of Frank and Barbara Tubbs. They have four children: Wren, born in 1900, is a student of the High School at Flint, Lela, Ania and Frank.

DANIEL J. YODER carries the heavy responsibilities of managing and operating a large farm in Eden Township of LaGrange County. Largely through his individual enterprise and efforts he has made a success of farming, and his farm and home bear many evidences of his progressive spirit. His home is near Schrock.

Mr. Yoder was born in Holmes County, Ohio, September 19, 1856, a son of Jonathan J. and Catherine Yoder, the former a native of Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Holmes County, Ohio. Mr. Yoder went to Holmes County when sixteen years old and married for his first wife Rebecca Lantz. He had one son, Gabriel, now deceased. After the death of his first wife he married Catherine Yoder, and continued to live in Holmes County







*M. J. Van Garen*



until 1865, when he brought his family to Newbury Township of LaGrange County. After a brief residence there he bought another place, and finally bought the 160 acres where his son Daniel now lives, and was on that farm until his death. Of his thirteen children seven are still living: John J., of Newbury; Lydia, wife of Manassas Borntrager; Barbara, widow of Jonas B. Yoder; Jonathan, who married Magdalena Miller, of Eden Township; Benjamin C., of Eden Township, who married Mary Beachy; Daniel J.; David, of Newbury Township, who married Sarah Yoder.

Daniel J. Yoder was eight years old when brought to LaGrange County. Here he finished his education in the common schools and lived at home to the age of twenty-one. He then worked out at day labor, and being a young man of thrifty habits and sound industry soon accumulated about \$200. With that capital he rented his father's farm for two years, then for two years rented the place where he now lives, and then bought it.

November 14, 1878, he married Elizabeth Each. To their happy union were born twelve children, eleven of whom are still living: Samuel, Enos, Andrew, Jonathan, David, Emanuel, Anna, Sarah, (deceased), Daniel, Mary, Elizabeth and Menno. The family are members of the Amish Mennonite Church.

Mr. Yoder not only owns 150 acres of the old homestead, but also eighty acres across the road and eighty acres in another locality of Eden Township.

MELVIN J. VAN WAGNER. Of the numerous good farms in Jackson Township, Steuben County, one in its present day improvements and value represents years of faithful toil and good management on the part of its former owner, the late Melvin J. Van Wagner. Mrs. Van Wagner and her children still live on the old homestead and enjoy much of the prosperity created by her honored husband.

Mr. Van Wagner was born in Salem Township, Steuben County, March 2, 1852, a son of Harvey and Abigail (Parsell) Van Wagner. His parents came at quite an early day to Steuben County, settled in Salem Township on rented land, and Harvey Van Wagner followed several different occupations, including that of butcher. He lived at Flint for a time and died at Plymouth, Ohio. He was born in 1826 and died April 3, 1903. Mr. Van Wagner's mother passed away in 1875. Their children were six in number, Mary Jane, Melvin J., Diantha, Henry, Isaac and Sylvester.

Melvin J. Van Wagner received his education in the public schools of Salem Township, and leaving home at an early age he worked for others, both by the month and year. Finally he rented some land and later bought a place of forty acres near Turkey Lake. He sold that and again continued renting for several years and about twenty years ago he bought sixty acres, but later sold forty acres of that tract and then bought sufficient land to give him a farm of 200 acres in Jackson Township. It was with the cultivation and management of this farm that he was busied at the time of his death on October 23, 1916. He put up many improvements and as a stockman specialized in pure bred Shropshire sheep.

He was one of the leading democrats of the county and was twice a candidate for sheriff. He made a good campaign, but at that time the county was strongly entrenched in republican favor. Mrs. Van Wagner is a member of the Congregational Church, as was her husband.

October 4, 1874, he married Mary E. Laughrey, who was born in Salem Township March 31, 1856,

a daughter of John and Charity (Young) Loughrey. Her parents settled in that township in April, 1850, buying 160 acres southeast of where the Block Church now stands. Her father died there in 1865 and her mother in 1886. Mr. Laughrey was a democrat and his wife a Presbyterian. In the Laughrey family were ten children: Nancy, Emily, Andrew, William, James, George, Elmer, Irvin, Jane and Mary E. All of them grew to manhood and womanhood except James, who died in Ohio.

Mrs. Van Wagner was the mother of seven children, and now has a number of grandchildren. Her oldest child was Bernice, who died September 27, 1909. She was the wife of Ernest Shank and the mother of three children, named Arlo, Keith, who died at the age of five years, and Wier. Lloyd, who is now the active manager of the home farm, married Floy Shank, a daughter of Norman Shank, of Jackson Township, and they had seven children, Gerald, Raymond, Melvin, Dale, Hope, Wendall and one that died in infancy. The third and fourth children of Mrs. Van Wagner died in infancy. Bertha is the wife of Clyde Purdy, and their family consists of Vera, Elton, Robert, Alice, Paul and Byron. Carl Van Wagner married Hattie Groves and has two children, named Mary and Basil. Byron, the youngest of the family, married Florence Davis, and they have two children, Joyce and Harold B.

JACOB J. YODER. Hardly any name has a sturdier and more substantial record in connection with the agriculture, business, social and civic life of Northeast Indiana than that of Yoder. Jacob J. Yoder's family has lived in LaGrange County for over fifty-five years, and most of his own life has been spent within the borders of that county. His home was formerly in Clay Township but for several years past he has owned one of the good farms of Newbury Township.

Mr. Yoder was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, May 11, 1861, a son of Jacob and Barbara (Miller) Yoder. His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania, his father born December 11, 1831, and his mother October 22, 1835. They were married on March 3, 1854, and in 1863 came to LaGrange County and settled in Newbury Township. A year later Jacob Yoder went to Clay Township, and he lived on his farm there until his death in 1915. His wife passed away December 19, 1879. Both were members of the Mennonite Church. A record of their family of children is as follows: George, born March 21, 1855; Edward, born February 15, 1857, died in infancy; Lydia, born March 9, 1858, and died December 3, 1896; Jacob J.; William, born March 7, 1863; Samuel, born March 29, 1866; Fannie, born August 31, 1870; Lizzie, born October 29, 1872; Andrew, born September 11, 1875, died April 30, 1900; and Susan, born January 13, 1876.

Jacob J. Yoder was two years old when brought to LaGrange County, acquired his education in the district school near his father's home in Clay Township, and in early manhood began farming there. He owned a good farm of eighty-four acres in section 27, but sold this property in 1913 and bought his present home in section 1 of Newbury Township. He owns 151 acres and has repaired and put all the buildings in good condition and is well situated for the profitable handling of his operations as a farmer and stockman.

In 1884 Mr. Yoder married Sarah Miller, a daughter of Jonison Miller. Their married life continued for sixteen years, until the death of Mrs. Yoder October 2, 1900. To their marriage were born seven children: Ammon, who married Katie Mishler; Henry, who served in the National Army, spending

about six months in France; William, who was also a soldier, his time with the army being spent at Camp Taylor, Louisville, Kentucky; Owen; John; Norah, who is the wife of James Troyer and has a son, Samuel; and Artie. In 1908 Mr. Yoder married Rebecca Huber, a daughter of Jacob B. Huber of Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Yoder are members of the Mennonite Church. In January, 1912, they adopted a boy two years old and a girl three weeks old, and these foster children are receiving every advantage in their home. They bear the names Paul and Mary Yoder.

HERMAN E. KRUEGER is owner of the Forest View Farm in Fairfield Township of DeKalb County. The record of the family might be called a tri-county family history, having been identified with three counties in Northeast Indiana. His parents on coming from Germany first settled at Kendallville, and all the Krueger children except Herman, the youngest of ten, were born in Noble County. In 1880 the family moved from Noble to Steuben County, and there Herman E. Krueger was born December 4, 1882. Since reaching manhood he has established his home in DeKalb County. Some of the interesting facts and comments on the history of his parents are told in later paragraphs.

Herman E. Krueger married Paulina Kiebel April 10, 1910. They had a daughter born July 22, 1912. The wife and mother died two weeks after the birth of the daughter, and the child has since been cared for by his sister, Mrs. Augusta Richard of Kendallville. Mrs. Krueger was a daughter of Otto and Wilhelmina (Mensil) Kiebel. Her brothers, Otto, Albert and Abe, and her sisters, Bertha and Emma, are all residents of Noble County. Her parents came from Germany and Paulina was born in that country and was an infant when brought to America.

October 11, 1914, Mr. Krueger married Bertha Helen Voges. She is a native of DeKalb County and a daughter of Albert and Helena (Hoffmeyer) Voges. Her father came from Germany and in 1879 moved to Michigan and finally came to DeKalb County. Mrs. Krueger's sisters are Sophia, Mary and Emma, and she has one brother, John Voges. Mr. and Mrs. Krueger buried twin children. Their two living children are George Walter and Helen Sophia, who represent the fourth generation of the Krueger family in America.

The family home, Forest View, in Fairfield Township, is wholly surrounded by timber, and has become a farm of much value under Mr. Krueger's management. The family are members of Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church. Mr. Krueger attended parochial school one year, preparing for confirmation, while Mrs. Krueger was in the parochial schools until after confirmation and then attended public school. His chief education was acquired in the public schools of Salem Township of Steuben County. Under existing circumstances his own children will be given the advantages of the public schools. In politics the record of both the Krueger and Voges families has been throughout democratic.

The parents of Herman E. Krueger were Charles Henry and Sophia (Miller) Krueger. They came from Mecklenburg, Germany, and landed in New York City on New Year's Day of 1861, after eight weeks on the water. They were steerage passengers on a freight vessel laden with munitions of war shipped from Hamburg, Germany, to the United States at the time of the Civil war. There were triangular bars of lead ready to be made into bullets. The passengers on the boat included 100 German immigrants, and the Kruegers afterward knew

some of them and had them as neighbors and friends in America. The Kruegers brought their packs, containing blankets, clothing and other supplies. From New York they went to Cleveland aboard an emigrant train. From Cleveland they came to Kendallville. They began housekeeping with a store box for a table. Charles H. Krueger worked in stores at Kendallville for several years, until he was able to buy a farm in Steuben County. They were among good people and in time they were able to help others. "If father were living," says Mr. Herman E. Krueger, "he could fill up a history with the story of his life." Later Charles H. Krueger sent for his father and mother and a brother, Fred Krueger, who is still living at Sturgis, Michigan.

While Mr. Krueger's parents came in a sailing vessel Mrs. Krueger's father came by steamer and was on the water half the time. The Krueger family history in the New World began almost sixty years ago. Herman E. Krueger's mother is still living in Steuben County with her son William F. Krueger.

CHARLES GARLETS. The Garlets family has long been one of importance in LaGrange County, and several branches receive special attention in this publication. The home of Charles Garlets is a farm in Greenfield Township, and he is cultivating land today which his grandfather originally improved.

Mr. Garlets was born in Springfield Township, April 1, 1870, and is a son of John P. and Mary (Horner) Garlets. Of the earlier generations of the Garlets family nothing more need be said at this point, since the subject is covered elsewhere. Mary Horner was a native of Pennsylvania, a daughter of William and Mary (Graham) Horner, both natives of the same state. William Horner was a son of Jacob and Catherine Horner, who spent all their lives in Pennsylvania. William Horner brought his family to LaGrange County in 1868, locating in Greenfield Township. His first wife died in Pennsylvania, and his children by that marriage were Daniel, John, Noah, Mrs. Lizzie Laughery, Mrs. Mary Garlets and Anna. In Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, William Horner married Mary Millhoff. On coming west the Horner family traveled by railroad as far as Sturgis, Michigan, from which point teams and wagons brought them to LaGrange County. William Horner spent the rest of his life on his farm in Greenfield Township. By his second wife he had four children: Jemima, Eli (who died in infancy), William and Catherine. His sons Daniel, John and Noah Horner were all soldiers in the Civil war, and John was reported missing after one battle and his exact fate was never determined.

John P. Garlets was born and received his early education partly in Ohio and partly in Indiana, being a youth when his family came to LaGrange County. He did his first farming on the George Thompson farm, and in 1873 he bought twenty-five acres of the place where Milton Garlets now lives in Springfield Township. Later he owned ninety acres there, and his toil cleared up most of the land. In 1901 he moved to the farm owned by his son Charles in Greenfield Township. He had 160 acres there, this being land that his father had first owned. He and his wife lived there until they retired to Mongo in the spring of 1912 and he died in March, 1913.

Charles Garlets was the only child of his parents. He attended the Sand Hill School and the schools of Mongo, and after his marriage worked on his father's farm, at monthly wages, and also ran the homestead on his own responsibility. For three



years he farmed in Michigan and in 1910 he went west to the Yakima Valley of Washington, where he bought a farm and lived about a year. He then returned to his father's old place, and now regards that as his permanent home and himself as a fixture in the agricultural community. He is a breeder of full blood Shorthorn cattle.

On July 15, 1888, Mr. Garlets married Miss Almeda Cook. She was born in Portage County, Ohio, and her parents, Milton E. and Levina (Hull) Cook, were also natives of that county, and in 1873 came to LaGrange County and bought a farm in Johnson Township. They lived there nine years and north of LaGrange nine years, after which her father and mother went to Williams County, Ohio, and spent their last years in that county. In the Cook family were nine children, all still living, as follows: Eldora, Mrs. John Minch; Minnie, wife of William Fair; Mrs. Charles Garlets; Arilda, wife of Frank Sturgis; Ernest; Lily, wife of Elmer Sawyer, of Stillwater, Oklahoma; Chloë, Mrs. Clarence Damer; Edith, who is the wife of John Wrinkle and lives at Archbold, Ohio; and Viola, Mrs. J. P. Smith, of Bryan, Ohio.

Mr. and Mrs. Garlets have two children: Milton, born in 1891, married Bess Gochenaur, and Charles, Jr., Milton M. and John P. are the three grandchildren of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Garlets. The daughter, Thelma, was born in 1898 and is now a teacher in the Darrow school. She is a graduate of the LaGrange High School with the class of 1917.

**DANIEL A. SCHAEFFER.** Through a period of three-quarters of a century the name and good works of the Schaeffer family have effected a continuous impression upon the material and social progress of Fremont Township in Steuben County. A farm in section 16 of that township was originally acquired direct from the Government by the late John Schaeffer, and that farm today is owned and under the capable management and direction of his son, Daniel A. Schaeffer.

The late John Schaeffer was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, April 10, 1820, a son of William and Margaret (Beck) Schaeffer. Reared on a farm and with a common school education, he found his opportunities somewhat limited in the well-settled districts of Pennsylvania, where he spent his youth, and in 1845 he came to Northeast Indiana and entered a tract of land in Fremont Township. After he had completed his business transaction at the land office and had made some other preparations he and a Mr. Michael went back to Dauphin County, Pennsylvania. They walked the entire distance, the journey taking them three weeks. Few men aside from professional pedestrians would undertake such a journey today for any price. There was a strong stimulus urging John Schaeffer to make the journey. When he returned to Dauphin County he was married November 4, 1847, to Eve Walmer. She was a native of the same county, born in 1823. In 1848 John Schaeffer made permanent settlement on his land in Steuben County, and gradually cleared away the heavy timber until he had a cultivated farm, and owned 172 acres. He and his wife were active members of the German Methodist Church. John Schaeffer died May 5, 1904, and his wife passed away in 1901. Of their seven children five reached mature years: David J., John W., Eleanor E., Daniel A. and Margaret M.

Daniel A. Schaeffer was born at the old homestead in Fremont Township May 22, 1858, acquired his education in the district schools and began farming with his father. In 1887 he married Miss

Ollie Balch, a daughter of William and Susan Balch.

He then took his bride to Reading, Michigan, was engaged in the butcher business there six years, for another year lived at Coldwater, Michigan, in the same line of business, and then returned to look after the homestead farm, his parents being well advanced in years. He made his father and mother comfortable, and they lived with him until their death. Mr. Schaeffer owns ninety-six acres of the old homestead, and has it well equipped with buildings and other facilities for farming and stock raising.

He and his wife are members of the Evangelical Church at Fremont. They have five children, named Earl, Glenn, Hazel, Paul and Lyle. Earl married Edith Eastham and has two children, named Dean and Esther. Glenn married Laura Adams and has a child, Rolene. Hazel is the wife of Harold Hoffnaugle, and their family consists of Richard and Rollo.

**GEORGE F. CHRYSTLER** has been a resident of LaGrange County for half a century, and from farm labor and farm renter has so conducted his affairs as to become owner of a good farm and independently prosperous.

Mr. Chrystler, whose home is in Clay Township, was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, February 7, 1847, a son of Abraham Chrystler. There are several representatives of the Chrystler family in Northeast Indiana, and much of Mr. Chrystler's family history is told on other pages. Mr. Chrystler when a boy of only thirteen began working out by the month, and continued in that line until he was twenty-four years of age, then for about two years he was a renter, at the end of which time he bought his first land and is now owner of a good farm of 160 acres.

In 1870 he married Samantha Saylor, a daughter of William Saylor. They are the parents of five children and have a number of grandchildren. The oldest, William, married Rosa Olney and has three children, Arthur, Harley and Hazel. Bracie, whose first husband was Frank Smith, by whom she had two daughters, Alma and Ethel, is now the wife of Jacob Selig and has a son, Howard. Aja married May Snow and has a son, Raymond. Frank is at home. Guy married Viola Church, and they have a son, Harold.

**DANIEL J. GLICK.** The farming interests of LaGrange County are heavy and valuable, made so through the efforts of some of the best agriculturists of Indiana. One of the men who has achieved to an enviable prosperity in this very important industry is Daniel J. Glick of Newbury Township. He was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, July 9, 1863, a son of John and Martha (Hooley) Glick. These parents, in 1868, came to LaGrange County, Indiana, and for ten years lived on rented land in Middlebury Township, then buying sixty-seven acres of land, on which the father died May 17, 1896, aged sixty-six years, ten months and five days. He was born July 14, 1829. His widow, who survives him, was born March 15, 1835, and is now eighty-five years of age. Their children were as follows: Emma; Fannie; Daniel; Katie, who is deceased; Noah, who is a resident of Clear Spring; Lydia, who is a resident of Middlebury Township; John, who lives in Iowa; Jacob, who lives in Ohio; and Samuel, who also lives in Ohio.

Daniel J. Glick was only five years old when he was brought to LaGrange County, and he was here reared, and entered upon his industrial career as a farm hand, working by the month. Until he was twenty-one years old he gave his father the money

he earned. On January 28, 1886, he was married to Rosa Hostetter, born September 18, 1862, a daughter of Enos and Ann (Emmerick) Hostetter. Mr. Hostetter died in 1862, and his widow was again married and moved to Minnesota, where she died in 1918, aged eighty-two years. By her first marriage there were four children, namely: Martin, who is a resident of Wabash County, Illinois; Abraham, who lives in Minnesota; Jacob, who also lives in Minnesota; and Mrs. Glick. By the second marriage there were two children: Charles E. and Caroline.

After his marriage Daniel J. Glick lived on rented land and worked for others by the day until he inherited a third interest in the homestead of his father. He moved on this property and conducted it for three years, and at the same time rented 160 acres additional. At the expiration of the three years Mr. Glick bought forty-seven acres of land at Honeyville in Eden Township, for which he paid \$50 per acre, later adding twenty-seven acres to that farm, and operating it all until 1901. In that year he sold his property and went to Tioga County, Ohio, buying 225 acres at \$20 per acre. Three years later he returned to LaGrange County, and bought a farm of 160 acres in Newbury Township, for which he paid \$50 per acre, to which he has added eighty acres. He also owns two more pieces of property in this same township, one of twenty acres and the other of eighty acres. Still later he disposed of some of his property, but still owns 240 acres, well cultivated, on which are excellent buildings and fine improvements. All of what he now owns he has made himself, and deserves much credit for his success in life.

Mr. and Mrs. Glick became the parents of the following children: Katie, who is the wife of Noah M. Borntrager, of Eden Township, has the following children: Mahlon, Rosa and Enos; Moses, who is a resident of Defiance County, Ohio, married Barbara Harshbarger, and they became the parents of children as follows: Levi, Rosa, who died in 1918, Milo, Lizzie and John; Enos, who is a resident of Holmes County, Ohio, married a sister of the wife of his brother Moses, and their children are Katie and Ada, twins, Perry and Mary, the last named being deceased; Mattie, who married Earl Kemp, lives in Washington County, Iowa; and Anna, who is the wife of Atlee Miller of Newbury Township. Mr. and Mrs. Glick are members of the old order of Mennonites, and are most excellent people in every respect. Mr. Glick is a man whose spoken word is as good as another's signed note, and few men in his locality command such universal respect as he.

T. W. HARWOOD, of Wilmington Township, DeKalb County, was a soldier in the Civil war, and though more than half a century has passed since the close of that conflict he is still active as a farmer and citizen and still does a day's work when his stock and fields require it.

Mr. Harwood was born in Vermont, a son of Asa and Cynthia (Stockwell) Harwood, the former a native of Massachusetts and the latter of Vermont. When they left the Green Mountain State they moved to Medina County, Ohio, and in March, 1857, settled in Wilmington Township of DeKalb County, where they spent the rest of their days. Asa Harwood was a man well advanced toward age when the Civil war came on, but he enlisted in the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry and served until wounded and incapacitated at the battle of Stone River. After the war he lived on his farm and also followed his mechanical trade at Waterloo. He was the father of

five children, and two of the sons were in the war. The three children now living are Emmett, Henry and T. W. Henry was the other soldier son and now lives in Michigan.

T. W. Harwood was sixteen years old when he came to DeKalb County and he finished his education here in the district schools. He served nearly a year toward the close of the Civil war, and then returned to DeKalb County. In June, 1865, he married Julia A. Smurr. After their marriage they settled on the farm where they live today. Mr. Harwood has ninety acres in his own name and twelve acres belong to his wife. His land and other accumulations represent many years of faithful labor on his part.

Mrs. Harwood is a daughter of George N. and Rebecca (Kinsey) Smurr, and a granddaughter of George Smurr, who came as a pioneer to DeKalb County and entered forty acres from the Government, part of which is now in the home farm of Mr. and Mrs. Harwood. Mr. and Mrs. Harwood have six children: Albert W., born November 20, 1866, and married Elizabeth Dill; George N., born February 12, 1869, married Leora Love; Daniel C., born March 6, 1873, now deceased; Anna I., born February 9, 1876, wife of Fred Piper; Cecil L., born August 23, 1878, married Nora Gesinger; and Inez, born March 5, 1886, wife of Ray Treman. Mr. Harwood is a republican in politics.

HARVEY B. LEWIS, former county auditor of LaGrange County, is a native of Steuben County, where his people lived for a number of years, and the place of their original settlement in Northeast Indiana was Salem Township of Steuben County. Harvey B. Lewis for many years has been an extensive sheep breeder, and the farm he occupies and owns in Springfield Township is probably the oldest feeding ground for sheep in LaGrange County.

Mr. Lewis was born in Salem Township, Steuben County, November 3, 1877, son of Dwight and Sarah (Newnam) Lewis. His father was born in Chenango County, New York, in 1843, son of Harvey and Elizabeth (Bassett) Lewis. As noted elsewhere in this publication, the family came to Steuben County about 1850, and Dwight Lewis, then a boy of seven years, grew up on a farm in Salem Township, and finished his education in the Orland High School. As a farmer he started with forty acres, but soon went on the old Lewis homestead and was known for years as one of the leading feeders of cattle and sheep. He was a republican, and for three terms held the office of county commissioner in Steuben County. He was president of the Farmers Insurance Company for more than twenty years, from the time of its organization until his death. He was also affiliated with the Masonic Order, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias, while he and his wife were active in the Methodist Church.

Sarah Newnam was born in Springfield Township, LaGrange County in 1844, and the prominence of the Newnam family calls for some special mention here. Her father, Nicholas Benson Newnam, came to Springfield Township in 1836, settling on the land now included in the large place of H. B. Lewis, his grandson. He lived there until his death in 1876. Nicholas Benson Newnam was the father of fifteen children, and all of them are now deceased except Mrs. Sarah Lewis. One son was Samuel H. Newnam, who was born in 1841, on the farm now occupied by his nephew, Harvey Lewis. He spent his life there. With a capital of only \$100 he began renting the homestead



and after his father's death he bought 320 acres. He was a stockman, and made his farm widely known as a feeding ground for sheep. He was a republican and served as county commissioner of LaGrange County. Samuel Newnam married in December, 1870, Emma Faulkner, who was born in Springfield Township in 1841.

Dwight Lewis and wife had two sons, Benson R. and Harvey B. Benson was born June 1, 1872, and received his higher education in the Tri-State College at Angola and in Purdue University. His interests have been identified with livestock, and for a number of years he did a farming and stock shipping business. He still owns 490 acres in Steuben County, including the old homestead. His business abilities, however, have called him to greater responsibilities and on August 1, 1906, he moved to East Buffalo, New York, and from that date until March 1, 1919, was connected with the widely known livestock and commission house of Clay, Robinson & Company. He was hog salesman and manager of this company in the Buffalo market. March 1, 1919, he engaged as a salesman with Stacy, Dement & Beadle at East Buffalo. Benson Lewis married Nellie Strong and has two sons, Myron Dwight and Burdette Parker.

Harvey B. Lewis was reared on the homestead farm of his father, and attended public schools, supplemented by attendance at the Tri-State College in Angola. After his father's death he acquired eighty acres of the homestead and in 1918 sold that to his brother. Since 1901 he has been on the Samuel H. Newnam farm of 320 acres. He rented it until 1908, and then bought the old Newnam place. Among other improvements he has erected a second dwelling house on the farm. As noted above he makes a specialty of sheep feeding, and is one of the leading men engaged in that business in LaGrange County. He was one of the organizers of the Farmers State Bank of Stroh in 1915, and has since been president of that institution.

March 15, 1906, he married Olive Dunham, who was born in York Township, Steuben County, in 1879, a daughter of Lorenzo and Sarah Dunham, pioneer settlers of Steuben County. Her mother is living in Springfield Township. Mr. and Mrs. Lewis have two children: Burton, born October 12, 1907, and Geneva, born July 28, 1909.

PETER F. WEAVER was born at old Brockville, now Fremont, September 24, 1848. He was six years old when Brockville was changed to Fremont. He was born on a farm and still lives on a farm. His home is sixty-six acres within the village limits of Fremont. He has been a life of more than seventy years, and in that time he has witnessed a wonderful panorama of change. The first school he attended in the village was kept in a log school house. He was in school only during the winter terms and when there was little to do on the farm. The school was a subscription school, supported by the families who had children there, and besides money contributions the different families also contributed wood supplies. Peter F. Weaver has plowed many a day with an ox team and he helped to build the first railroad through Fremont.

He comes of a family of pioneers and of patriotic Americans. His father, Jacob Weaver, was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, son of Henry and Polly Weaver, both natives of that state. Henry Weaver came to Steuben County, following his son Jacob, and spent his last years here. His children were Jacob, George, Susannah and Polly. Polly became the wife of Mike Bailey.

The parents died in Fremont Township. Henry Weaver, January 10, 1855, age seventy-seven years and four months, and his wife, Polly, died September 24, 1851, age sixty-nine years.

January 20, 1842, Jacob Weaver married Margaret Schaeffer. She was born in Susquehanna Township of Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, October 16, 1823, and represented a lineage that has helped to make American history. The first representative of the Schaeffer family in Pennsylvania was John Nicholas Schaeffer, who sailed from Rotterdam, Holland, on the ship Dragon, George Spencer, Master, and arrived in Philadelphia September 6, 1749. He settled in Berks County and was commissioned captain of the First Battalion, Berks County Militia, January 20, 1777. His battalion rendered service in Pennsylvania, New York and New Jersey in the War of the Revolution. John Nicholas Schaeffer became an extensive land owner and one of the most influential members of old Berks County. He married Juliana Margareta Michael, whose parents sailed from Rotterdam, Holland, on the Phoenix, John Mason, Master, reaching Philadelphia September 15, 1749. The children of John Nicholas Schaeffer and wife were all born in Heidelberg Township of Berks County, as follows: Christian, born July 24, 1753, became a large land holder in Dauphin County; Casper, born November 27, 1754; Margareta, born January 1, 1757; Elizabeth, born March 4, 1759; Susanna, born January 13, 1761; Nicholas, born September 12, 1763; Felix, born February 17, 1766; Anna Margaret, born February 1, 1768; Michael, born May 15, 1770; William, born June 20, 1772; Johan, born January 1, 1775; and John born March 27, 1778. The father of these children died November 3, 1780, and his widow August 26, 1804. Members of the Schaeffer family have participated in every American war in the history of the nation, including the Revolutionary, the Whiskey Insurrection, the War of 1812, the Mexican and Civil wars, the various Indian wars, the Spanish-American war, while a direct descendant, one of the Weaver family of Steuben County, Indiana, was in the present war with Germany.

William Schaeffer, maternal grandfather of Peter F. Weaver, was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, at the date above noted and died in 1831. In 1813 he married for his third wife Margaret Beck, who was born June 4, 1790. The children of William Schaeffer were named Barbara, Samuel, Jacob, John, Margaret, Catherine, Susannah, Daniel, Peter, Mary and Lydia. William Schaeffer was a distiller in Pennsylvania and after his death his widow and her children managed the distillery. After her sons came to manhood she came to Fremont, Indiana, about 1844, where her sons Samuel and John were living.

Jacob Weaver and wife with their two children, William Henry and Mary Amanda, left Pennsylvania in 1845, and they came to old Brockville in Steuben County, making the journey with a horse team. Jacob Weaver at that time bought thirty acres of land from Evert Parmenter, located a half mile northeast of the present town of Fremont. Only one acre had been cleared, and the only structure was a small log house. Jacob Weaver did much to improve his circumstances, owning fifty-two acres of land and making a comfortable home and other provisions for his family. He lived there the rest of his life. He was a member of the German Methodist Church and a republican in politics. His family consisted of four children: William Henry, born October 10, 1842, and died April 12, 1859; Mary Amanda, born September 23, 1844, wife of Henry Lott; Priscilla Ann, born August 22,

1846, and died March 16, 1859, and Peter F., who was born September 24, 1848.

Peter F. Weaver married March 30, 1873, Clara E. Fox. She was born July 27, 1854, a daughter of Jacob K. and Susannah (Michael) Fox. In the year of his marriage Mr. Weaver began farming on a place near the old home, but in 1889 he returned to the homestead and built the house in which he now lives in comfort. He has lived there for thirty years, and still looks after the farm. His wife died April 9, 1908. She was the mother of four children: Villa and Lillie, twins, born January 10, 1875, the former dying September 28, 1875; Bertha May, born December 1, 1881; and Rolland J.

Rolland J. Weaver, who was born February 26, 1894, is exemplifying the fighting blood of his Schaeffer ancestors, and is now in France with the Three Hundred and Ninth Supply Company of the Quartermaster's Corps. He went to France June 6, 1918, landing at Brest on the eighteenth of the same month, and was still with the army of occupation in April, 1919.

ARTHUR G. SMITH, assessor of Johnson Township, LaGrange County, has spent all his life on one farm in that locality, his place being located in Woodruff.

Nearly fifty years ago at one corner of that farm stood an old tavern by the wayside and in that house Arthur G. Smith was born October 1, 1870. His parents were Michael and Sarah (Bower) Smith. His father was born in Alsace-Lorraine, a French subject, on May 24, 1837. The mother was born in Ohio, February 28, 1841. He died March 10, 1890, and she passed away August 17, 1903. Michael Smith came to the United States when a boy, the family locating in LaGrange County, where he grew up and learned the trade of blacksmith from his father. He worked as a blacksmith all the rest of his life and conducted a shop on the farm where Arthur G. Smith now lives. He was the father of eight children, five of whom are still living: Charles F., of Salt Lake City, Utah; Byron, a captain in the National army, and still in the overseas service in France in April, 1919; Arthur G.; Eugene, who lives in Detroit, Michigan, and is foreman in the interlocking and signal department of the Pere Marquette Railroad; and Mayme, wife of Melvin Rowe, of Great Falls, Montana.

Arthur G. Smith has spent his entire life in LaGrange County and is now cultivating land that has produced perhaps fifty successive crops for the Smith family. His farm comprises sixty-two and a half acres. He received his early education in the local schools and lived at home until he was twenty-one. On November 18, 1897, he married Cora M. Preston. She was born near LaGrange August 17, 1876, a daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Preston, and received her education in the public schools of LaGrange and was a successful teacher before her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have three children: Hazel M., who is attending the high school at Wolcottville; and Carl F. and Glenn E., both in the common schools. Mr. Smith is a republican in politics and was elected on that ticket to the office of assessor.

JACOB RHEINHEIMER. The record of this well known citizen of Newbury Township introduces a prominent family of LaGrange County, one that has been a live and progressive factor in the county history for more than half a century.

Jacob Rheinheimer was born in Newbury Township February 27, 1870, a son of John and Anna (Miller) Rheinheimer. His mother was born in 1845, a daughter of Christian Miller, who was one

of the early settlers in LaGrange County and died in Eden Township. Christian Miller married a Miss Hostetler. John Rheinheimer was born in Germany in 1840 and in 1861, at the age of twenty-one, settled in Holmes County, Ohio. Two years later, in 1863, he moved to LaGrange County, Indiana, was married here, and out of his careful savings bought a farm of eighty acres. In 1879 he sold that place and went to Oregon, where he remained from August to the following April. He then returned to LaGrange County and settled in Newbury Township, where he owns 138 acres. He died February 12, 1906, and his wife in 1886. Their children were Polly, Christian, Mary, Carrie, Jacob, John (deceased), Lizzie and Minnie.

Jacob Rheinheimer grew up on a farm, had a public school education, and in 1899, twenty years ago, bought forty acres of his present home farm. Later he bought fifty acres more and also has another place of sixty-five acres in Newbury Township. He has acquired these properties through his long continued industry and good management and they represent practically financial independence. Mr. Rheinheimer is a breeder of Belgian horses. He and his family are members of the Mennonite Church.

In 1891 he married Rachel Sunthimer, a daughter of Fred Sunthimer, while her maternal grandfather was Joseph Miller, an early settler in LaGrange County. Reference to the Sunthimer family is made on other pages of this publication. Mrs. Rheinheimer died in 1895, the mother of three children, Uriah Edward, John Frederick and Ira J. In 1898 Mr. Rheinheimer married a sister of his first wife, Mary Ann, who at that time was the widow of Jacob J. Johns. By her first marriage she had two children, Addie and Hettie, both now deceased. Hettie married Eli Plank, and at her death left a daughter, Mary Catharine, who now lives with Mr. and Mrs. Rheinheimer.

H. S. PLATNER is proprietor of the old Platner farm seven miles east of Auburn in Wilmington Township, and has 118 acres under a perfect state of cultivation and efficient management.

Mr. Platner was born on this farm February 23, 1869, and has assisted in its cultivation for nearly thirty years. He is a son of Samuel and Sofia (Reynolds) Platner, both natives of Pennsylvania. The father was born in Lancaster County March 14, 1814. They were married in Marion County, Ohio, farmed there for two years and in 1847 moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, first settling in Concord Township and later moving to Wilmington Township on the farm now owned by their son. The mother died there in 1893 and the father on March 26, 1895. He was a democrat and an active member of the Masonic Lodge at Newville. Of the nine children three are now living: Laura, widow of Willam Stroh, of Auburn; J. E. Platner, who lives near St. Petersburg, Florida; and H. S. Platner.

H. S. Platner grew up on the home farm and had a district school education, supplemented by several terms in the Angola Tri-State College. He spent two years as a locomotive fireman on a western railroad, and on returning to DeKalb County he married Bertha Rose on May 4, 1891. She has lived in DeKalb County since early girlhood.

Mr. and Mrs. Platner have two children: Joy, wife of Rolland Muhn, a contractor and carpenter of Auburn; and Jessie Platner. They also have two grandchildren. Mr. Platner is affiliated with St. Joe Lodge No. 602, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a democrat in politics.

FRANK MCKINLEY. For several years before his marriage Frank McKinley was working as an in-



dustrial farm hand in LaGrange County, and about thirty-five years ago he settled on a farm in Springfield Township and has been giving a good account of himself as a local agriculturist ever since. For the past few years he has been a factor in the Mongo community, where he owns a small farm adjoining the village.

He was born in Ashland County, Ohio, September 9, 1855, a son of William and Sarah (Romine) McKinley. His paternal grandparents were Samuel and Mary (Starky) McKinley, the former a native of Ireland. He married and lived for several years in Pennsylvania and moved to Ashland County, Ohio, when his son William was about fourteen years old. Samuel and Mary McKinley both died and are buried at Hayesville, Ohio.

William McKinley, father of Frank, was educated in Pennsylvania and Ohio, and during the early forties moved to Greenfield Township of LaGrange County, where for one year he rented a farm. That was before the old Plank Road to Fort Wayne was built. This road is mentioned because his business in early days was freighting and teaming to Fort Wayne. Later he returned to Ohio, and in 1862 settled in Jackson Township of DeKalb County, Indiana, where he cleared up a tract of land and lived the life of a farmer until his death. He and his wife are buried in the Cedar Creek Cemetery. He held several local offices. William McKinley was twice married. He was the father of fourteen children by his two wives. His first wife was Mary Sheneman, and her children were Belle, Benjamin and Adam. For his second wife he married Sarah Romine, who was born at Woodruff, Indiana, a daughter of Ross Romine, who married a Miss Oliver. Ross Romine and wife were married at Woodruff in LaGrange County, and lived there and also in Ohio. Six of the Romine sons were Union soldiers and two of them were killed in battle. The children of William McKinley and Sarah Romine were Ross, James, Samuel, Frank, William, Stephen, Alexander, Almida and Arminda, twins, Jane and Louisa. Of these Samuel, Alexander and Almida are deceased.

Frank McKinley spent most of his early life in DeKalb County. The home in which he was reared was one of strict Presbyterian influence, both parents being stanch members of that church. At the age of twenty he came to Springfield Township, LaGrange County, and worked on the farm of John Booth until his marriage. He then located on the farm where his son Clyde now lives, and developed that place of eighty acres, putting up all the buildings and clearing part of the land. In 1916 he moved to his present home at the edge of Mongo, where he built a fine residence and has a farm of thirty acres well diversified, one of his specialties being the breeding of Duroc hogs.

In 1883 Mr. McKinley married Miss Flora Custer. She was born in Ohio and was two or three years old when her parents, Daniel and Elizabeth (Roush) Custer, came to LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. McKinley had five children: Bessie, Mrs. Herman Haskins, of LaGrange; Clyde C., on the old farm; Clifford, in a lumber yard at Jones, Michigan; Evert, cashier of the State Bank at Hicksville, Ohio; and Mildred, at home. Mr. McKinley has for many years been affiliated with Mongo Lodge of Knights of Pythias.

Daniel Custer, father of Mrs. McKinley, was born in Stark County, Ohio, August 29, 1832, a son of Isaac and Rebecca (Machen) Custer. Isaac Custer was born either in Scotland or of Scotch parents, while his wife was of Irish ancestry. Daniel Custer was one of a family of eight children, was

reared and educated in Stark County, and married there Elizabeth Roush. She was a native of Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and a daughter of Frederick and Christina (Roush) Roush, who died in Tuscarawas County. James Custer, a brother of Daniel, was a Union soldier during the Civil war. Daniel Custer brought his family to LaGrange County in 1866, and after a brief residence at LaGrange located on a farm in Springfield Township, where he cleared the land and made a good home. His farm contained 120 acres, and both he and his wife died there. They were members of the Lutheran Church. In the Custer family were six children: Margaret, Mrs. Alonzo Wilson; Amanda, wife of John Fair; Jefferson; William; Flora, Mrs. Frank McKinley; and Ella, deceased wife of Ralph Fair.

SANFORD McELHENIE is an intelligent and prosperous young farmer of Steuben County, and in the twenty years since he attained manhood has made a great deal of progress in bettering his own circumstances and has at the same time been a factor in the welfare of several communities where he has lived and worked.

Mr. McElhenie was born in Camden Township of Hillsdale County, Michigan, January 11, 1878, a son of Sanfrancisco and Margaret (Logan) McElhenie. His mother was born in Williams County, Ohio, a daughter of Robert and Caroline (Ovenhouse) Logan. Robert Logan moved from Williams County to Clear Lake Township of Steuben County in 1871, and spent the rest of his life on a farm south of Clear Lake. He was the father of seven children, named Elizabeth, Margaret, Samuel, Thomas J., Lettie, George W. and Clyde.

James E. McElhenie, grandfather of Sanford, was born in Pennsylvania and married Priscilla Teeters, a native of Sandusky County, Ohio. From Ohio this family moved to Steuben County about 1853 and were among the early settlers of Clear Lake Township. James McElhenie spent the rest of his years in that township and died in August, 1894. He and his first wife had four children: Edgar M., Sanfrancisco, Elisha M. and Mary. After the death of his first wife James E. McElhenie married Lucinda Wallace, of Williams County, Ohio, and by that union there were six children, named Clara, Sadie, Cora, Della, Linnie and Ada.

Sanfrancisco McElhenie, generally known as Frank, was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, came to manhood in Clear Lake Township of Steuben County, and during his active career was a prosperous farmer there, owning 120 acres in that township and also fifty acres in Fremont Township. He retired from the heavier responsibilities of the farm in March, 1915, and has since lived in the Village of Fremont. Mrs. McElhenie died there June 9, 1918. They had one son and two daughters: Sanford, Jennie, wife of Earl Cope, and Hattie, wife of Ira Thomas.

Sanford McElhenie, though a native of Michigan, has spent practically all his life in Steuben County. He acquired his early education in the district schools of Clear Lake Township, attended the Tri-State Normal College, and for several terms was a successful teacher. His home was with his parents until he was twenty-five years of age. In 1903 he began farming on eighty acres which he had bought in York township, and for fifteen years was one of the substantial agriculturists of that locality. In March, 1918, he moved to his present place in Fremont Township, where he has 120 acres in sections 22 and 27 devoted to general farming and stock raising.

Mr. McElhenie on June 24, 1903, married Laura

Dean, a daughter of John and Rachel (Parr) Dean, of Litchfield, Michigan. To their marriage were born four children: John S., Rowena, who died March 5, 1919, Franklin S., who died May 1, 1914, at the age of six months, and Linnie Lucile. Mr. McElhenie is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

**SAMUEL P. HOSTETLER.** The best Americans today are those whose energies are devoted to the productive processes by which the world is fed and clothed. Measured by this standard, Samuel P. Hostetler, of Clay Township, in LaGrange County, has an enviable record. He has been a practical farmer all his life and has sought no honors beyond those connected with good honest toil and kindly relations with his community.

He was born in Eden Township, September 27, 1871, and is of a family whose long connections with this part of Northeast Indiana have been surveyed on different pages of this publication. His grandfather was Moses J. Hostetler, who was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, June 9, 1812. He married Elizabeth Mast, who was born May 1, 1822. They were early settlers in LaGrange County, and Moses died April 17, 1894, and his wife August 9, 1889. Their children were John M., Elizabeth J., Elias M., Moses M., Eva, Paul J., Lizzie, Polly, Jacob J., David J., Andrew J., Uriah J. and Henry J.

Paul J. Hostetler, father of Samuel P., was born November 25, 1847, in Holmes County, Ohio. November 16, 1869, he married Esther Miller, who was born October 16, 1851, a daughter of Samuel D. and Fannie (Baumgardner) Miller, both natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Samuel D. Miller moved from Somerset County to Newbury Township of LaGrange County about 1843, and spent the rest of his life as an honored and diligent worker. He established his home in the midst of the heavy woods, built a log house and eventually cleared up and developed a good farm of 160 acres. The Millers were all members of the old order of the Amish Mennonite Church. In the Miller family were nine children: Sarah, who died in childhood, Joseph, Daniel, Mary, Elizabeth, Barbara, Esther, Samuel and Yost.

Paul J. Hostetler began farming in Eden Township soon after his marriage. He remained there about six years and spent the rest of his career in Newbury Township. His widow is still living on the old farm. Its buildings and improvements represented his management and labor. He and his wife were also of the old order of the Mennonite Church. Paul Hostetler did a successful business as a farmer and stock raiser, and at one time owned about 800 acres of land. The children born to him and his wife were Samuel, Moses, Emma, who died December 4, 1876, Elmer, Perry, who died February 1, 1888; Paul Almon; Andrew Omer; and Early P.

Samuel P. Hostetler acquired his education in the district schools of Eden Township, farmed in that locality, but about twelve years ago moved to his present place in Clay Township, where he owns 160 acres. He and his wife are members of the Mennonite Church. March 11, 1893, he married Elizabeth Yoder, and they have two children, Orley O. and Wilma. Orley married Bessie Nelson and has a daughter, Susannah.

Mrs. Hostetler is a daughter of Jacob J. and Barbara (Miller) Yoder, the former born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, December 11, 1851, and the latter on October 22, 1853. Jacob J. Yoder, who died in 1913, spent many years of his life as a farmer in Clay Township. His children were:

George A., Lydia, deceased, Jacob J., William M., Samuel J., Fannie, Elizabeth, Andrew, deceased, and Susan.

**JOHN CRAMPTON.** Just as the young men of today have rallied to the defense of the country did the "boys of the '60s" respond to the call for troops, and not only did the latter stay in the service as long as they were needed, but when they returned home they developed into fine citizens, assisting their government in times of peace as well as in those of war. The experiences of these old soldiers and the success attained by so many of them in the days after the war must prove encouraging to the veterans of the great war who face practically the same problems. One of these honored veterans of the Civil war, who for many years was a leading agriculturist of Steuben County, is John Crampton of Steuben Township.

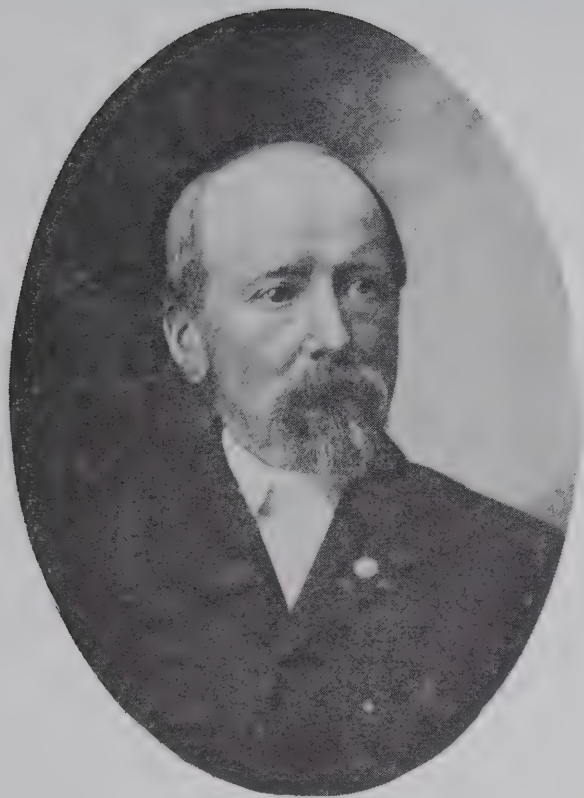
John Crampton was born in Lincolnshire, England, September 24, 1841, a son of William and Mary (Oatfield) Crampton, the former of whom was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1817. In 1849 William Crampton came to the United States, leaving his family behind him until he could make a home for them, and the journey across consumed six weeks. In the fall of that year he located land in Steuben Township, Steuben County, Indiana, and in 1850 sent for his family. Mrs. Crampton came to join him, bringing the five children with her, and it took her thirty-one days to cross the ocean. They were poor and had to work hard, and before they died were very prosperous, owning one of the finest farms in the township. The five children born in England were as follows: Henry, John, William, Herbert and Tom, and after they were settled in Steuben County, three others, Martha, George and Jesse, were born to them.

John Crampton was brought up to make himself useful at home, and when he began working for others, as he did when old enough, his services were of value. Although not born in this country, John Crampton is a loyal American and proved it very conclusively when he enlisted for service during the Civil war, on October 24, 1864, in Company A, Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry. He received his honorable discharge September 14, 1865.

Returning home, the gallant young soldier was united in marriage on November 28, 1865, to Amelia A. Shaver, a daughter of Franklin and Fila Shaver. The following December Mr. and Mrs. Crampton moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, where they were engaged in farming for 2½ years, and then returned to Steuben Township and bought land. In 1883 they built the brick residence they still occupy, and they have erected all the other buildings on the farm, as well as made many other improvements. The farm comprises 317 acres of very fertile land, and it is exceedingly valuable. During the earlier days Mr. Crampton was a contractor for digging ditches, and during that period conducted his farm with hired help.

Mrs. Crampton is a most remarkable lady, being now in excellent health and holding the record for not requiring medical attention, for she has not called upon a physician for professional aid for fifty-three years with the exception of having had a broken bone set in her wrist. Mr. and Mrs. Crampton have never had any children. They are known all over Steuben County, and few people are so popular. Mr. Crampton has always advocated improvements in the public schools and of the public highways, and can always be relied upon to give his assistance to whatever measures are on foot to bring about a betterment of existing conditions.





John Crampton, Mrs. Amelia A. Crampton





EDWARD A. WOLFE. Of all the lines of business that engage the attention of men and firms in the United States today, none equal in importance those connected with the production and handling of food stuffs, particularly grain, the food of the world. The carrying on of this business in an honorable way, to assure justice both to themselves and the public, is a matter of grave consideration with such firms as Wolfe & Bevington, owners and operators of two grain elevators at Shipshewana, and additionally interested along assimilated lines. The members of the above firm are men of sterling character and of considerable business experience, and both personally and as a firm they enjoy the confidence of the public.

Edward A. Wolfe was born in Van Buren Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, January 25, 1890, and is a son of Christian and Rosanna (Schwartz) Wolfe. Both were born in 1850, in Wurtemberg, Germany, and grew up and were married there. When they came to the United States they settled first in Ohio, coming from there to LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1880. The father bought forty acres of land in Van Buren Township and engaged in farming there for some years, then moved to St. Joseph County, Michigan, and there his death occurred in 1896 from a stroke of lightning. The mother of Mr. Wolfe still lives in Michigan. They had the following children: Rosa, Lucy, Frank, William, Ernest and Edward A., all of whom are living.

Edward A. Wolfe attended the public schools and was graduated from the Brighton High School. In 1913, in association with his brother William Wolfe, he bought a grain elevator at Shipshewana, after farming for himself for a year. Then Frank Bevington bought a half interest in the elevator, and the firm of Wolfe & Bevington has become one of large importance here, owning and operating two elevators at present, buying wool and handling all kinds of farm products. In addition to carefully attending to the business of the firm Mr. Wolfe is a justice of the peace, to which office he was elected on the republican ticket.

On November 30, 1913, Mr. Wolfe was united in marriage to Miss Norma Bevington, who then lived at Sturgis, Michigan, but was born in Ohio, September 20, 1894. She is a daughter of Frank and Martha (Robeck) Bevington, now of Shipshewana. Mr. and Mrs. Wolfe are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His political support has been given the republican party ever since he reached manhood.

During the World war Mr. Wolfe proved true and loyal. On September 3, 1918, he enlisted for service in the Motor Transport Corps, going first to Lafayette, Indiana, and from there was transferred to Fort Sheridan, Illinois, later to Camp Merritt, New Jersey, and from there to Camp Mills, Long Island. While at Fort Sheridan he was made truckmaster. His training was thorough, but before his unit took passage for overseas the armistice was signed with the enemy, and soon after he was released from the obligations he had himself assumed when he felt such to be his duty.

Frank Bevington, father of Mrs. Wolfe, and Mr. Wolfe's business partner, was born in Van Wert County, Ohio, September 20, 1869, a son of James H. and Malinda (Hooks) Bevington, the former of whom was born in 1837 in Van Wert County, and the latter in 1838 in Mercer County, Ohio. James H. Bevington was a farmer before he enlisted for service in the Civil war, in which he served two years in a heavy artillery regiment. Of his six children Frank was the third in order of birth. He was reared in Van Wert County and attended the public schools and took a course in the Ohio North-

ern University at Ada. For sixteen years he occupied himself in farming during the summers and taught school in the winters. In 1909 he removed to St. Joseph County, Michigan, where he bought a farm of 120 acres, and after selling that property became manager of the Sturgis Grain Company at Sturgis, and two years later bought a grain elevator at Atkins, Michigan, which he operated until 1915, when he came to Shipshewana, Indiana, bought a half interest in his son-in-law's business, and since then has been one of the city's active business men.

In 1890 Mr. Bevington was united in marriage to Miss Martha Robeck, of Mercer County, Ohio, and they have had children as follows: Lillie, who became the wife of Alonzo B. Smith, of Van Wert County, Ohio, has two sons, Gordon and Gale; Norma A., who is the wife of Edward A. Wolfe; Henry Guy, who was the first man to enter the World war from Newbury Township, LaGrange County, enlisting in August, 1917, and sailing for France in November following, and is yet in Europe; and Malinda C., who is a student in the high school at Shipshewana. Mr. Bevington has always given his political support to the republican party, but has never felt inclined to accept any public office. He was reared and has in turn reared his own family in the faith of the Methodist Episcopal Church. For many years he has been identified with the order of Odd Fellows and prizes his membership in the lodge at Ohio City, Ohio.

VERNON L. KEPLER, whose farm interests are located a half mile north of the village of Arctic in Troy Township of DeKalb County, is president of the Arctic Co-operative Shipping Association, one of the most successful marketing organizations of the farmers in that section of Northeast Indiana. The manager of the association is C. H. Fetter; P. S. Farnham is secretary and treasurer, and the other directors are Charles Lehman, M. S. Enterline, Charles Ridge, Lewis Miller, George Harmon and Fred Kimple.

Vernon L. Kepler was born in Franklin Township of DeKalb County January 17, 1874, a son of Samuel and Malinda (Rosenbury) Kepler. His father was a native of Stark County, Ohio. The parents were married in Indiana, and then settled on a farm in Franklin Township, where they lived until the death of the mother. They were active members of the United Brethren Church and the father was a democrat. The children were: Nealia, wife of Henry Oberlin; Alta, wife of William Lewis; Mertie, wife of Jink Houlton; Vernon L.; and Jennie, wife of Ward Fisher.

Vernon L. Kepler grew up on the home farm in Franklin Township and had a district school education. He remained at home with his father until he was twenty-five years of age. April 15, 1901, he married Mattie McClintock, who was born in Troy Township. They have four sons, Arthur, Chester, Fern and Roscoe. Arthur completed the work of the common schools at the age of fifteen and is now in high school.

Mr. Kepler is affiliated with Butler Lodge No. 158 of the Knights of Pythias and is past chancellor of the lodge. He is a republican, is present supervisor of his township and a member of the Township Committee. For a number of years he has been successfully identified with farming, and has a well improved place of 140 acres.

HARLOW J. HERN is one of the citizens of longest residence and most honorable standing in LaGrange County. In fact he is one of the oldest living native sons. He was born near Plato in

Bloomfield Township, December 22, 1834 or 1835. One part of his life record that commends him especially to the present generation was his service as a Union soldier during the Civil war.

His parents were William and Sarah (Goodneau) Hern, both natives of the State of New York. The paternal grandfather, William Hern, followed his son William to Indiana, and spent his last days with him. The maternal grandfather also came to LaGrange County, but suffered so much from the ague, then prevalent here, that he returned east. William and Sarah (Goodneau) Hern came to LaGrange County from New York in 1837. That was a day when there were no railroads in the Middle West, and they made the journey by team and wagon. Their first home was near Plato in Bloomfield Township, where they were participants in the historic Association Farm near where Brighton now is. Part of the land now owned by Harlow J. Hern was included in his parents' possessions. Later William Hern owned the very farm where Harlow lived for so many years, a little west of Brighton, a portion including some of the old Association Farm. William Hern had about 180 acres, and cleared much of it and improved it with good buildings. He and his wife had three children: William, deceased; Susan E., deceased wife of Samuel Bradford; and Harlow J.

Harlow J. Hern grew up in a pioneer community, attended the schools that were maintained near his home, and also was a student in a school at Salem, Ohio. In 1862 he enlisted in Company C of the One Hundredth Indiana Infantry. He enlisted as a private, later was made corporal, and by special ability was assigned to scouting duty. While in command of a detachment of scouts and carrying dispatches to Knoxville he was accidentally wounded. His revolver was in his boot and as he jumped off his horse the trigger was caught in the bridle reins and the discharge caused a severe wound in his leg.

After the war Mr. Hern lived on the old farm, and was actively identified with agriculture and stock raising there until his residence burned in February, 1917. Since then he has made his home at Brighton, where he has bought a residence. His farm until recently was the same size as that of his father's. This farm is now occupied by his son-in-law, and a new home has been erected to replace the old one. Mr. Hern in former years raised fine cattle and standard bred horses. He has been a factor in community affairs, serving three years as township trustee.

About 1856, in Ohio, he married Miss Martha Mix, a native of that state and a daughter of James and Naomi Mix. She died the mother of four children: Willis, Charles and Harlie, and Arthur died in infancy. Charles is now deceased. September 28, 1881, at Burr Oak, Michigan, Mr. Hern married Miss Mary A. Mohler, daughter of William and Esther Mohler, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. The Mohler family came to Indiana about 1867. Mr. and Mrs. Hern had four children: Mary, Grace, Ross and Maude. Grace is deceased.

**E. L. KIESTER.** One of the most progressive farmers and stockraisers of this part of Indiana is E. L. Kiester of Pleasant Township, Steuben County, who is known far and wide as a breeder of the large type of blooded registered Poland-China hogs. He was born in Noble County, Indiana, March 1, 1866, a son of Levi and Catherine (Cromley) Kiester. Levi Kiester was born in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, and his wife was born in the same county. In 1842 Levi Kiester came to

Indiana from his native state, locating on a farm in Noble County. At that time there were still Indians in that section of the state, and the most rigid pioneer conditions prevailed, so that the family suffered many privations, but lived through them and became well-to-do and active in local affairs. He owned and conducted a farm of 200 acres in Washington Township, Noble County, remaining there until his death in 1901. Levi Kiester and his wife had the following children: John, Mary, Emily, George, Charles, E. L. and Ambrose (who is deceased), and five others who died when very young. For a number of years Levi Kiester was well known as a Mason.

The children of this generation would feel that they were very much abused if they had to attend a school like the one which housed E. L. Kiester and his schoolmates in Washington Township, Noble County, Indiana, and yet he and they there learned the fundamental principles to which they later added knowledge through experience and observation of men and events. There Mr. Kiester grew to manhood and began farming on the homestead, but later went into a merchandise business at Defiance, Ohio, and conducted it for eight years, when he sold it, and in November, 1915, came to his present 180-acre farm in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, Indiana, renting it until he moved on it, after he bought it in 1912. He has made practically all of the improvements on the place, including the erection of the buildings, and he has also increased the fertility of the soil, the farm having been very much run down when he bought it, but through the application of scientific knowledge it has been completely reclaimed and is now one of the best rural properties in this part of the township. Experiment having taught him of the desirability of raising the large type blooded Poland China hogs, all registered, he has specialized along this line for some years and now has some of the best swine in Northern Indiana. His success in farming and stock raising proves conclusively that it does pay to cultivate the land according to modern methods, and that time and money invested in this way makes large returns.

Mr. Kiester married Nevada Harper, of Ligonier, Indiana, who died in early life, leaving him an infant daughter. In 1904 Mr. Kiester married Mary D. Hoyles, of Garrett, Indiana, who was born at Avilla, Noble County, Indiana, a daughter of Simon and Ellamanda Beeber, early settlers of Noble County. Mr. and Mrs. Kiester have one son, Edwin Lee Kiester, at home. Mr. Kiester's daughter, Beulah, who married John Brown, lives in Canada. Mr. Kiester also has one step-son, Harry Hoyles, who lives in Decatur, Illinois.

**JAMES H. MILLS.** The Mills home, known as the Drake farm, is in section 5 of Johnson Township, LaGrange County, in the same locality where Mrs. Mills has spent practically all her life. The farm comprises eighty acres. Mr. Mills started out when he left home as a farm worker at monthly wages, and is one of the men who has achieved independence in farming though starting with very limited capital.

He was born in Johnson Township, August 10, 1870, a son of Charles H. and Hopey A. (Gardner) Mills. His father, a native of New York State, came to Indiana when a boy, grew up here and lived out his life as a farmer in Johnson Township. In politics he was a republican, and he and his wife were very devout members of the Methodist Church at Valentine and gave liberally to all church causes. Of their family of six children four are living:



James H.; Clara, wife of Arthur Huff; Laura, wife of Milton Bellman; and Vera, wife of Raven Drew.

James H. Mills received a common school education and attended the high school one year. He was nineteen years old when he left home and became a wage earner by working for neighboring farmers, and he continued in that way until he had the experience and the meager capital which encouraged him to start life independently. On August 17, 1890, he married Nina E. Drake, daughter of Joseph A. and Severnia E. (Turner) Drake. Her father was born in Wood County, Ohio, and her mother in Ashtabula County, Ohio, and after their marriage they came to Indiana about 1870, stopping at Waterloo and then settling in Johnson Township of LaGrange County, where they spent the rest of their years. Joseph A. Drake served three years as a Union soldier in the Civil war, and was a member of the Masonic order. Mr. and Mrs. Drake had two daughters: Elminda, born May 3, 1869, was married in 1888 to L. J. Baldwin and is now deceased. Nina E. was born September 9, 1873, and had a common school education. Mr. and Mrs. Mills have four children: Ethel E. is a graduate of the common schools and had three years in high school. She is now the wife of William H. Baker. Hazel, a graduate of the common schools, married Delbert Carney. Ilo is the wife of Herman H. Baker. Jasper D. is a graduate of the common schools and is now a student in the Wolcottville high school. The family are members of the Methodist Church and Mr. Mills is one of the trustees, while Mrs. Mills is secretary of the Ladies' Aid Society and treasurer of the Missionary Society at Valentine. Both are members of the Gleaners.

SILAS H. NUGEN. Probably every farm owner and farmer in DeKalb County claims acquaintance with Silas H. Nugen, who for many years has been a leader in the agricultural community and the progressive affairs of farmers. Mr. Nugen's career has been one of self help, and progress from limited circumstances to a position of one of the leading farmers and land owners of the county.

He was born in Jackson Township of DeKalb County February 2, 1857, a son of John and Rebecca (Hughes) Nugen. His father was a native of Ireland, came to the United States when a young man, lived in Ohio until after his marriage, and then came to DeKalb County and secured 160 acres in Jackson Township. His first home was a log cabin, and when that was replaced by a frame house a fire destroyed the building and he had to build over again. He was reared a Catholic but later became affiliated with the Methodist Church. He was a democrat in politics. John Nugen died about 1865, and was the father of six children.

Silas H. Nugen, the only one of these children now living, grew up on the home farm in Jackson Township and was a small boy when his father died. At the age of fifteen he took upon himself the responsibilities of earning his way and worked out at monthly wages and also attended winter terms of school whenever possible. For three years he was employed by John Sheffer and then for about three years was with William Carr. Being thrifty and industrious he accumulated about \$700, and with that capital he rented the Carr farm. He also bought an interest in a threshing outfit and operated it for two years. Mr. Nugen paid \$1,300 for eighty acres covered with heavy timber, and as he cleared the land he sold the timber and put the cleared spaces into crops.

September 1, 1885, he married Emma Bartels. At that time he moved to his present farm. Mrs. Nugen was born in Noble County, Indiana, but was living

in Jackson Township at the time of her marriage. In connection with farming and clearing his land Mr. Nugen bought a threshing outfit and conducted it for thirteen years, rendering an important service to the grain growers of the county. Later he bought another eighty acres, and at the present time has 428 acres in DeKalb County.

Along with the building up and management of his farming interests Mr. Nugen has again and again been called upon for public duties. He was elected and served five years as township assessor and later filled the office of township trustee six years. He was one of the organizers of the Grange in Jackson Township and was its master. He is now manager of the Farmers Shipping Association at Auburn and is treasurer of the DeKalb County Federation of Farmers. He is affiliated with Auburn Lodge of the Knights of Pythias and is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Nugen have seven children: Roy, Dorsey, John, Frank, Harold, Lelah and Hayes.

HENRY W. KLINE is a well known farmer and onion grower in Troy Township of DeKalb County. Mr. Kline is a young man, but has much to show for the energetic years of his active career. He had only \$250 of capital when he bought his present farm of seventy-one acres, and he has handled his land and its resources and his business affairs with such efficiency as to be considered one of the independent and substantial men of his community.

He was born in Williams County, Ohio, October 17, 1882, a son of John and Christina (Kaiser) Kline, the former a native of New York State and the latter of Ohio. His parents were married in Williams County, and settled on a farm close to the Indiana line. They are members of the German Lutheran Church and the father is a democrat. There were twelve children, and those to grow up are: Henry W.; Louise, wife of Daniel Erney; Clara, wife of William Linn; Clarence, of Elkhart, Indiana; Fred, of Williams County, Ohio; Charles, also of Williams County; Ida, Hettie, Wayne and Ernest, all at home.

Henry W. Kline attended the district schools of his home community until he was sixteen years of age and lived at home with his parents until he was twenty-seven. On August 11, 1910, he married Lou A. Wise. She was a graduate of the Butler High School and for many years was a successful teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Kline are members of the United Brethren Church, the Zion Church, and he is superintendent of the Sunday school. He is also affiliated with Eden Lodge No. 644, Knights of Pythias, and in politics is a republican. Mr. Kline is a stockholder in the Arctic Co-operative Association.

DANIEL GARLETS. One of the improved farms in Springfield Township of LaGrange County is that owned by Daniel Garlets, much of the property having been in the possession of the family for nearly half a century. Mr. Garlets has been one of the busy and substantial men of his community for many years.

He was born near New Philadelphia or Canal Dover in the Tuscarawas County, Ohio, February 5, 1857, a son of Peter and Maria (Fair) Garlets. His father died April 7, 1914, after having resided in LaGrange County for forty-seven years to the day. The mother died in 1889. Daniel Garlet grew up on the home farm from early childhood, attended the public schools of Indiana, and since early manhood has been a farmer. He owns 157 acres and for a number of years was one of the farmer specialists, growing vegetables and other

truck. Besides the old home property he has other lands. Mr. Garlets is a republican and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

In 1878 he married Miss Mary Faust, of Branch County, Michigan. Mr. Garlets has children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. His first wife's two children were Willie and Pearl. Willie, who lives at Bronson, Michigan, married Eliza Jennings, a daughter of Edgar Jennings, of Springfield Township, LaGrange County. Their two children are Clarice and Marie. Clarice is the wife of Joy Q. Dennis and is the mother of two children, Robert and Legeru. Marie is the wife of Don Harris. The daughter Pearl married Carl Bartholomew and her five children are Claude, Kenneth, Oscar, Leon and Berneta, deceased. Mrs. Garlets died in 1900, and in 1901 he married Mary A. Campbell, who was born in Decatur County, Indiana, in 1877. To their marriage have been born five children, Goldie, Peter, Lucile, Eunice and Paul. Paul died at the age of two years.

DAVID B. KUHN is known as a man who has achieved a worthy success, having started in life with little save the skill and strength of his hands, and is now proprietor of the Lakeside Farm, situated on the banks of Long Lake in Noble and York townships of Noble County. He has 238 acres and is one of the enviable men who are now well established in American agriculture.

Mr. Kuhn was born in Noble Township of Noble County January 20, 1862, son of Samuel and Martha (James) Kuhns. His father was born in Lancaster County, Ohio, and his mother in the same state. Samuel Kuhns came to Indiana as early as 1832, locating in the southern part of Noble Township, where he entered a fractional eighty acres. His wife's people were also early settlers in York Township and cleared up a farm there. After their marriage Samuel Kuhns and wife moved to Noble Township, where they spent the rest of their lives as industrious farmers. He was a republican in politics. In their family were four children: James M., deceased; Phoebe, wife of Thomas Collier, of Pierceton, Indiana; John, deceased; and David B.

David B. Kuhn spent his early life on a farm adjoining the Lakeside Farm which he now owns. He attended the district schools and was fourteen years old when his mother died. Two years later he started out to earn his own living. He worked in brickyards, on railroads and at other employment, and at the age of twenty-one found himself possessed of a wife and one horse. He then rented land from his father, and has made such good use of his opportunities and energies that he now owns not only his father's old farm but also the farm of his wife's father, altogether constituting one of the best landed estates in Noble County.

December 25, 1882, Mr. Kuhn married Miss Catherine Taggart. She was born in Noble Township of Noble County, December 25, 1864, daughter of John and Sarah (Mayfield) Taggart. Her father was born on the Isle of Man January 12, 1819, and came to America on a sailing vessel, being nine weeks on the ocean. Landing in New York, he came on west to Indiana and located near Ligonier. His first wife, Catherine Clark, whom he married on the Isle of Man, died soon after coming to the United States, leaving four children, Thomas R., John J., William C. and Eliza. He then married Sarah Mayfield, who had been previously married and had one child, Elizabeth Fair. They became the parents of eleven children. Ten of them are still living, as follows: Edward; Lafayette; Martha;

Sadie and Catherine, twins; Sherman; Sophronia; Frank; Charles; and Amos. Catherine Taggart was reared in Noble Township, and attended the district schools near her home.

Mr. and Mrs. Kuhns have four children: Dorris is a graduate of the common schools and was trained as a stenographer, and is now the wife of Hilbert Walters of South Bend. Samuel, after graduating from the high school and the Tri-State College at Angola, became a teacher and is now owner of the Albion Garage. He married Oma Shoe. The two youngest children of Mr. and Mrs. Kuhns are Dale and Glenn, both at home.

Mr. Kuhns is affiliated with Albion Lodge No. 97, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, is a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias, and in politics is a republican.

GEORGE OLIVER HARDING, of Clay Township, represents one of the oldest families to settle in LaGrange County. The Hardings have been here for more than eighty years and their record is one of industrious and good citizenship and undoubted patriotism.

George Oliver Harding, whose father died while a Union soldier, was born in Clear Spring Township of LaGrange County, September 22, 1862. His grandfather, Oliver Harding, was a native of New York State and married Almira Leonard. In 1835 they brought their family from New York to Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County, entered 160 acres of land, and made some of the first clearings in the wilderness of this county. Oliver Harding did not live long to develop his holdings, since he died April 12, 1837, his wife passing away in October of the same year. They have four children: Leonard, born November 12, 1831; Levi, born August 26, 1833; Demick, born March 15, 1835; and Elisha, born April 22, 1837.

Elisha Harding, who was born in Clear Spring Township, was one of the first white children born in that locality. He grew up there in pioneer days and in 1861 married Elizabeth Bain, daughter of Peter and Sarah J. (Schermerhorn) Bain. Elisha Harding soon left his young wife to go into the army, enlisting in the 129th Indiana Infantry. After he had been in service for a couple of years or more he returned home on a furlough, and immediately on rejoining his command was sent to the hospital with erysipelas. Later he developed smallpox and died January 24, 1864. His widow survived him with one child, George Oliver, and after the death of the husband a daughter was born, Sarah Jane. Mrs. Elisha Harding after the death of her husband moved to Lima Township, and died March 25, 1905.

George Oliver Harding attended district schools in Lima and Clay townships and has made the best of his opportunities through his industrious life. In 1883 he bought his home farm, comprising eighty acres in section 20 of Clay Township.

In 1892 Mr. Harding married Martha E. Chrystler, a daughter of William and Van Lula (Latta) Chrystler. Mrs. Harding died February 11, 1909. The children, eight in number, most of them at home with their father, are Sarah Jane, Julia Catherine, Laura L., Esther Van Lula, Ruth A., Amy Viola, William Oliver and Gladys E.

RAYMOND U. BOWSER came to Spencerville from Allen County, Indiana, less than twenty years ago, and he and his wife had as cash assets not more than six dollars. He began farming, but his natural bent for salesmanship and business has been turned to advantage and he has built up an extensive business at Spencerville, dealing in livestock, and handles a large amount of goods used both in town and



country, including fireproof safes, sheet metal for all purposes in buildings, pumps, plumbing supplies, windmills and gasoline engines.

Mr. Bowser was born in Perry Township of Allen County, Indiana, September 17, 1878, a son of Theo and Celia A. (Gloyd) Bowser. His father was also born in Perry Township, and is still living on a farm in that county. The mother is deceased. Both were active members of the United Brethren Church, and Theo Bowser has been a republican. There were three children: Raymond U.; Ivan, of Fort Wayne; and Homer, a farmer in Perry Township.

Raymond U. Bowser grew up on the homestead farm, attended public schools and at the age of eighteen entered the Bowser factory at Fort Wayne, where he thoroughly learned a trade as a mechanic and machinist. He spent about five years there, and in 1900 came to DeKalb County and located on a farm west of Spencerville. Beginning almost in poverty, he has made such good use of his time and opportunities that he owns today the most modern and best home in Spencerville and is also stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank and is one of the busiest men in the community.

Mr. Bowser is a republican in politics and his wife is a Methodist. They have four children: Roy, who graduated from high school at the age of sixteen and is now assisting his father, Cleo, who has completed the work of the common schools, and Gale and Ada.

FRED C FAST, who recently became identified with the business community of Angola, where he is rendering a useful service in helping supply that city with pure milk, is a member of an old and interesting family of Steuben County, where he himself was born and has spent his life.

His grandfather was Christian Fast, who came to Northeast Indiana in 1852. He was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania in 1814, son of Martin and Catherine (Blosser) Fast. In 1816 the family joined the few scattered pioneers of Ashland County, Ohio, where Christian Fast grew up in a frontier community. On coming to Steuben County in 1852 he settled in Pleasant Township, where in the course of a quarter of a century he developed a fine farm, after taking it as wild land, and surrounded himself with every material comfort and evidence of popular esteem. He died December 13, 1898. In 1839 he married Henrietta Sowle, who was born in New York State in 1820. They had a family of eight children.

Allen Fast, a son of Christian Fast, is widely known in Steuben County as one of the former sheriffs. He was born in Ashland County, Ohio, August 25, 1845, and from the age of seven lived on his father's farm in Pleasant Township. Winter terms of school and summer work in the fields were his early opportunities and advantages. He also learned the carpenter trade. From 1878 to 1882 he was trustee of Richland Township, and in the latter year was elected sheriff, and by re-election in 1884 served two terms. Since retiring from this office he has been primarily engaged in farming in Richland Township, but is now living retired in Angola. He has been noble grand of his lodge and four times represented his lodge in the Grand Lodge of Indiana Odd Fellows. In 1864 he married Julia A. Sowle, daughter of Isaac and Ann Marietta Sowle. She died in 1866, the mother of one child, Curtiss. Allen Fast married in 1869 Emma Gaskell, who was born in Scott Township of Steuben County, daughter of Asa and Emily (Goodale) Gaskell. By this union there were four children, Stanley, Fred, Ethie and May.

Mr. Fred C. Fast was born at Metz February 25, 1878, and supplemented the advantages of the district schools of York Township with studies in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola. As part of his life experience and service he taught school twenty-two months. After that he settled down to the industrious business of farming in Richland Township, and for fifteen years also operated a sawmill and converted a large amount of native timber into good hardwood lumber. In the spring of 1919 he left his farm and established his retail dairy business at Angola.

Mr. Fast married in 1900 Miss Artie Deller, daughter of John A. and Lucy (Mercer) Deller. They have four interesting young children, Ralph, Wanda, Margaret and Christian. Mr. Fast is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, and is a past chancellor of Metz Lodge No. 411. With his family he is a member of the Christian Church.

MELVIN EUGENE WILSON. The Wilsons have been regarded as one of the most permanent families of LaGrange County, and their activities as farmers and good citizens have made them especially well known in Springfield Township.

Melvin Eugene Wilson was born in that township June 1, 1857, a son of Wallace William and Elizabeth (Notestine) Wilson. Wallace W. Wilson came to LaGrange County when a young man, was married, and in 1861, at the call of his country, he left his farm and his family to enlist in Company G of the Thirtieth Indiana Infantry. He served as a courageous soldier until he was shot in the leg in the battle of Stone River. He died and was buried at Nashville, Tennessee. He left two children, Isaac Elonzo and Melvin Eugene, the latter being about six years old when his father died. The widowed mother carefully reared her two sons and lived to the advanced age of eighty-six, passing away February 22, 1917.

Melvin Eugene Wilson received his primary education in Springfield Township, and since early youth has known no other occupation than farming and has always been a resident of his present community. He bought the farm where he now lives about 1906. This farm has two complete sets of building improvements, and the buildings where his son Roy lives were put there by Mr. Wilson himself. He owns 290 acres, and he and his son are well known stockmen, keeping pure-bred Shorthorn cattle, Duroc Jersey hogs, high grade Shropshire sheep and grade horses.

In 1880 Mr. Wilson married Miss Catherine Alice Horner. She was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, daughter of William and Mary (Milhuff) Horner. Her parents came from Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, to LaGrange County in 1868 and settled in Greenfield Township, where they spent the rest of their lives on a farm. Mrs. Wilson's grandparents all lived out their lives in Pennsylvania. Four children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Wilson, the two oldest, Earl and Marvin dying young. Corda is the wife of Claud Funk and has a daughter, Margaret E., their home being on her father's farm in Greenfield Township. Roy is associated with his father in farming and on February 22, 1916, married Miss Neva McKinzie, daughter of Nelson McKinzie, a native of Springfield Township. Roy and wife have one daughter, Evelyn May.

JOHN B. A. W. MUGG. Members of the Mugg family were identified with the pioneer element in Pleasant Township of Steuben County, locating there during the decade of the thirties. A prominent representative of this family was the late John

B. A. W. Mugg, who began life a poor boy and by industry and good judgment acquired a competence. He was a farmer and business man and was widely known throughout Steuben County.

He was the son of Jesse J. and Elizabeth (Squires) Mugg. Jesse J. Mugg was born in Yates County, New York, February 13, 1814, and married Elizabeth Squires, a native of Ontario County, New York, January 17, 1818. The date of their marriage was June 12, 1836, in Sandusky, Ohio, and between the years 1841 and 1844, they came to Steuben County, Indiana, where they engaged in the hotel business at Angola. Jesse J. Mugg died at Angola, September 9, 1864. His wife passed away December 6, 1854. Their children were: Sarah Caroline, born July 13, 1839, at Sandusky, Ohio, died at Angola, November 21, 1857; Mary Jane, wife of Charles Merriam, born September 8, 1841, in Sandusky County, Ohio, died in Chicago in 1903; Adaline Louisa, born June 25, 1844, at Angola, died March 20, 1845, at Angola; Francis Lafayette, born June 21, 1846, at Angola, died February 28, 1847, in the town of his birth; John B. A. W. (the subject of this memoir), born October 13, 1850, in Angola, died November 1, 1910, at Angola; Helen Eliza, born June 27, 1848, at Angola, wife of Andy Hackett, deceased, who resides at Beatrice, Nebraska, the only surviving member of her parents' children.

Jesse J. Mugg married for his second wife, Nancy Nichols, on December 24, 1861, but there were no children by that union. Concerning Jesse J. Mugg's career it may be stated that by trade he was a shoemaker, and when he first came to Angola he purchased lots from the northeast corner of the public square east to Martha street. On the corner of East Maumee and the public square, was a building in which Mr. Mugg conducted a shoeshop. Subsequently he owned and conducted the Russell House, then known as the Eldorado. He owned a stock of goods in the Carver building; in 1852 he and his wife moved this stock to Elkhart; where they conducted a store two years, and in 1854 returned to Angola, to the same building they had left. Mr. Mugg soon built a building just west of the Russell House, into which he moved his general stock of merchandise. Later, he sold out his stock to John Bigler, who moved it to Michigan. In 1855 Mr. Mugg bought the property on the corner of West Maumee and North Superior street, where he remained until his death, September 9, 1864. During the time he resided in Angola, he was county treasurer, from 1844 to 1850. He had stock in the Jonathan Weaver grist-mill and after its destruction by fire, he went into the rebuilt mill in order to retrieve his loss. Politically, Mr. Mugg was a democrat, and his fraternal society affiliations were numbered among the Masons and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was one of the original members of the Angola Lodge of Odd Fellows formed in 1857.

John B. A. W. Mugg, son of the above named Jesse J. Mugg, born in Angola, Indiana, October 13, 1850, lived in the place of his birth until the death of his father in 1864, when he went to Clyde, Ohio, to live with his uncle, Basil Mugg. His uncle had a life scholarship at Hillsdale College (Michigan) and John was sent there, but not liking it, returned to Clyde. When seventeen years of age, he went to Missouri, where he clerked in a store, but finally returned to Angola, where he lived with his sister, Helen Eliza, wife of Andy Hackett. At the age of twenty-one, he again returned to Clyde, Ohio, and settled up with his uncle, who had been his legal guardian, and then came to Angola. He was not given his full name until large enough to talk. His father wanted him named Warwick and the mother

desired his name to be Arthur. His uncle, Basil Mugg, told him if he would have his name—John Basil, he would give him a colt. After that he called himself John Basil Arthur Warwick Mugg. When he went to Clyde to make settlement with his uncle, he received the promised colt and rode it back to Angola.

He of whom this sketch is written was reared and educated mostly in Angola, and from 1888 to 1891, was engaged in the grocery business, having for his partner his father-in-law, Moses L. Freligh. In 1894 Mr. Mugg moved to his farm at the west end of Crooked Lake, in Pleasant Township, but in 1900, returned to Angola and in 1907, built the substantial brick home at the corner of North Wayne and Broad Streets, where his daughters, Lola and Mabel, now reside.

Mr. Mugg was united in marriage March 18, 1880, to Miss Sophia Adelaide Freligh. She was born in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, September 1, 1858, daughter of Moses L. and Eleanor (Lockwood) Freligh. Her father was born in Ontario County, New York, May 12, 1828, and her mother in the same county and state, May 20, 1833. John Freligh, father of Moses Freligh, came from Holland to Clyde, Ohio, when he was twelve years old.

Moses Freligh came to Steuben County in 1834; he was married December 16, 1856, and lived on the old Freligh farm three and one-half miles northeast of Angola, where his father had settled upon coming to this county. By occupation Moses Freligh was a farmer, but was also interested in business in Angola, where he died May 30, 1908. His wife passed away November 30, 1914. They had celebrated their golden wedding anniversary in 1906. Eleanor Lockwood was a daughter of James and Ann (Berry) Lockwood, who in the spring of 1837, arrived in Steuben County and settled on a farm that is now owned by Charles McClue. Ann Berry Lockwood came from Ireland when four years of age. In 1855 James Lockwood moved to Atlantic, Iowa, where his wife died October 21, 1876, aged sixty-nine years and seven months. He then returned to Steuben County and lived here till death in 1881, at the age of seventy-seven years and four months. James Lockwood was a carpenter by trade. He and his wife had the following children: Ann, born July 27, 1829, died August 10th of the same year; Albert, born September 29, 1830, and died August 2, 1861; Eleanor, born May 20, 1833, died November 30, 1914; Lucy Kirk, born March 29, 1836; Adelaide, born April 28, 1844, died August 9, 1852. Moses and Eleanor Freligh had two children, Sophia Adelaide and Elsie May. The latter was the wife of Fred L. Pickett, and after his death became the wife of Homer S. Green of Bluffton, Ohio. By her first husband, she had a daughter, Emma L. Pickett Clymer. Mrs. Clymer has one child, Margaret Louise, born October 14, 1915.

Concerning Mrs. Mugg it should be said that she was a well educated woman, having attended high school under Professor Williams and Professor Albert W. Long. Mr. and Mrs. Mugg were the parents of two daughters, Lola Inez and Mabel Adelaide, of whom further mention will be made.

Mr. Mugg, after enjoying the prosperity earned by his years of industry, spent the last years of his life in comfort and died November 1, 1910. His widow passed away May 17, 1917. Politically, Mr. Mugg was a democrat and in lodge affiliations was a member of the Masonic order, also a member of the Odd Fellows Lodge. In Masonry, he had advanced high and was a member of Angola Commandery No. 45, Knights Templar. Both he and



his wife were charter members of Irene Court No. 44 of the Tribe of Ben Hur.

Of the two daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Mugg, above named, it should be said that Lola Inez was born in a home owned by her grandfather, Freligh, on North Wayne street, May 5, 1888, and graduated from the Angola High School June 1, 1907. She completed her course in the Tri-State College June 1, 1916. She is a graduate in music with the degree of B. M., also finished a course in art, and has been a talented and successful teacher. For two years she taught music in Fort Wayne, from May, 1915, to May, 1917.

Mabel A. Mugg, sister of Lola Inez, was born in Angola, May 28, 1892, graduated from high school in 1909, and for three years attended the Tri-State College. She began teaching in 1910, and for two years was at Churubusco, one year at Helmer, and she also taught three years in the South Whitley High School.

The sisters, Lola I. and Mabel A. Mugg, own a business block in Angola, and a farm of two hundred acres in Pleasant Township. While enjoying incomes from a substantial property, they have always sought lines of special usefulness and effort, and have rendered much good service in their community. Lola is an active worker in the First Congregational Church and her sister, Mabel, in the Christian Church of Angola. Both belong to the Eastern Star Chapter and the Rebekahs, the latter being a Past Noble Grand, while Lola is a member of the Pythian Sisters. Both Lola and Mabel received the decoration of Chivalry conferred by the Independent Order of Odd Fellows November 8, 1919, at Kendallville.

**WILLIAM H. MARKS.** There are several localities in LaGrange County that are able to appreciate the abilities of William H. Marks as a farmer and business man. It was his ability to direct farming operations on a large scale that constituted the qualifications leading to his appointment as superintendent of the DePauw University lands in Clear Spring Township. This is a large body of 733 acres. He manages the lands and all the operations, and individually farms a large part of the tract himself. Besides this work, which obviously requires most of his time, he himself owns a farm in Clay Township.

He was born in Clay Township, March 27, 1864, a son of David and Anna (Eiman) Marks. His father was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1842 and his mother was born in Johnson Township of LaGrange County, February 10, 1841. David Marks came to LaGrange County when a boy, grew up and married in Johnson Township, then moved to Clay Township, later bought a farm in Broomfield Township, and after many years of residence retired to the city of LaGrange, where he spent the rest of his life. He was a democrat. He and his wife had six children: William H.; Nancy A., who is married and lives in Oregon; Martha E., wife of Albert Bixler; Florence, wife of Frank Duncer; Daisy, wife of James Corry; and Bertha J., widow of Fay Cresler.

William H. Marks was seven years old when his parents moved to LaGrange, and he acquired an education in the public schools of that city, but in early manhood decided upon farming as his choice of vocation. On December 16, 1886, he married Miss Rebecca C. Bushong. She was born in Bloomfield Township, February 10, 1867, a daughter of Joseph and Margaret (Moffett) Bushong. Her early education was acquired in the public schools of Rome City.

After his marriage Mr. Marks began farming in Clay Township, but after several years moved to Johnson Township, then to Clear Spring Township, and for seven years again lived on his farm in Clay Township. Several years ago he was appointed superintendent of the farms owned in Clear Spring Township by DePauw University. Mr. Marks is affiliated with Star in the West Lodge No. 159, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, also with the Knights of the Maccabees, and is a democrat in politics.

He and his wife have five children: Virgil D., a graduate of the common schools; Hazel M., who also completed her work in the common schools and is the wife of Glenn Mooney; Carl J., who has finished school and is still at home; Melvie B., wife of Norman Dodge; and Vera V., a graduate of the common schools.

**HON. ORVILLE CARVER.** At no time in the last half century has the community of Angola been unappreciative of the services and the possession of Orville Carver. He fought as a soldier of the Union in the Civil war. He was in the drug business for so many years that the people of Angola came to look upon his store as a permanent feature of the business district. He was postmaster fifty years ago, and has been a member of the State Senate, prominent in republican politics, and in many ways has constituted the ideal of good citizenship.

Mr. Carver was born at Hebron in Tolland County, Connecticut, August 20, 1843, a son of Dr. Lewis E. and Frances A. (Porter) Carver. His parents were also natives of Connecticut. In 1845 the family came west and settled in Steuben County, at Orland, then known as Vermontville, where Doctor Carver practiced his profession of medicine, riding horseback over three counties. In 1850 he moved to Angola, and lived there until his death. There were many interruptions to his career as a physician. In 1849 he was elected county treasurer, and after three years was elected county recorder. When his official duties required his presence at Indianapolis he made the trip on horseback from Angola. He was one of the first members of the republican party, and was a strong anti-slavery man. In the early days his home was a station on the underground railroad. His wife, Frances A. Carver, was a member of the Presbyterian Church. In his religious views he was liberal. Doctor Carver and wife had eight children: Eugenia, deceased; Orville; Adelaide, deceased; Oscar; Adelbert, deceased; Eugene; Frank; and one that died in infancy.

Orville Carver was seven years old when his parents moved to Angola, and he received his early education there in the public schools. While he lost much during his school days by his early enlistment he believes that it intensified his loyalty and patriotism. He was only seventeen when he enlisted, in May, 1861, in the Fourth Michigan Infantry, and after a few weeks of training participated in the first battle of Bull Run. He was also in the Peninsular campaign, Antietam, Gaines Mills, Malvern Hill, second battle of Bull Run, Chancellorsville, the Wilderness, Petersburg, Gettysburg and Fredericksburg. He participated in forty-two engagements, both large and small. At the battle of Gettysburg he was struck by a minie ball, but was not in a hospital during his service of over three years. He was mustered out at Detroit in July, 1864, but later re-enlisted, this time in Hancock's veteran corps, and was with the army until some months after the close of hostilities.



Mr. Carver returned to Angola to engage in the drug business, and that was the enterprise by which he was perhaps best known to the people of the community for forty years. In 1869, under President Grant, he was appointed postmaster, and for fourteen years kept the postoffice in his store. In 1889, with W. G. Croxton, Mr. Carver organized the Steuben County State Bank, and has been one of its directors and its vice president for thirty years.

There are many other relationships by which he has been identified with the community. At one time he was trustee of Pleasant Township, and was elected a member of the State Senate to succeed James Drake. For ten years he was a trustee of the Tri-State Normal College, and one of the men most active in promoting the upbuilding of that institution. He also served as the first mayor of Angola, and for three successive terms was chairman of the republican county committee. He was on the governor's staff at the World's Columbian Exposition at Chicago, with the rank of lieutenant colonel of artillery. He was a delegate to the National Convention of 1884 when James G. Blaine was nominated. He also attended as a delegate the Progressive National Convention at Chicago in 1916. Mr. Carver has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for more than half a century, and in 1885 was a member of the Grand Lodge, and was one of the members who located Circil Hill Cemetery, and was a trustee over thirty years. He was also one of the trustees of the order during the construction of their lodge building, 62 by 210 feet, the largest structure in the city. He was a charter member of the Silver Gray Fishing Club thirty-six years. For many years he has also been an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic. He and his family are members of the Congregational Church. Mr. Carver has owned two farms near Angola, one of 160 acres  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles southwest, and the other of thirty-three acres about a mile from Angola, but the smaller farm is now owned and occupied by his son Lewis.

In 1867, at Union City, Michigan, Mr. Carver married Miss Fronia Thayer, daughter of E. Thayer, formerly of New York. Mrs. Carver died in 1889, without children. In 1892 he married Miss Florence Bowman, daughter of a former sheriff of Steuben County. She is the mother of his two sons, Edwin B. and Lewis O., twins, born August 18, 1895. Both sons were educated in the grammar and high schools, and attended Tri-State College. Lewis married Rose Gale, and has one son, Waldo O. The son Edwin was taking an engineering course at the Tri-State College when he was called into active service as a member of the National Guard for duty on the Texas border. Later as sergeant of Company B of the One Hundred and Thirty-Seventh Field Artillery he went to France. Mr. Carver is proud of the service he and his sons have rendered to their country.

**ORA B. NOTESTINE.** More than seventy years have passed since the Notestine family became established in LaGrange County. They have been people of the highest worth and respectability, have been good farmers and have supplied patriotic citizenship to their community, state and nation.

Ora B. Notestine is one of the younger generation, and owns one of the good farms of Springfield Township. He was born on that farm February 26, 1870. His parents were John and Maria (Brown) Notestine. His father was born in Ohio, September 11, 1832, and his mother in New York

State, October 15, 1831. In 1847 the Notestine family, consisting of Nicholas and Sarah Notestine and their children, including John, set out from Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and after a number of days of travel reached Springfield Township of LaGrange County. Nicholas Notestine acquired 120 acres, which he developed as a farm and later bought forty acres more. He died in Springfield Township in April, 1870, and his wife in 1885. Their children were: Lavina, born September 24, 1825; Peter, born February 20, 1828; Elizabeth, born April 14, 1830; John, born September 11, 1832; Henry M., born March 24, 1835, and died young; Sarah, born November 24, 1837; Isaac, born February 2, 1843; Della Ann, born March 20, 1846; Delilah, born December 31, 1848.

John Notestine was fifteen years old when brought to Indiana. He acquired most of his education in his native state, but also attended school in LaGrange County. Besides farming he also followed the trade of carpenter. He bought forty acres of land and later traded it for forty acres now owned by his son Ora, and also bought the other forty acres which makes that a complete farm of eighty acres. He lived there until his death in March, 1917. His widow is still living, residing with her son Ora. John Notestine was a republican and voted for Lincoln. He and his wife had four children: Charles R., born February 6, 1857; Armida, born January 10, 1859; Hattie, born June 26, 1865; and Ora B., born February 26, 1870.

Ora B. Notestine grew up on the home farm and besides the district school attended the LaGrange High School. For a quarter of a century he has been operating the old homestead of eighty acres and is regarded as one of the men in LaGrange County who thoroughly understand the business of agriculture and stock farming. Politically he is a republican and for four years was honored with the office of trustee of Springfield Township.

November 30, 1899, he married Miss Anna Fair. She was born in Springfield Township, October 1, 1873, a daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth (Strome) Fair, and a granddaughter of John Fair, one of the early pioneers of LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Notestine had eight children, named Carl Gerald, Pauline Augusta, Harriet May, Harold Ora, Isabel Pearl, Charles Franklin, Marie Elizabeth, and Paul Gaylord. But the youngest died in infancy.

**HARRY K. BRANDEBERRY.** It is remarkable how many of the farmers of Steuben County are the sons of farmers, this region giving to the state some of the best agriculturalists because they have been trained in their line of work from boyhood, and have always been interested in it. One of the men who comes under this classification is Harry K. Brandeberry, whose father was one of the early settlers of Steuben County and a farmer of Richland Township, where the son now resides. Harry K. Brandeberry was born in Richland Township July 6, 1877, a son of Isaac and Thressa (Thompson) Brandeberry. The father was born in Carroll County, Ohio, July 20, 1833. He was married in Williams County, Ohio, his wife having been born there February 12, 1840, although in the meanwhile he had come to Steuben County in 1854, securing land in the woods in Richland Township. On this he built a log cabin and cleared off his land. Although he had left home and become self-supporting when only thirteen years old, he prospered and became a man of considerable means, at his death, September 14, 1909, owning two farms of 140 acres



of land and property in Angola. In addition to farming he bought and sold considerable farm land, but in his later years lived in retirement at Angola. His wife died many years before him, passing away April 16, 1885. They had the following children: Olive, who is the widow of Bruce Garwood; W. C., who is a farmer of Richland Township; Edna, who is the wife of S. C. Hammond, a son of Dr. A. Hammond; and Harry K., whose name heads this review. Mrs. Brandeberry was an earnest member of the Christian Church.

Harry K. Brandeberry attended the public and high schools at Angola, being graduated from the latter May 28, 1892, and he later was a student for several terms at the Tri-State College at Angola. In 1902 Mr. Brandeberry moved on his present farm in Richland Township, since which time he has erected a comfortable residence, and here he is carrying on general farming and stock raising. He also owns another farm of fifty acres in Richland Township. In politics he is a republican. His fraternal connections are with Metz Lodge, Knights of Pythias, the third largest of this order in the county, which has a fine hall of its own.

On March 1, 1902, Mr. Brandeberry was married in Richland Township to Miss Ina Gasser, who was born in Scott Township November 20, 1881, a daughter of Frederick and Charlotte (Tuttle) Gasser, and granddaughter of Benedict Gasser, whose biography appears elsewhere in this work. Frederick Gasser and his wife are now living in comfortable retirement at Angola, but were formerly farming people of considerable prominence in Scott Township. They had two children, namely: Lena, who is the wife of John Carson, of Angola; and Ina, who is Mrs. Brandeberry. Mr. and Mrs. Brandeberry have one son, Harold Kelley, who was born October 11, 1903, is now attending the Metz High School. He and his mother belong to the Christian Church. Mr. Brandeberry is a man of sterling worth and stands well in public esteem. His family is an old and honored one in the county, as is that of Mrs. Brandeberry, and their connections are many in this part of the state.

MYRON ATWATER has been a citizen of Clay Township, LaGrange County for over half a century, and is one of the staid and prosperous farmers and land owners of that community, still enjoying good health, a reasonable degree of prosperity, and the fullness of esteem on the part of his neighbors and friends.

Mr. Atwater was born in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, October 27, 1841, a son of Thomas S. and Hannah (Enos) Atwater and a grandson of Luther Atwater. His parents were both natives of New York State. Thomas S. Atwater came to LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1855, and from that time until his death in 1872 lived in Lima Township, about a mile northwest of the village of Lima. He had married for his first wife a Miss Conner, and had one daughter, Margaret. His second wife, Hannah Enos, who died in 1875, was the mother of four children named Myron, Charles L., John and Monroe.

Myron Atwater as a young man worked on his father's farm. He was fourteen years old when brought to LaGrange County, had a common school education, and in April, 1865, came to the farm in Clay Township where he lives today and where it is a matter of satisfaction to him to survey the many improvements that have grown up under his hands and management. All the good buildings on the farm have been put there during his ownership. His farm comprises 160 acres.

Mr. Atwater served one term as trustee of Clay Township, and his son, Walter, is now filling the same office. February 11, 1867, he married Ann Brinley, a daughter of John and Elizabeth (Gy-singer) Brinley. Mrs. Atwater died in 1908, the mother of eight children: Nellie, wife of Albert H. Yoder; Thomas, a farmer in Haskell County, Kansas; Mary, wife of Elmo Neely; Walter, the present township trustee; Jessie, wife of Norman Zimmerman; Grover, on the farm with his father; and two children that died in infancy. After the death of his first wife Mr. Atwater married Mrs. Laura (Cripe) Schrock. By her first husband she had three children, named Mabel, Carl and Lettie Schrock.

WALLACE ABEL. The present representative on the Board of County Commissioners of DeKalb County from the southeastern district is Wallace Abel, member of one of the oldest and best known families of that part of the county, and his own record as a farmer, business man and public-spirited citizen has given him every title to the confidence expressed in his incumbency of his present office.

Mr. Abel, who is also a trustee of Newville Township, where he resides, was born in Concord Township November 4, 1851, a son of George and Ann (Milliman) Abel. His mother was a daughter of John and Mary (Warren) Milliman, both natives of New York State. Mary Warren was related to General Warren, one of the first American officers to lose his life in the Revolutionary war. George Abel was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, and his wife in New York State. Later both families came to Indiana and settled in DeKalb County in pioneer times. George Abel and wife after their marriage began farming in Concord Township, and he lived there until his death. His widow is still a resident of St. Joe, aged eighty-six years, and is a member of the Christian Church. George Abel died in 1862. He was the father of five children, and the three now living are Wallace, Charles, a carpenter in Michigan, and Fremont, whose home is at St. Joe.

Wallace Abel grew up on the farm in Concord Township, had a limited common school education, and was eleven years old when his father died. After that he helped on the farm and lived with his mother until he was twenty-one.

In 1876 he married Antoinette Coburn. She was born in Newville Township August 10, 1858, a daughter of William and Lovesta Coburn, and had the advantages of the common schools. Mr. and Mrs. Abel have four children: Roy, born May 15, 1877, Bessie, born September 24, 1879, Blanche, born March 19, 1882, and Gladys, born July 24, 1895. The son is a graduate of the St. Joe High School and is identified with farming on the home place. The daughters were all well educated, Gladys graduating from the Butler High School and was formerly a teacher. The daughters are all married. Mrs. Abel is a member of the Christian Church. Mr. Abel is treasurer of William Hacker Lodge No. 326, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons. Politically he has been active in the democratic party for a number of years. He served four years as trustee of Newville Township and was elected to the Board of County Commissioners and entered upon his duties January 1, 1915. In 1917 he was elected for a second term. He follows general farming and stock raising and has eighty-seven acres in Newville Township.

AMBROSE L. LOGUE is a native of Iowa but has spent most of his life in LaGrange County and is known among his neighbors of Milford Township as a successful general farmer and stockraiser. His home is in section 22 of that township. He has interests in

several business concerns and his career has been one of steady progress towards prosperity and the full usefulness of manhood.

Mr. Logue was born at Winfield, Iowa, September 28, 1864, a son of Emanuel and Julia A. (Adams) Logue. His father, a native of Maryland, was educated as a minister of the Church of God, and as a missionary he built and organized the first Church of God west of the Mississippi River. That was in 1857, and he labored in Iowa until his death in 1867. The widowed mother is still living, with home at Morning Sun, Iowa.

Ambrose L. Logue was three years old when his father died, and he was afterward adopted by David and Sarah Bixler, with whom he came to Indiana. He grew up in the home of his foster parents and attended the Kendallville High School. In 1885 Mr. Logue married Ida Foster. They have a son, Clarence, who was educated in the common and high schools and lives in Chicago.

Mr. Logue owns 128 acres and is still actively engaged in farming. He is a past grand of South Milford Lodge No. 619 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, is a past chief patriarch of the encampment and has served as district deputy grand master. Politically he is a democrat.

DANIEL DAGUE has been a respected resident and industrious farmer of Greenfield Township in LaGrange County for forty years. His early life before coming to this county was spent in Ohio and Michigan, where his parents resided.

He was born in Wayne County, Ohio, April 14, 1849, a son of Levi and Harriet (Flackinger) Dague. His father was born in Wayne County in 1824 and his mother in Pennsylvania, August 7, 1822. They were married August 7, 1845, and about 1867 they moved to Branch County, Michigan, where Mrs. Levi Dague died in 1872. She was the mother of five children: Mary Ann, born September 20, 1846, in Ohio; Daniel; Susan, born September 19, 1850; Jonas, born October 26, 1852; and Catherine Margaret, born May 22, 1859. After the death of the mother in Branch County the father moved to Mason County, Michigan, and bought forty acres and lived on it ten years. He married for his second wife Leah Hoffmyer. After selling his Mason County land he came to LaGrange County and died in Greenfield Township.

Daniel Dague acquired his early education in the schools of Ohio and was about eighteen years of age when he went to Michigan with his parents. He lived at home until he was twenty-seven and then married Catherine Libey. Her father, John Libey, was an early settler in LaGrange County and died at the advanced age of ninety-seven years. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Dague came to LaGrange County in 1879 and bought 120 acres in Greenfield Township. Mr. Dague has improved the land, erected good buildings, has a farm well adapted for crops and livestock. For twenty years he fed sheep on a rather extensive scale. He is a republican in politics and with his family is identified with the Dunkard Church.

He and his wife had three daughters. Wilma is the oldest. Alice Adella is the wife of D. Swihart, and her four sons are named Donald, Maynard, Stewart and Ledger. The youngest, Elsie is the wife of Arlis Depew and the mother of two children.

SAMUEL SCHIEBER, one of the progressive farmers of Richland Township, while not long a resident of Steuben County is thoroughly identified with its best interests. He was born in Bucyrus, Craw-

ford County, Ohio, July 31, 1853, a son of John C. and Leah (Hershberger) Schieber, and grandson of Gotlieb and Magdalena (Brosy) Schieber, natives of Germany, who in 1832 with their children and seventeen other families came to the United States, landing at New York, from whence they came west to Buffalo, New York, on the canal, and then traveled by lake to Sandusky, Ohio. From there Gotlieb Schieber came to Crawford County, Ohio, and secured heavily timbered land, which he cleared and developed into a farm, and on which he lived until his death in 1868, his widow surviving him until 1890. Their children were as follows: Christopher, Gotlieb, Christian, Catherine, John C., Jacob and Mary, all of whom are now deceased.

John C. Schieber was born in Germany in 1828, and his wife was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania. Only a child when his parents came to Crawford County, Ohio, he attended its schools while growing up, and after he became a man he bought eighty acres of timber land, which he cleared, becoming a successful farmer. He died on his farm in 1904 and his wife in 1909. Their children were as follows: Samuel, Amanda, Mary, Jacob, Joseph, Lizzie, Tillie, Charley and Ida, of whom Mary is deceased.

Samuel Schieber, like his father, was reared on a Crawford County farm, and went to the schools of his neighborhood. He remained with his parents until he was twenty-five years old and then bought forty acres of land in Crawford County, living on it until 1900, when he went to Oklahoma, but in 1905 came to Steuben County, renting land until 1911, and then bought his present farm of forty-seven acres. He repaired the barn, did some ditching and made other improvements and now has a fine property, on which he is carrying on general farming and breeding registered hogs. He is a republican, but does not aspire to office. The Methodist Episcopal Church holds his membership and receives his generous support.

On October 15, 1881, Mr. Schieber was united in marriage with Miss Susie Nagel, born at Sandusky, Ohio, February 19, 1862, a daughter of John and Margaret (Ulrich) Nagel, both of whom were born and married in Germany. Upon coming to the United States they first stopped in Sandusky, Ohio, later settling in Crawford County, where he died in 1899, at the age of seventy-six years, his widow surviving him until 1907, when she passed away at Bucyrus, Ohio, aged eighty-two years. Their children were as follows: John, Sarah, Amelia, Sussie (who is Mrs. Schieber), and Louisa. Mr. and Mrs. Schieber have the following children: Clarence, who married Bertha Klink, and has two children, Esther and Victor; Blanche, who is the wife of Lloyd Daley of South Bend, Indiana, and has one son, Fred; Milo, who married Lillian Stemly, and has one daughter, Marian; and Leonard Arthur, Earl and Lula, all of whom are at home. Mr. Schieber is an excellent farmer and good citizen, and he has brought up his children to be industrious and frugal.

RASCELUS GUSHWA. A resident of LaGrange County for fifty years, Rascelus Gushwa has for the most part been devoted to the quiet duties of agriculture, but his name has at different times appeared prominently in connection with public affairs, especially as a successful administrator of institutions for the poor and unfortunate. He is now superintendent of the Rogers Orphans Home in Clear Spring Township.

He was born in Hancock County, Ohio, December 19, 1854, a son of Frederick and Eliza J. (Solomon)



Cushwa, both of whom were natives of Holmes County, Ohio, where they were reared and married. From Holmes they moved to Hancock County and in 1864 came to LaGrange County, Indiana. The father was drafted for army service in 1864 and died three months later. That left his widow with the taxing burden of caring for the children, a duty she faithfully performed and thereby earned their lasting gratitude. She died in 1911. Of the seven children five are living: John, of LaGrange County; Amanda, wife of John Holsinger, of Valentine, Indiana; Joseph, of Ligonier; Cynthia, wife of Levi Fair, of Sturgis, Michigan; and Rascelus.

Rascelus Gushwa grew up on a farm in Johnson Township of LaGrange County and attended the common schools. He lived at home with his mother to the age of twenty-one. He married Ellen Wells, of DeKalb County, daughter of J. C. and Hannah Wells. Mrs. Gushwa was born and reared in DeKalb County and had a common school education.

For about four months after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Gushwa lived at Cassopolis, Michigan, and then returned to LaGrange County. With limited capital, they had to accept the best possible means of making a living and for twenty years were renters, thereby earning the capital which enabled them to buy a farm of sixty acres in Clay Township. About that time Mr. Gushwa was appointed superintendent of the County Infirmary, in 1895, and filled that office to the satisfaction of all concerned six and a half years. He then returned to his own farm, and in 1906 was appointed superintendent of the Rodgers Orphans Home. He remained there five years, went back to his farm, and in March, 1919, was again called to the duties of superintendent, which he had so carefully performed in a previous term.

Mr. Gushwa and wife have five children: E. A., a merchant at Shipshewana; Carrie, wife of Sherman Hart, of St. Joseph County, Michigan; Mertie, wife of Clarence Wagoner, of Sturgis, Michigan; Charles, who lives on a rented farm in Newbury Township of LaGrange County; and Mabel, wife of Arthur Conway. The family are members of the Lutheran Church. Mr. Gushwa is a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias Lodge No. 144, and has been a member of the Grand Lodge. His wife is active in the Pythian Sisters, being past chief and past record keeper. Politically Mr. Gushwa is a republican, and several years ago was a candidate for county sheriff. During the war both he and his wife were leaders in war auxiliary movements, especially the Red Cross. He was superintendent of the Red Cross sale, and put the county over the top on that drive. Mrs. Gushwa has been treasurer of the Red Cross of Clay Township.

GEORGE H. FAIRBANKS. For three score and ten years George H. Fairbanks has been a resident of Allen Township of Noble County. During that time he has had the experience of the normal lifetime, has worked industriously, has accumulated a competence for his future needs, has reared a family and is a man properly looked up to in his community.

Mr. Fairbanks is a distant relative of the late vice president Charles W. Fairbanks. He was born in Geauga County, Ohio, January 21, 1846, a son of Samuel C. and Margaret (Armstrong) Fairbanks. Samuel C. was a son of James and Margery (Potter) Fairbanks. James in turn was a son of Nahum Fairbanks. The Fairbanks family came from England to the American colonies about 1633, the immigrant being Jonathan Fairbanks.

In the same year that he was born George H.

Fairbanks was taken by his parents to Noble County, Indiana, and they located in Allen Township, where he grew up and where he attended such schools as were maintained in his day. He also studied in college, but on leaving school he took up the vocation of an agriculturist and has followed it without important interruption ever since. The home of Mr. Fairbanks, which comprises 51½ acres is two miles north of Avilla and just 100 rods east of the geographical center of Allen Township.

On November 23, 1875, he married Miss Clara J. Baughman, who was born at Lisbon in Allen township of Noble County, January 22, 1855, daughter of G. D. Baughman. Mr. Baughman was one of the trustees of Allen Township, as was also the father of Mr. Fairbanks. Mrs. Fairbanks was educated in the common schools and for one term taught in Whitley County. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Fairbanks settled on their home farm. He is a democrat in politics and has served in township offices. He is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge No. 76, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and with Chapter No. 64, Royal Arch Masons.

Mr. and Mrs. Fairbanks have four daughters: Edna E., a graduate of the Avilla High School, is the wife of David Shanline, of Avilla; Agnes A., a graduate of the same school, was a teacher and is now the wife of R. A. Whitford; Bessie B., also a high school graduate, is still at home, as is her sister, Lucile M., who likewise completed the course in the high school.

CLARENCE RICHARDSON, a native of Northeast Indiana, has spent his life profitably and usefully as a farmer in Steuben County and is directing the business of one of the good farms in Pleasant Township.

He was born in the same township July 12, 1875, a son of Henry and Sarah (Sowle) Richardson. His parents were both born in Ohio and were brought to Steuben County when children, grew up there and married. The paternal grandfather was William Richardson, an early settler in Pleasant Township, where he located in the '40s. The maternal grandfather was Joseph Sowle, member of the prominent family of that name who had much to do with the early development of Pleasant Township. Henry Richardson served eighteen months as a soldier in the Civil war. He died in July, 1896, at the age of fifty-four, and his widow passed away in 1906, at the age of sixty-two. He was a member of the Grand Army Post, a republican, and his wife was a Methodist. He had six children: Cora, Mary, Clarence, Austin, Harry (who is deceased), and Dora.

Clarence Richardson grew upon the home farm of his father, attended the public schools, and since early manhood has been identified with the agricultural industry. He has a lease on the old Palda farm and is one of the most successful tenant farmers in the township. He is a republican and his family attend the United Brethren Church.

In 1895 he married Miss Laura Farley, of Steuben County. Five children were born to them: Sylvia, Lewella, Mabel, Joseph and Walter C. Sylvia acquired a splendid education in the Angola High School and Tri-State Normal and is the wife of Hugh Campbell. They have three children, named Donald Irwin, Mabel Louise and Robert Hugh. The daughter Lewella is the wife of Paul Moore and has one daughter, Virginia Maxine.

CARL U. BARTHOLOMEW is in the midst of a very busy and successful career as a farmer in Springfield Township, LaGrange County. At the age of forty he has accomplished many of those things

that an ambitious man desires to do, and undoubtedly there are many years of usefulness and honor still before him.

Mr. Bartholomew, who is related to many interesting and prominent families of LaGrange County, was born in Springfield Township, August 28, 1879, a son of Horace Oscar and Edna (Shepardson) Bartholomew. His paternal grandfather, Horace Bartholomew, was a soldier in the Fifteenth United States Infantry in the Mexican war of 1846-47. He died while on the victorious march under General Scott from Vera Cruz to Mexico City. He left his widow, whose maiden name was Salena Gates, with two children, Horace Oscar and Mary. Mary afterward married Miles Squire. When Horace Bartholomew entered the army he and his family were living in St. Joseph County, Michigan, where his son Horace Oscar was born May 13, 1845. The widowed mother brought her children to LaGrange County about 1850, and in 1851 she became the wife of Hugh Caldwell, a well known pioneer character. Hugh Caldwell located at Brighton and for many years was a blacksmith there. He finally bought the farm where Carl U. Bartholomew now lives, and died in 1877, his widow surviving him until 1887.

Horace Oscar Bartholomew was reared at Brighton, was educated in public schools and the Orland High School, and for many years was a successful farmer of the county. He owned 240 acres, and died on the homestead January 28, 1919. His widow still lives among her children. Horace O. Bartholomew was a republican and served as a member of the first advisory board in Springfield Township. He was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. His wife, Edna Shepardson, was born in Springfield Township, September 20, 1852, daughter of Edmond and Catherine (Wilson) Shepardson. Edmond was a son of Otis Shepardson, who came to LaGrange County in 1835 and entered a large tract of land near Mongo, building a house near the present schoolhouse. He died May 7, 1843, and was buried in the Shepardson family graveyard. His wife was Susan Gibbs, who was born at Stratton, Vermont, October 13, 1796. The children of Otis Shepardson and wife were: Otis, Edmond, Elijah, Lorenzo Dow, Pliny, Samuel, and Susan, who became the wife of Frank Freileigh.

Edmond Shepardson was born November 15, 1822, and came to LaGrange County with his parents in 1835. For many years he was a merchant at Mongo, and died August 11, 1882. He was a man of varied capabilities, a blacksmith by trade, also a farmer, and while running his farm established a stock of merchandise at Mongo. He was also a buyer of wool and other farm produce. It was through him that the name of the community was changed to Mongo while he was postmaster there. He was a republican and was one of the first school trustees. One of his brothers, Elijah Shepardson, was a soldier in the Confederate army during the Civil war. The wife of Edmond Shepardson died June 10, 1902. Their family consisted of Emma, Edna, Sarah Elizabeth, Augusta, Dow Fremont, Susan Sophia, Clara Elizabeth, and John Everett.

Horace O. Bartholomew and wife had just two sons, Carl U. and Don C. Don C. has had an interesting military career. He was educated in the Lima High School, the Tri-State College, formerly was a teacher at Mongo and Brushy Prairie and also in Michigan, and in 1916 graduated from the Detroit School of Medicine. In June of that year he went into the regular army with the Reserve Medical Corps, was stationed at Washington for a

time and in July, 1918, went overseas to France. He was assigned to work with the Eighty-fifth Division with the rank of first lieutenant. He returned to the United States in April, 1919, an invalid, and recuperated at Base Hospital No. 25 at Fort Benjamin Harrison. Since his recovery he has been assigned a place on the hospital staff at that fort. He married Amy Huss, daughter of Nelson Huss, of Springfield Township.

Carl U. Bartholomew grew up on the home farm, had a good education in the public schools, the Mongo High School and the Tri-State College and since school days has been busily engaged as a farmer. He lives on the old homestead. He is a republican and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

In 1901 he married Miss Hattie Pearl Garlets, a daughter of Daniel and Mary (Faust) Garlets, of an old and well known family of Springfield Township. To their marriage were born five children: Claud H., Kenneth B., Benita, who died in infancy, Oscar D. and Leon B.

F. A. ZEIGLER, who has spent his life in Northeast Indiana, was for over a quarter of a century an industrious and skillful harnessmaker, but in later years has been identified with farming in Salem Township of Steuben County.

He was born in DeKalb County December 2, 1861, a son of Samuel and Elizabeth (Melton) Zeigler, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of DeKalb County, Indiana. Samuel Zeigler when a young man moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio, and later to DeKalb County, Indiana, where he spent practically all the rest of his life as a farmer. He was a member of the Lutheran Church. His children, six in number, were J. B., Frank, F. A., Barbara Ann, Mary Josephine, and Elmer. Of these Frank and Elmer are now deceased.

F. A. Zeigler acquired his early education in the district schools of DeKalb County. When not in school he was working on a farm and soon after reaching his majority he left the farm to learn the harnessmaker's trade. That was his business for twenty-seven years.

Mr. Zeigler married Neoma Langley, a daughter of Samuel Langley. She died in 1904. In December, 1907, Mr. Zeigler married Mrs. Cora (Zeller) Ransburg, widow of Dr. Martin V. Ransburg. Since his second marriage Mr. Zeigler has lived on his wife's farm of eighty acres in Salem Township and has proved his adaptability to farming, looking after his present interests with as much skill as he formerly did in his mechanical trade. The farm is in section 14. Mr. Zeigler is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Salem, with his wife is a member of the Rebekahs, and his church is the Methodist.

Mrs. Zeigler is a daughter of Henry Zeller. By her first husband she has one child, Dawson Ransburg.

CHARLES E. CHRYSTLER, the present assessor of Clay Township, is a member of an old and well known family of that section of LaGrange County. His own career has been spent largely in farming and his efforts have been directed to such good purpose that he owns one of the best farms in the township.

He was born in Clay Township, February 17, 1876, a son of William and Lula (Latta) Chrystler, the former a native of New York State. A more complete record of his father's family is found on other pages. Mr. Chrystler as a boy attended a district school near his old home, and was also a pupil







PROMINENT BUSINESS BLOCK AND HOME OF I. O. O. F.  
LA GRANGE



in the schools of Flint in Jackson Township, Steuben County. He had barely reached his majority when he started as an independent farmer in Clay Township, and has been a hard and constant worker ever since. His first farm consisted of forty acres, and in February, 1917, he moved to his present farm in section 12, where he had a hundred acres, most of it under cultivation and with good improvements. He is a breeder of good livestock. Mr. Chrystler entered upon his duties as township assessor in January, 1919. He is a member of Lodge No. 144 of the Knights of Pythias at LaGrange.

In 1899 he married Ethel L. Richner, a daughter of John D. and Viola (Davis) Richner. They have three children, Leo, Iva and Wayne.

**LEOPOLD C. STIEFEL.** The year 1919 rounded out a half century of growth and service for a mercantile establishment at Angola, known far and wide all over Steuben and adjoining counties. Today it is a monumental department store, and the business as a whole exemplifies and represents the genius of the Stiefel family as merchants. The present proprietor, Leopold C. Stiefel, has been connected with the store since his twenty-first birthday and had as associates several of his brothers. The business was founded fifty years ago by his father, the late Joseph Stiefel.

Joseph Stiefel was a native of Germany, as was his wife, Caroline Heilbronner. Joseph came to America about 1845, reaching New York City with nothing to commend him to the favor of the new world except a willingness to work and learn. After one year in New York he went to Fort Wayne, and a short time afterward to Auburn, Indiana. There he began a small mercantile business in partnership with Aaron Wolf. These two men were partners for a number of years, and after dissolving their relations Joseph Stiefel returned to New York City after the Rebellion and engaged in the wholesale clothing business. He had a partner named Strauss. His own enterprise and experience might have insured the success of the business even in the keen competition of the metropolis, but through mismanagement on the part of his partner the firm became bankrupt, and Mr. Stiefel was left to shoulder the heavy debts of the firm. He sacrificed nearly everything he had to satisfy his creditors, the venture entailing him a loss of nearly \$100,000. He had only \$1,000 left to start life over again.

In the fall of 1869, with the moral and financial support and credit offered by eastern manufacturers and wholesalers who had a keen sense of gratitude toward the stalwart character of the man, Joseph Stiefel came to Angola and opened up a modest stock of clothing. He had a small place, and the store at first was known simply as J. Stiefel. After three years he took in as his partner his oldest son, Moses, and the name was changed to J. Stiefel & Son, clothing and dry goods. Fifteen years later another son, Louis, came into the firm, entailing another change, as J. Stiefel & Sons. It was about five years later that Leopold C. Stiefel acquired an interest in the partnership, and at that time the father retired. The new title was J. Stiefel's Sons. After two years Moses Stiefel withdrew to go into business in New York City, and Louis and Leopold remained together about seven years. Leopold then bought the interest of his brother Louis and continued the name as J. Stiefel's Son.

Many notable changes have occurred in half a century, and the most marked of them all is the sole ownership of Mr. Leopold Stiefel. In the early years the firm did a business hardly exceeding \$20,000. In 1918 the aggregate of sales was \$150,000, and from the showing made in the early

months of 1919 the volume of business will probably exceed \$200,000 for that year. Mr. Stiefel has inaugurated many modern methods, including a one price system, and has further expanded the business to include everything found in a modern department store. The business employs from twenty-five to thirty-five people, and the stock is housed in a modern business block 66 by 170 feet, with steam plant and electricity for lighting generated in the building. Mr. Leopold Stiefel is vice president of the Indiana Retail Dry Goods Association.

Leopold Stiefel was born at Auburn, Indiana, March 24, 1863. June 6, 1892, he married Edith Kahn, of Indianapolis, a daughter of Samuel Kahn, of that city. They have two daughters, Charlotte K. and Elsie R. Mr. Stiefel is widely known as a merchant over the State of Indiana. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and the Masons at Angola.

**DEXTER E. WILDER.** The Wilders, originally from New England, were among the substantial settlers from that point of origin who established the first homes and institutions in Millgrove Township of Steuben County. Dexter E. Wilder represents the third generation of the family here and has spent all of his own life of over sixty years in the same township and county.

He was born in Millgrove Township, December 7, 1836, a son of Charles H. and Betsey (Smith) Wilder and a grandson of William and Mary (Breed) Wilder. William Wilder was a native of Massachusetts and his wife of New Hampshire. William Wilder was a pioneer in three states. In early manhood he pioneered into Otsego County, New York, and had much to do with the early development of that section. In 1835 he moved with his family to Portage County, Ohio, and in February, 1836, came to Steuben County, settling on land entered by him the year before. William Wilder entered 240 acres, and the family eventually had over 500 acres in the same locality. This old Wilder farm is the place where Howard Barnes now lives. William Wilder set out a long row of maple trees, some of which are still standing. He died about 1863, and his wife died in 1852.

Charles H. Wilder was born in New York State and was a small boy when brought to Steuben County. He grew up in Millgrove Township, attended the public schools, and served over three years in the Union army as a member of the One Hundredth Indiana Infantry. After the war he owned a farm of forty acres in Branch County, Michigan. He died in 1882. Charles H. Wilder married Betsey Smith, a native of Steuben County and daughter of Hezekiah and Mary (Calkins) Smith. Hezekiah Smith was born in Connecticut in 1801 and came to Steuben County in 1844. Betsey Smith was Charles H. Wilder's first wife and Dexter E. Wilder was the only child from this marriage. This was before the commencement of the Civil war, and after Mr. Wilder's return home he subsequently married Jennie Casper, and to this union Mary Wilder was born, and she married Fred Kimball.

Dexter E. Wilder was the only child of his mother. He was educated in public schools and the Orland Academy, learned the jeweler's trade, though most of his life has been spent as a farmer. He has much mechanical skill and has used it to good purpose on his farm. Mr. Wilder has a life lease on 111 acres belonging to his uncle Orlando Wilder. He also owns 33 1-3 acres adjoining his home place. In politics he is a republican.

In 1886 Mr. Wilder married Lucinda Kreider, of Elkhart County. She is a daughter of Tobias and

Eliza (Myers) Kreider, who came from Ohio to Elkhart County and later moved to Branch County, Michigan, where Mrs. Wilder's mother died in 1868, at the age of forty-two. Her father subsequently returned to Ohio and died in 1896, at the age of seventy-eight.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilder have four children and several grandchildren. The oldest is Bessie, a graduate of the Orland High School and wife of Burton Kugler. Jessie, also a graduate of the Orland High School, married Louis Webb and their children are Lyle Raymond, Lois Caryl, Wanda May and Weir Charles. Charles H. Wilder, the third child, graduated from the Orland High School and was employed in the Liberty Motor Works at Detroit. He married Grace Adams and has three children, John Kendrick, Patricia Jane and Nance Lucinda. The youngest child, William Roland, who completed the common school course and then took a course in automobile engineering with the American School of Correspondence, served seven months overseas as a member of the Seventieth Artillery. He received his honorable discharge in March, 1919, and is now employed with the Cadillac Company at Davenport, Iowa.

WILTON E. PURDY. Of a family whose lives of integrity and industry have identified them permanently with the best interests of Steuben County, one deserving special mention is that of Wilton E. Purdy, whose years have been spent profitably in the county since earliest childhood, and is today owner of a fine farm in Millgrove Township.

Mr. Purdy was born in Canada November 4, 1859, a son of Robert and Eliza S. (Benschoten) Purdy. The more important data of the earlier family history is given on other pages. Wilton E. Purdy came to Steuben County with his parents in March, 1861, when he was not yet two years old. He grew up at Orland, attended the public schools there through the grades, and as a youth took up the trade of wagon maker. He worked at it four years and afterward as a carpenter. He was the carpenter for the construction of his own residence and other buildings on his farm. About 1882 he engaged in farming, and has eighty acres in his home in Millgrove Township and thirty-eight acres in Jackson Township. He follows diversified farming. Mr. Purdy is a democrat, and he and his wife are members of the Grange.

March 25, 1881, he married Miss Hattie Robinson. She was born in Jackson Township March 25, 1861, a daughter of Albert B. and Lovina S. (Sprague) Robinson. Her parents settled in Jackson Township in 1854. Her father at one time owned 283 acres there. The first home of the Robinsons was a log house, and much of the land was cleared during the lifetime of Albert Robinson, who died November 20, 1891, at the age of seventy-three. His wife died at Orland May 7, 1881, aged fifty-five. In the Robinson family were the following children: Chauncey, who was born December 28, 1842, owned a large ranch of 500 acres in Kansas, and died in 1918; Hannah, who was born November 30, 1844, and died in 1865; Fowler Elias, born April 7, 1847, and died in July, 1848; Frank Lee, born December 12, 1859, died February 2, 1860; Hattie R., Mrs. Purdy; and Albert Fremont, born January 6, 1864, a wholesale commissioner dealer at Fort Wayne.

Mrs. Purdy's father was a prominent man in Steuben County, was a good farmer, was a physician by profession and also a teacher and minister. Mrs. Purdy was educated in the Orland Academy.

Mr. and Mrs. Purdy have one son, Clyde, born April 12, 1883. He attended the Orland High School

and is now a salesman of motor trucks and lives at Lafayette, Indiana. He has also been interested in lands, having owned 160 acres in Oklahoma, also 200 acres in Kentucky, which he sold, and had another farm in Missouri. Clyde married Bertha Van Wagner, daughter of Melvin J. and Mary (Laughrey) Van Wagner, of Steuben County. They have six children: Vera, born January 9, 1905; Elton J., born May 12, 1906; Robert N., born October 21, 1907; Alice Bernice, born April 10, 1909; Paul Wilson, born November 7, 1913; and Byron D., born August 20, 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Purdy also have an adopted daughter, Irene, born October 3, 1909, and still in school.

JOHN W. MCKENZIE, proprietor of one of the largest and finest farms and containing one of the best country homes in Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, has spent all his life in that locality and was born there October 22, 1865. His present home is only a half mile from his birthplace.

He was the youngest of the four children of his parents, John and Julia (Klinghaman) McKenzie, and was born in LaGrange County. His father was born in 1822 and his mother in 1825, both in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, where they married and where all their older children were born. These children were Josiah, Nelson, Simon, Ellen and John. The McKenzie family came to LaGrange County in June, 1865, and settled in Springfield Township. The father rented a farm one year, and then bought 110 acres southwest of Brighton, where he spent the rest of his life and died in February, 1894, his wife passing away in 1880. John McKenzie, Sr., was a democrat and his wife was a member of the Lutheran Church.

John W. McKenzie has found his opportunities within a very small radius from the home of his childhood. He attended public schools, also the high schools at Mongo and Howe, and has had fully thirty years of practical experience as a farmer and stockman. In 1904 he and his wife located on an eighty acre place originally acquired direct from the Government by Mrs. McKenzie's grandfather, Benjamin Reed. Benjamin Reed after selecting his land walked to the land office at Fort Wayne to enter it. Mr. McKenzie is a democrat in politics.

October 23, 1890, he married Libbie Reed. She was born in Springfield Township, October 27, 1861, daughter of Nathan and Julia (Elya) Reed. Nathan Reed was born in a log cabin in Greenfield Township, on the land where his only child and daughter, Mrs. McKenzie now lives. His birth occurred in July, 1836. His wife was a native of New York State. The grandfather, Benjamin Reed, married Nancy Barr, a daughter of Amos Barr. Benjamin Reed was born in Delaware and his wife in Ohio. When the nineteenth century was still young Benjamin Reed came west, and in Southwestern Michigan took up a tract of land, but becoming dissatisfied sold his rights for fifty dollars. That land is now the site of the City of Niles. On leaving Michigan he came to LaGrange County and acquired the eighty acres mentioned above. Later he added sixty acres to this, and all told accumulated about 400 acres in LaGrange County. He died in Greenfield Township, May 4, 1890, at the age of eighty-four, while his widow survived him until June, 1904, and was then eighty-nine years of age. Their children were Nathan, Amos and Sarah Jane. Amos died in the Civil war, while Sarah became the wife of John Whitlock.

Nathan Reed grew up in pioneer surroundings,



and though his education was confined to the common schools he became widely informed through his habit of diligent and attentive reading. For many years he was accounted the best speller in Greenfield Township. His interest in such matters did not prevent him from achieving success in practical business. He owned 240 acres of well improved land in Springfield Township, and 140 acres of this is now contained in the farm of Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie. His last days were spent at the McKenzie home, where he died in February, 1905. Nathan Reed was a republican and served as trustee of Springfield Township.

At the present time Mr. and Mrs. McKenzie have 480 acres. He built a fine barn 40 by 70 feet in 1909, and the following year put up what is regarded as one of the best residences in Greenfield Township. Mr. McKenzie is an expert stockman, and for a number of years has raised hogs on a large scale.

To his marriage were born three children: Alnie, the oldest, is a graduate of the Brighton High School and the LaGrange High School, and is still at home; Anddra is also a graduate of the Brighton and LaGrange High schools, attended the Tri-State College and was a teacher until her marriage to Vern Elliott, son of James Elliott, of Bloomfield Township. Nathan Reed McKenzie, the only son, was educated in the Brighton High School and is a farmer at home. He married Marion Troxel, a daughter of Charles Troxel, of Greenfield Township, and they have a daughter, Halcyon Mae.

LESTER J. HUGHES during the greater part of his active career covering thirty years has been a successful farmer in Salem Township of Steuben County, and has also been active in politics and public affairs.

He was born in Salem Township, July 3, 1868, son of John and Martha (Meek) Hughes. His grandfather, David Hughes, was a pioneer in Salem Township and one of the earliest merchants, and he also served as a justice of the peace. John Hughes spent his active career in Salem Township as a sawmiller and farmer, and died in 1893.

Lester J. Hughes is a brother of Frank D. Hughes, a former clerk of the Circuit Court of Steuben County. Lester was reared and educated in his native township, attending the common schools, and in early life started out to make his living as a farm hand. In 1889 he married Susan Haines, a daughter of John and Maria Haines. She died in 1903, the mother of one son, Dean, who is now associated with his father in managing the home farm. Dean married Grace Ensley and has one child, Phyllis.

March 30, 1908, Mr. Hughes married Bell Wark, a daughter of Thomas and Elizabeth Wark. They have two children, Roena and Lois.

Mr. Hughes began farming on his brother Frank's place in 1900, living there near Salem for two years, then spent some time in the Village of Salem, and in 1906 bought his present farm of 120 acres in section 14. He has made the building improvements and has supplied the farm with a generous equipment of everything necessary for its successful operation.

Mr. Hughes served six years, from 1908 to 1914, as assessor of Salem Township. He is at present deputy assessor and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America.

SAMUEL R. YODER, whose place in LaGrange County is that of a prosperous farmer and stockman

in Clay Township, has accomplished those things in life that the people of LaGrange County in general have come to expect of members of the Yoder family.

This particular branch of the family was established here in pioneer times by Reuben Yoder, who was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, January 9, 1831. He was a son of Christian C. and Catherine (Miller) Yoder, both natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Reuben Yoder married Harriet Riehl, a native of Somerset County and daughter of John and Mary Riehl. John Riehl was a cabinet maker by trade. Reuben Yoder moved from Pennsylvania to Newbury Township, of LaGrange County, about 1851. He lived in that locality the rest of his life and died after a long and active career in 1912. His wife passed away in 1908. They had a family of children whose names were: Elizabeth, Samuel R., Daniel R., Mary, Menno S., Moses A., Peter, Abraham (who died when four months old), and Levi R.

Samuel R. Yoder attended district school in Newbury Township, where he was born March 9, 1856, and made his first independent efforts as a farmer in that township. In 1891 he bought his first place, of eighty acres in section 9, Clay Township, and has worked there steadily for over a quarter of a century. He has rebuilt the buildings and made many substantial improvements. He served one term as assessor of Newbury Township, and he and his wife are both members of the Dunkard Church.

May 16, 1880, he married Emma Lupold, daughter of Samuel and Shirley Lupold. They have a family of four children. Orpha Pearl is the wife of William Mast, and is the mother of Lucile, Doris and Woodrow. Nellie Opal married James Limeric. Roy and Ray are twins. The former married Beulah Evans. Ray married Lettie Dillon and has two children, named Otha and Raymond.

A. I. SHAEFFER. It is a recognized fact that business is the very life blood of national health and prosperity, and no branch of it is more important than that represented by the farmers of this country, who through their industry and knowledge of their work are producing crops never before equalled, upon which the future of the world is depending. Indiana has always been noted for its fertile farm lands, and at present under the directing hands of men of experience in agricultural matters it is holding its place among its associate states. One of these representative farmers of Steuben County is A. I. Shaeffer, who owns and operates a valuable farm in Scott Township. He was born in Fremont Township, two miles west of Fremont, August 27, 1857, a son of Samuel Shaeffer, born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, in 1816.

The first of the Schaeffer family to locate in Pennsylvania was John Nicholas Shaeffer, and he sailed from Rotterdam, Holland, on the sailing vessel Dragon, George Spencer, master, arriving at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, September 6, 1749. Settling in Berks County, Pennsylvania, he soon became prominent in local affairs and was commissioned captain of the First Battalion of Berks County Militia, January 20, 1777, which saw extensive service in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York during the American Revolution. John Nicholas Shaeffer was a large landowner and one of the most influential men of his community.

John Nicholas Shaeffer was married to Juliana Margaretta Michael, whose parents also sailed from Rotterdam, Holland, for Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, where they arrived September 15, 1749, on the sailing vessel Phoenix, John Mason, master. The children born of this marriage were as follows:

Christian, who was born July 24, 1753, became an extensive landholder in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, and reared a family in that section; Casper, who was born November 27, 1754; Margaretta, who was born January 1, 1757; Elizabeth, who was born March 4, 1759; Felix, who was born February 17, 1760; Susan, who was born January 13, 1761; Nicholas, who was born September 12, 1763; Anna Margaret, who was born February 1, 1768; Michael, who was born May 15, 1770; William, who was born June 20, 1772; Johann, who was born January 1, 1775; and John, who was born March 27, 1778. All these children were born in Heidelberg Township, Berks County, Pennsylvania. John Nicholas Shaeffer died November 3, 1780, his widow surviving him until August 26, 1804.

The John Shaeffer, whose name is attached to numerous old documents, was the youngest son of John Nicholas and Juliana (Michael) Shaeffer, and he died September 24, 1836, having served in the War of 1812, holding the commission of captain. His children were as follows: John, Elias, Lydia, Chink and Catherine Elser. Records show that members of the Shaeffer family have served this country as soldiers during the Revolutionary war, the Whiskey insurrection, the War of 1812, the Mexican war, the Civil war, the Spanish-American war and the World war, which certainly entitles them to register themselves as 100 per cent Americans.

The grandfather of A. I. Shaeffer, whose name heads this review, was William Shaeffer, who was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, in 1777. He was a farmer and distiller, owning forty acres of land, on which there was a substantial stone residence, in which his children were all born and reared, as well as several of his grandchildren. His distillery was built of logs, was two stories in height, the upper story being used for living purposes. The water used in distilling was carried by pipes made of logs, hollowed out and fitted together, into the upper story from a spring in a field on high ground. The necessary fuel was procured from a wooded tract on the mountain side about three miles distant.

William Shaeffer was married three times, his first wife dying, leaving him with two little daughters, Nelly and Elizabeth. To take care of them he employed a housekeeper, whom he subsequently married, but as she only survived a year he married for his third wife Margaret Beck, born June 4, 1790, the ceremony taking place in 1813. They had nine children to reach maturity, two passing away in infancy. These children were as follows: Barbara, Samuel, Jacob, John, Margaret, Catherine, Susannah, Daniel, and Lydia. The daughters of William Shaeffer's first marriage became the wives of Germans named Maigleig and Neidhammer, and nothing is known of them subsequently nor of their descendants. William Shaeffer died in 1831, when his youngest child, Lydia, was but eleven months old. His wife, left a widow with a large family, bravely went into the field with her sons and labored to make a living. The eldest daughter, with the help of an old woman, Betsy Gewherlinz, who lived with the family, kept house and took care of the younger children. The distillery was operated by the sons and the husband of Mrs. Neidhammer, Mrs. Shaeffer's stepdaughter, for a time, but later was abandoned. One of the sons, Daniel Shaeffer, is quoted as saying: "When I came home on my wedding trip in 1847, I caught a mess of frogs in an old vat in the distillery."

The second son, Jacob, becoming dissatisfied with his mother's management, left home, but Samuel and John remained with her, and worked for and

with her until 1844, when they came to Indiana in search of new homes. After Mrs. Shaeffer's family had grown up and gone to homes of their own she sold the homestead in Dauphin County and came to Indiana to live with her children, the majority of whom had located at Fremont, Steuben County, Margaret, Samuel and John arriving here in 1844-5, and Lydia in 1851. Daniel accompanied his mother in 1854. He visited with his brothers and sisters, and then going back to Dauphin County, brought his family to Fremont in 1855. Mrs. Shaeffer lived until January 14, 1875, and spent her declining years at the homes of her several children, to the very last being an important factor in their lives. She passed away at the home of her daughter, Margaret, who was the wife of Jacob Weaver. This branch of the Shaeffer family was descended from Christian Shaeffer of Susquehanna Township, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, who was the father of William Shaeffer, and son of John N.

Samuel Shaeffer, son of William Shaeffer and father of A. I. Shaeffer, was married in 1840 to Susanna Weaver, born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, a sister of Peter Weaver, a biography of whom appears elsewhere in this work. During 1844-5 Samuel Shaeffer came to Steuben County, Indiana, locating on a farm of 192 acres in Fremont Township, where he carried on general farming and stockraising, and improved his property, erecting the necessary buildings and fences, and otherwise adding to its value. The children born to him and his wife were as follows: Mary, who was born in 1842, died in 1848; Oliver, who was born in 1844; Enasetta, who was born in 1846, died in 1855; Daniel, who was born in 1849, died in 1904; Christopher, who was born in 1855; and A. I., who was the youngest in the family. Samuel Shaeffer died at Fremont September 16, 1877, his wife surviving him until February 3, 1880. They were consistent members of the German Methodist Church of Fremont, and he was one of the largest contributors toward the erection of the first church edifice of that denomination at Fremont.

A. I. Shaeffer attended the public schools of Fremont Township, and during his boyhood and youth assisted his father on the farm. When he was twenty years old he began conducting a threshing outfit, operated by horse power, and in 1878 added the conduct of a sawmill to his activities, moving in that year to Fremont, where his mill was located. In 1879 he bought a steam rig to replace the horse power in his mill, and continued to live at Fremont until 1896, at which time he rented the farm of George Straw near Fremont, and lived on it for ten years, moving then to a farm in Jamestown Township. Two years later, in December, 1909, Mr. Shaeffer bought his present farm of seventy acres, since which time he has rebuilt and added to the barn and erected several other buildings, putting the place in first class order. His farming is carried on according to modern methods, and he is satisfied with the results, as he has every reason to be.

On December 10, 1878, Mr. Shaeffer was married to Miss Ellen C. Kauffman, a daughter of John and Mary Kauffman, and they became the parents of the following children: Bert E., who was born December 3, 1879, died November 9, 1908, and married Euphemia Lytle, who died January 4, 1919, leaving their one child, A. C., who was born December 18, 1907; Ina May, who was born March 21, 1881, married Lester Harter, and they had one child, Bernice Harter. She was later married to Wilbur E. Young, and they have had three children, Bernard F., Berdene and Berlene. The third child of Mr. and Mrs. Shaeffer, Eva A., was born October 13, 1892, and she was married to Ivan Isenhower,



and they have a son, Maynard S., who was born in November, 1916.

DANIEL J. SHANK has spent all his life in Indiana and for nearly forty years has been a resident of Steuben County, and for the past thirty years has been proprietor of a large and flourishing lumber business in the City of Angola. He grew up around his father's grist mill and acquired a knowledge of the milling business and was connected with milling operations for some years.

Mr. Shank was born in Adams County, Indiana, April 9, 1849, a son of John R. and Mary (Lizer) Shank. His father was a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and his mother of Centerville, Wayne County, Indiana. John R. Shank went to Ohio in 1841, and soon afterward to Indiana. A miller by trade, he followed his occupation in Adams County for many years, but in 1890 moved to Steuben County and operated a mill at Hamilton for several years. He finally retired to Angola, where he died in 1900, at the age of eighty-two. His wife, who died at the same age, passed away in 1912. John R. Shank was a democrat and a member of the Methodist Church. He and his wife had four children: Michael, who died about 1852; Kansas B., who died in 1865; Daniel J.; and Henry, who for a number of years was a druggist in Angola.

Daniel J. Shank acquired a good public school education in his native county. After several years of work with his father in the milling business he moved to Angola in 1880, and acquired an interest in the local grist mill and lumber yard. In 1887 he bought the lumber yard near the depot, and for over thirty years has supplied the needs of a large surrounding country with lumber and building materials. For about ten years of this time he also sold coal. Mr. Shank has been a director in the Steuben County State Bank for twelve years, and has prosecuted all his business interests with much vigor and corresponding success.

He has been a member of the City Council, is a republican, is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, and is a member of a very interesting local social club known as the Scavenger Club. This club evidently has strong fraternal ties among its members, since it holds only one stated meeting in the even years of the calendar, the date of meeting being on February 2, "ground hog day." Mr. Shank's mother was a devout Methodist, but he is a member of no church. His family are all members of the Christian Church.

In 1873, at Monroeville, Allen County, Indiana, he married Miss Malinda C. Dague, of that county, though a native of Ohio. Mrs. Shank died January 18, 1918, at the age of sixty-four, after they had been married forty-five years. She was the mother of four children: Emmet E. is associated with his father in the lumber business and by his marriage to Ella Goff has three children, named Adelbert, Editha and Anna Malinda. Nora V. is the wife of Joseph Brokau and has four sons, Austin, John, Richard and Robert, the last two twins. Myrtle P. is the wife of George G. Niehous and has one child, Mary Malinda. Mildred Mary is the wife of John Bakstad.

JEFFERSON BETZ is an honored figure in the community of Franklin Township, DeKalb County, is an old soldier of the Union, has been a resident of DeKalb County for half a century, and is now enjoying a well earned retirement from his responsibilities as a farmer.

Mr. Betz was born in Columbiana County, Ohio,

December 21, 1838, a son of Henry and Catherine (Stull) Betz, the former a native of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Columbiana County, Ohio. After their marriage they spent all their lives in Columbiana County. Jefferson Betz grew up in his native state, had a common school education, and early in the Civil war enlisted in Company D of the One Hundred and Fifteenth Ohio Infantry. He saw a great deal of active service during the next fifteen months, and was then granted an honorable discharge on account of impaired hearing. After the war he went back to his native district in Ohio and in April, 1865, married Jennie Musser. She was born in Columbiana County.

Mr. Betz brought his family to Indiana in 1869 and has been a resident of DeKalb County ever since. For many years he worked in the fields and handled his farm, but is now living in comfort among his children. He is a republican in politics and active in the Grand Army Post at Hamilton.

He is the father of four children: Della, wife of George W. Kepler; Dora, wife of Oliver W. Fee; Elmer, who lives on the home farm in Franklin Township; and Emma, wife of Clyde Hinker.

GEORGE W. STOUT probably has the premier honors of long and veteran service in Uncle Sam's post-office department. He has been connected with the Hamilton postoffice almost continuously for thirty years, most of the time as assistant postmaster, and since 1914 has been chief executive of the office.

Mr. Stout was born at Fairfield Center in DeKalb County, Illinois, August 19, 1866, a son of Andrew J. and Sarah Anna (Houser) Stout. His mother, who died July 28, 1914, was born in Ohio, a daughter of Samuel Houser. The paternal grandfather, George Stout, was an Ohio farmer living near Attica. Andrew J. Stout was born in Seneca County, Ohio, and in March, 1868, came to Hamilton from DeKalb County, Indiana, and established himself as a shoe and boot maker. He bought his leather direct from the tanners. In connection with his business he also served about twelve years as postmaster of Hamilton. He was also a skillful veterinarian, and practiced that profession for a number of years. In 1917 he disposed of his business interests at Hamilton and has since lived retired at Ashley. Recently he paid a visit to old home localities in Ohio after he had been away from that community for forty years, and he died at the home of his son in Dayton, Ohio, March 12, 1919. He and his wife had four children: George W., Samuel W., one that died in infancy, and John W.

George W. Stout received his education in Hamilton, graduating from high school there, and took a business course at Oberlin, Ohio, and was a student in the Tri-State College at Angola when illness of his father called him home. He then took up the duties of assistant postmaster, and has assisted every postmaster since his father's time with the exception of one. He received appointment as postmaster of Hamilton, July 1, 1914.

July 28, 1888, Mr. Stout married Lenora Dirrim, of DeKalb County, daughter of Robert R. and Amanda (Firestone) Dirrim. The Dirrim's are one of the oldest and most prominent families of DeKalb County. Mr. and Mrs. Stout had six children: Webster G., assistant postmaster under his father at Hamilton, married Mrs. Vera B. (Copp) Barney, daughter of Abner Copp, of St. Joseph, Indiana. Letha M. is the wife of Jesse Mountz, operating the Home Bakery at Butler. Walter L. died July

20, 1904. Fernie B. and Waldo F. are still at home, and George W. died in infancy.

CHARLES C. EATON. Forty-three years ago when a boy of twelve Charles C. Eaton helped put in and harvest a routine of crops. He has never missed a season since then, and out of his forty odd years of farming experience he has achieved a competency and one of the best farms in Clay Township of LaGrange County.

Mr. Eaton was born in that township July 4, 1864, a son of Josiah and Rachel (Preston) Eaton. His mother was a daughter of John M. Preston. Josiah Eaton, a native of Sandusky County, Ohio, grew up in Lima Township of LaGrange County from the year 1845 and began farming there. About 1856 he moved to a place in Clay Township owned by Dr. J. T. Hobb, and as a renter made such good use of his opportunities that in a few years he acquired the ownership of the Hobb farm. He was not only a successful farmer, but served as assessor of Clay Township, and was drainage commissioner of LaGrange County eight years. He was a member of the Methodist Protestant Church and superintendent of its Sunday school many years. He and his wife had five children: Sarah E., wife of Mott Bowen; J. Edward; Charles C.; William, deceased; and Alton H.

Charles C. Eaton attended the district schools of Clay Township, and during his mature career has kept his affairs progressing and prospering. He owns a farm of 233 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres in Clay Township, his home being in section 10. He has for a number of years been a prominent hog raiser. He served nine years as superintendent of the Sunday school of the Methodist Protestant Church, of which he and his wife are both active members.

In 1888 he married Eva McManus, daughter of Nelson McManus. She died August 24, 1893, the mother of two children: Ethel and Clarence. Ethel is the wife of Lloyd Bricker and has four children, named Cecil, Gladys, Melvin and Mary Jane. Clarence married Bessie Ellsworth and has a son, Charles Ellsworth. In November, 1894, Mr. Eaton married Addie Atwater, a daughter of William Atwater. They have one daughter, Bell, still at home.

MOSES M. MILLER, who for over a quarter of a century has had his home in section 29 of Clay Township, has developed a fine farm out of the woods there, and is a sturdy representative of one of the old and well known family names of LaGrange County.

He was born in Hickory County, Missouri, February 24, 1870. His father is Moses P. Miller, more extended reference to whose career will be found on other pages. Moses P. Miller, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1845, had come to LaGrange County in 1857, but from 1869 to 1872 lived in Hickory County, Missouri, and since then has been a resident of LaGrange County.

Moses M. Miller was therefore brought back to LaGrange County before he was able to remember things consecutively, and has lived here ever since. He attended district schools in Eden and Clay townships, was employed on his father's farm, at the age of twenty-one worked out as a farm hand, and the following fall moved to the place where he is still living. He was married July 19, 1891, and took his bride to a tract of timbered land, where his efforts have resulted in many improvements and developments. He makes a specialty of well bred Holstein cattle and is properly regarded as one of the best farmers in the township.

Mr. Miller married Lydia Patterson. They had

ten children: Rollin, born May 7, 1892, and died in March, 1896; Ray M.; Roy; Minnie May; Samuel; Moses Ivan; Ina and Nina, twins, who died in infancy; Milo Uriah; and Wilbur. Mr. Miller and family are members of the Mennonite Church.

Mrs. Miller was born in Van Buren Township of LaGrange County, a daughter of George and Polly (Miller) Patterson. Her father was a life-long farmer in LaGrange County. In the Patterson family were the following children: John, Simon, who died December 27, 1899; Fannie, who died in 1915; and Clara, Lydia, Hattie, Jacob, Amanda, Susan, and Daniel.

JOHN MAULT. For over thirty years the name of John Mault has been identified with the farming enterprise of Sparta Township. He is proprietor of one of the well managed and valuable farms of that locality of Noble County, his home being on the Lincoln Highway three miles southeast of Ligonier.

He was born in Shelby County, Ohio, January 24, 1860, a son of William and Amanda (Morris) Mault. His parents were also natives of Shelby County, were married there, and on August 20, 1866, moved to Noble County, Indiana, and settled in Sparta Township, where they spent the rest of their lives. They were active church people and William Mault was a republican. Of seven children three are still living: John R.; William, of Sparta Township; and Clara, wife of James Smith.

John R. Mault was only six years old when brought to Noble County, and he grew up here, attending the district schools and also the high school at Syracuse. He lived at home to the age of twenty-one. Then after several years of work on his individual account he married on July 3, 1886, Martha L. Beck. She was born in Hardin County, Ohio, April 6, 1869, a daughter of Lewis F. Beck, of Paulding County, Ohio. Mr. and Mrs. Mault have six children: Minnie, wife of Ralph Gallup; Wilbur, who is married and lives in Toledo, Ohio; Andrew, a farmer at Middlebury, Indiana; Albert, unmarried and at home; Walter, also at home, who married Elma Price; and Clarence, at home.

The family are members of the Broadway Christian Church. Mr. Mault is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Kimmell, his wife is a member of the Rebekahs at Cromwell, both are members of the Knights and Ladies of the Macca-bees, and she belongs to the Pythian Sisters at Cromwell. In politics he is a republican but has never had official aspirations. The Mault farm is one of the best in Sparta Township, comprising 136 acres, and is well stocked with grade cattle and hogs and has very superior equipment and facilities.

CLYDE A. WALB, president of the LaGrange County Trust Company, has been a man of affairs in LaGrange County for a number of years. He was formerly county surveyor and engineer. In later years a prominent drainage contractor, he still operates a large fleet of dredges which have excavated millions of cubic yards in the process of reclaiming thousands of acres of fertile soil in Northern Indiana.

Mr. Walb was born in Clay Township of LaGrange County October 3, 1878, son of Reuben B. and Susana (Norris) Walb. His parents are still living. He grew up on a farm in Clay Township, attended district schools there, graduated from the LaGrange High School, and studied civil engineering. He was elected county surveyor and engineer on the republican ticket, filling that office with credit for six years. He then engaged in the busi-



ness of drainage contracting, operating steam shovel-dredges, and his work in this line has included a number of contracts in different parts of the state and in other states. He owns ten steam shovel dredges and has a highly adequate and efficient organization for their operations. Mr. Walb helped organize the LaGrange County Trust Company and has been president since it started.

He married Vida Wildman, a graduate of the Wolcottville High School. They have four children: Walter, Eloise, Ralph and Clyde A. Jr. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal church of which Mr. Walb is a trustee. He is active in Masonry, being past high priest of the Royal Arch Chapter, is a member of the Knights Templar, the Scottish Rite and the Shrine. He is also affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. He is present county chairman of the republican party.

Besides the interests detailed above Mr. Walb is president of the LaGrange Hardware Company and is half owner in a tract of 320 acres of land. He is therefore one of the most substantial men of LaGrange County and it is easy to understand the weight his name carries in public affairs.

LAORA M. ROWE formerly a druggist and for many years engaged in the real estate and insurance business at LaGrange, and is member of a family that has played an active part in this section of Northeast Indiana for over sixty years.

He was born in Preble County, Ohio, August 15, 1858, a son of Milton and Caroline (Dorsey) Rowe. His father was born in Preble County, Ohio, July 31, 1833, and his mother near Baltimore, Maryland, February 18, 1832. They were married in Preble County, Ohio, October 26, 1854, and after living for some time in Preble County came in the spring of 1861 to LaGrange County, Indiana, and settled on a farm of 120 acres in Eden Township. Later Milton Rowe added forty acres more and was one of the industrious agriculturists of that locality until his death on June 17, 1915. His wife died March 25, 1886. They were the parents of a large family of nine children. Josiah, a farmer of Eden Township, married Nora Benham; Emma who died April 13, 1880, the wife of Mathias Longcor; Laora M., Henry A., who died in his fourth year; Margaret E., wife of August Herrmann of LaGrange, Oregon; Cecelia, who died March 4, 1896, wife of Lorenzo Haller; Charles who married Anna McKibben lives on the McKibben homestead; Mary E., who died October 25, 1899, the wife of John Penrose; and Howard P., who lives at Enterprise, Oregon, and married Cora Pierman.

Laora M. Rowe grew up on the homestead farm in LaGrange County and supplemented his education in the country schools with attendance at the LaGrange County Normal. At the age of nineteen he taught his first term of school and was an educator six years, four years in country schools and two years in the LaGrange schools. He then joined his brother-in-law E. S. Ballou and Dr. Betts in the drug business and continued in that line for about fourteen years until he sold out. During the second administration of President Cleveland he was appointed postmaster of LaGrange. Since then he has been an insurance man, a notary public, a dealer in real estate and now is a member of the LaGrange Bar and these various activities account for the last eighteen years of his life.

Mr. Rowe is a democrat, and four times received appointment by the judge as a member of the board of review. October 12, 1881, he married Miss Ann M. Ballou, sister of O. L. and E. S. Ballou, elsewhere mentioned in this publication. Mr. and Mrs.

Rowe had three children, Anna M., dying in infancy; Lura A., a graduate of the LaGrange High School, now residing at Lincoln, Nebraska, and Anna C., also a graduate of the LaGrange High School and the wife of Walter Spangenberg of Sturgis, Michigan, and the mother of one child, June Pauline.

JACOB MILLER. There are a great many people who will recall the upright life and character of the late Jacob Miller, who for many years was one of Salem Township's most substantial farmers. The farm he acquired, developed and owned so many years is now the property of his widow and under the active management of his only son, Henry Miller.

Mr. Miller was born in Ohio January 28, 1844, son of an Ohio farmer who lived near Edgerton. Jacob Miller had a good rearing and training in early youth, especially in habits of industry and thrift, and he became a resident of Steuben County in 1874, moving from DeKalb County. At that time he bought 215 acres in Salem Township, and during the next quarter of a century he was busily engaged in cultivating his fields, making improvements in every direction, putting up all the buildings which still adorn and give value to the place, and left his work well done when he obeyed the last summons on April 23, 1900.

January 5, 1869, five years before coming to Steuben County, Mr. Miller married Miss Sarah E. Slayman. She was born in Fairfield Township of DeKalb County June 21, 1851, a daughter of George and Barbara (Bales) Slayman. Her father, who was born in 1824, was a pioneer in Fairfield Township, DeKalb County, and lived as a farmer there until his death in 1881. His children were Rebecca, Sarah E., Jennie, Ida Bell, who died in infancy, Ella, a son that died in infancy, and Arwilda.

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Miller had three children, Henry and Mina, twins, and Cora Elizabeth, who died when two years old. Mina is the wife of John Holbrook, a farmer of Salem Township.

Henry Miller was born September 11, 1869, and has lived since earliest childhood on the home farm in Salem Township. He attended the Turkey Creek School there and began making himself useful to his father when a small boy. Since his father's death in 1900 he has been farming the place on his own responsibility and raises a great deal of livestock. The farm now comprises 380 acres, owned by the Miller estate.

Henry Miller married Nettie Frederick, daughter of Joseph Frederick. They have three sons, Ray Owen, Clyde William and Russell Ellsworth.

ALVIN E. LAMBRIGHT. An unusual example of a progressive and successful farmer of Northeast Indiana is afforded in the person of Alvin E. Lambright, whose home is in section 19 of Johnson Township, six miles south of LaGrange. Mr. Lambright is not yet forty years of age, and in a dozen years has achieved a degree of material success which counts him among the large farmers and land owners of Northeast Indiana.

He was born at the old Lambright farm where he still resides November 2, 1881, a son of Michael M. and Agusta (Schintzer) Lambright. His father, born in Germany March 9, 1837, came to the United States with his father in 1845 and in 1850 the family moved from Ohio, their first place of settlement, to LaGrange County, Indiana. Michael Lambright grew up in Indiana, and was married in Ohio, where his wife was born. He then settled in Johnson

Township of LaGrange County, on section 19, and lived there forty years or more, until 1902, when he retired to Wolcottville. He died September 12, 1907, and his wife, March 22, 1918. Of their nine children one died in infancy and six are still living: William J., a retired farmer at Wolcottville; Adolph, of Johnson Township; Etta, wife of William Rowe of Wolcottville; Lewis M., an engineer with the New York Central Railroad, living at Elkhart; Carrie, wife of Frank Eddy of Moorcroft, Wyoming; and Alvin E.

Alvin E. Lambricht grew up on his father's farm and had a common school education. For three years of his early life he worked out by the month, and he started with limited capital. He inherited part of the old Lambricht farm, and from that as a beginning has built up a farm of 300 acres under his individual ownership, and is one of the leading producers of crops and live stock in LaGrange County. He raises large numbers of cattle and hogs and has made it a rule, a profitable one, to raise his own feed, a policy with him, as with many others, which has proved very profitable. Mr. Lambricht also owns a three-fourths interest in the Lambricht Block at Wolcottville. Perhaps his chief hobby is good roads, and he was instrumental in constructing a mile and a half of gravel road along his own farm. Politically he is a democrat.

Mr. Lambricht married Martha A. Moore of Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County. They have four children: Dorothy, Ruth A. and Ruby W., twins, and Alvin E., Jr.

HARRY C. MARQUISS made a successful record as an Illinois farmer and then brought the proceeds of his experience to Noble County, and now owns one of the valuable farms of York Township, located 2½ miles northeast of Albion.

Mr. Marquiss was born in Piatt County, in the corn belt of Illinois, December 9, 1862, a son of Henry and Mary J. (Corn) Marquiss. His parents were both natives of Ohio, and their respective families moved to Illinois at an early day. They married in that state, became farmers, and the father was also interested in a grist and sawmill. He died when Harry C. Marquiss was a small child. The mother never married again, and managed to keep her family together. She had eight children, and the three sons still living are: Oliver A., a farmer in Piatt County, Illinois; James E., superintendent of waterworks and street superintendent at Monticello, Illinois; and Harry C.

Harry C. Marquiss grew up in Piatt County, Illinois, attended the country schools, and lived at home until he was about twenty-four years of age. He married Anna C. Duvall in 1886. Mrs. Marquiss was born in Piatt County May 13, 1866, and was educated in the common schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Marquiss located on her mother's farm and pushed their affairs in Illinois to successful ends for a number of years. In 1910 they came to Indiana, and Mr. Marquis now owns 240 acres in Noble County.

He and his wife became the parents of ten children, including: Charles H., who entered the Great Lakes Training Station as a machinist in the aviation section, and later was appointed an instructor in that branch; Mary, a graduate of a high school in Illinois, is the wife of Clarence Baldwin, of Noble County; Emma is unmarried and at home; Loren, who saw active services with the American Expeditionary Forces in France; Carl; Wilber, a graduate of the Albion High School; Albert; Otis, also a high school graduate; and Lora A., who died in October, 1918, aged twenty-six years. She was the wife of Herman Parrott.

Mr. Marquiss has for many years been an active Odd Fellow and in his home lodge at Deland, Illinois, served as noble grand, and also as chief patriarch of the Encampment at Monticello, Illinois, and represented both branches in the Grand Lodge. He and his wife are active members of the Rebekahs of Albion. He is also affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America. In politics he has been a vigorous republican, and while living in Illinois served as assessor and as a justice of the peace for eight years.

EUGENE DICKINSON. Of the men whose ability, industry and forethought have added to the character, wealth and progress of LaGrange County, none deserves better mention than Eugene Dickinson of Johnson Township. Mr. Dickinson grew up in LaGrange County, learned farming by practical experience and has proved one of the progressive agriculturists of the county. He is well known as a breeder of Jersey cattle. His farm two and a half miles north of Wolcottville has about fifty head of these beautiful animals, his herd being headed by a grandson of "Hood Farm Torona." Mr. and Mrs. Dickinson have about 240 acres of land in Johnson Township.

He was born in Orange Township of Noble County, Indiana, August 31, 1853, a son of Barrett W. and Sarah J. (Rowe) Dickinson. His father was born in Genesee County, New York. His grandfather, William Dickinson, came to LaGrange County in pioneer days, in 1836, and bought a section of land in Johnson and Orange townships of Noble County. He spent the rest of his life in Johnson Township and was one of the prominent citizens of early days. It is said that he brought the first carriage to this part of Indiana. He was a member of the Masonic fraternity. William Dickinson had four children: Barrett W., Almon, Eugene and Emily Hurlbert, all of whom are now deceased.

Barrett W. Dickinson after his marriage lived on a farm in Orange Township of Noble County and died there when his only child, Eugene, was eleven months old. His widow then married Almon Dickinson, brother of her first husband, and they soon afterward came to LaGrange County and located on the farm where Eugene Dickinson now lives. To their marriage were born three children.

Eugene Dickinson has lived practically all his life at his present home. He was educated in the district schools and afterward was graduated from Indiana University with the degree A. B. He also attended the Divinity School of the old Chicago University and was awarded the degree Bachelor of Divinity, and in the same year the Master of Arts degree by Indiana University. He was ordained a Baptist minister and is widely known over this section of Indiana for his unusually able efforts in the ministry. He was pastor of churches at LaGrange and Kendallville, and continued his chosen profession from 1886 to 1906. Since retiring from the ministry he has given all his time to farming and stockraising.

June 18, 1879, he married Angie G. Wildman, a sister of H. H. Wildman, the Wolcottville banker. One of their two children died at the age of nine. The only survivor is Lena W., who graduated from the Baptist College at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and took her A. B. degree from the University of Chicago. She was a teacher in the high school at Montague, Michigan, and at Litchfield, Illinois, until her marriage to Professor R. G. Rapp at Hammond, Indiana. Mr. Dickinson in politics is a republican.

CHARLES JORDAN was one of the enterprising mer-





HARRY C. MARQUISS AND FAMILY





chants of Steuben County, and in a brief life achieved a large measure of success and the respect of the entire community in which he lived and labored.

He was born in Steuben County July 26, 1852, son of David and Alvina (Wier) Jordan. The parents came from New York State in 1851 and settled in Fremont Township of Steuben County, later moved from their farm to Angola, and lived there until the death of David about five years later. His widow survived him about twenty years. He was a republican and a Methodist. David Jordan and wife had six children: Henry, Andrew, Harriet, Loretta, Charles and Ella.

Charles Jordan grew up on the homestead farm and had a public school education. He engaged in business as a meat dealer and rendered a good service and made friends of all his patrons. He was engaged in that line until his death on July 25, 1886, just a day before his thirty-fourth birthday. He was a republican in politics.

In November, 1874, Charles Jordan married Nancy Spangle, member of one of the older families of Steuben County. She was born in that county November 3, 1856, daughter of Simon and Harriet (Bennett) Spangle, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Seneca County, Ohio. They were married in Seneca County and came from there to Steuben County, Indiana, settling in Jackson Township and later moving three miles north of Angola. Simon Spangle died in 1885, at the age of sixty-two and his wife on October 20, 1898, aged seventy-four. Their children were: Susan, wife of George Johnson, of Brooklyn, New York; Mary, wife of Hiram Baker; Elizabeth, wife of S. L. Crandall; Edwin, Ephraim, Jane, Nancy and Etta. The three living are Mrs. Jordan, Edward and Ephraim.

Mrs. Nancy Jordan is still living in Angola and is the mother of one son, David Charles Jordan, who was educated in the public schools, including the high school at Angola, took a business course in the Tri-State College and attended Notre Dame University one year. He is a graduate from the pharmacy department of Purdue University, and for several years was in the drug business at Alexandria, Indiana, and has since been a traveling representative for the great paint manufacturers, Sherwin-Williams Company. David Charles married in 1917, Cora Fulton, who was born at Lockport, New York.

**WILLIAM CHRYSTLER.** Very many of the early settlers of Indiana were natives of New York, and when they journeyed into what was then a frontier region they bore with them the habits, thoughts and customs of a sturdy civilization that has its influence yet, as is evidenced by the good citizenship that prevails throughout Indiana. To have been born in the Empire State and to live in Indiana has many times been helpful in opening the door of both social and business opportunity. This has been the fortunate experience of William Chrystler, one of the highly respected and substantial men of LaGrange County, Indiana, whose fine farm is situated in Clay Township.

William Chrystler was born in Cattaraugus County, New York, August 7, 1852. His parents were Abraham and Martha (Bowers) Chrystler, both of whom were born in New York and were married in that state. In 1858 they moved to Indiana, urged perhaps by the needs of a growing family, and for some years lived in different sections before settling in Jackson Township, Steuben

County, in the early '60s. Later the family home was near Nevada Mills. Both parents died in Steuben County. They had nine children, namely: Wesley, Henry, Martha, George, William, Helen, Amanda, Emma and Eugene. The father was an industrious man although he never accumulated a fortune. The mother taught her children to be honest and frugal and ever set them the best of examples. While never active to any extent in politics, the father was a well informed man and gave his political support to the republican party because he believed in its principles.

William Chrystler was about seven years old when he had a chance to start to school in Steuben County, and was thirteen years old when he began work for George Twitchell. He continued to work on farms in Steuben and afterward in LaGrange County, to which he came in 1870. Here he bought land and now owns 120 acres of valuable farming land, which lies in Clay Township. For a number of years after his marriage he continued to farm and raise stock, but later, when another business opportunity was presented, he turned the management of his farm over to one of his sons. It is not so many years ago that scientists discovered the process of preserving green fodder for the use of stock, the building of silos being a comparatively new departure in many of the otherwise well managed farming districts. Mr. Chrystler, as an intelligent and progressive agriculturist, has gone into the business of selling silos, and is meeting with the success so important an enterprise deserves.

On October 11, 1871, William Chrystler was married to Miss Hannah Latta, who is a daughter of Silas Latta, extended mention of whom will be found on another page of this work. Mr. and Mrs. Chrystler have had ten children, as follows: Charles, whose sketch appears in this work; William Albert, who is a farmer in Clay Township, married Clara Myers and they have two children; Mattie, who was the wife of Oliver Harding, left nine children at time of death; Samuel, who at his death left a widow, May Van Darsen; Fred, deceased, married Celia Paige; Lewis, who married Eunice Baer; Julia, who is the wife of Lewis Myers; Myrtle, who is the wife of Stephen Eddy; Cecil, who married Grace Swinehart, is living in LaGrange; and Edith, who died when five months old. Of the above family, Lewis Chrystler rents the homestead farm. In politics Mr. Chrystler and his sons are republicans, but for the last twenty years he has been active in the prohibition movement. Few men in this section of Indiana are better known.

**ICHABOD PARSELL** is the present trustee of Steuben Township, Steuben County. One of the most important offices in the county government, the people of Salem Township chose Mr. Parsell for that responsibility by reason of his long residence, his successful record as a farmer, and his ability and trustworthiness in every relationship of life.

Mr. Parsell was born in Jackson Township of Steuben County March 4, 1864, and is a son of Abijah D. Parsell and grandson of Moses Parsell. Moses Parsell was born February 12, 1797, and in 1838 brought his family to Steuben County, Indiana, and settled among the pioneers of Jackson Township. On December 17, 1817, he married Mary Campbell, who was born September 10, 1795. She died in 1824, and in 1825 he married Hannah Crilley, who died in 1846.

Abijah D. Parsell was born in New Jersey October 25, 1827, a child of his father's second marriage,

and was eleven years old when the family came to Steuben County. He finished his education here in the district schools, and in 1851 married Jane T. Alcott. She was born in Ohio September 24, 1829, a daughter of Samuel and Nancy Alcott. After his marriage Abijah Parsell bought a farm in section 35 of Jackson Township, and spent over twenty years as a practical farmer. In 1872 he engaged in the produce business at Angola, remained there a year, and in 1878 resumed his connection with the mercantile interests of Angola and continued it until his death on November 11, 1882. His wife passed away in 1888. Of their seven children three reached mature years: Austin M., born November 1, 1855; Ichabod; and Michael A., born January 18, 1870.

Ichabod Parsell acquired part of his early education in the district schools of Jackson Township and also attended the public schools of Angola. He started life as a farmer in Salem Township, and has owned his farm in section 2 of that township for many years. He continued the active supervision of his 130 acres until 1915, since which date he has lived in the Village of Salem. He also owns forty acres in section 35 of Jackson Township.

December 3, 1891, Mr. Parsell married Estella D. (Brown) Woodford, daughter of Samuel W. and Elizabeth (Wilson) Brown. Her first husband was Ira Woodford, and by that union she has a daughter, Ruth, now the wife of Wallace D. Kinsey. Mr. and Mrs. Parsell have one son, Samuel A., who is now running his father's farm in Salem Township. Samuel married Muriel Spears and has two children, Barbara Ruth and Bettie Muriel.

Mr. Parsell was accorded the responsibilities of the office of township trustee in 1914, and after one term of four years was re-elected on his record in 1918. His wife is a member of the Presbyterian Church at Salem.

ELIAS C. WEMPLE has lived since early infancy in LaGrange County, grew up on a farm, adopted agriculture as his mainstay in life, and is now proprietor of a good farm in Johnson Township. He has fared equally well in the esteem of his community, and made a splendid record during the time he served as township trustee.

Mr. Wemple was born in Schenectady, New York, December 28, 1857, son of John A. and Elizabeth (Strang) Wemple. His parents were natives of New York, and after their marriage came to Indiana in 1855. A year later they went back to their native state, and in 1859 came to Indiana, and from that time until their death lived in Clear Spring Township of LaGrange County. Five of their children are still living: Abraham, of Perry Township, Noble County; Angelica, widow of Hiram B. Smith; James, of Wexford County, Michigan; Elijah P., of Topeka, Indiana; and Elias C.

Elias C. Wemple was eighteen months old when his parents came to LaGrange County, and he grew up here and was educated in the common schools. He lived at home with his parents until he was twenty-eight years old. In 1886 he married Matie E. Baugher. She is a native of LaGrange County and made good use of her early advantages in the common schools and the Ontario Normal and for seventeen years was a successful and popular teacher. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Wemple began farming north of Valentine, and in 1890 moved to their present place a half mile west of that village. Mr. Wemple has 72½ acres devoted to general farming and stockraising.

He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge and also with the Knights of the Maccabees. He

is a past chancellor and member of the Grand Lodge, and Mrs. Wemple is a past chief of the Pythian Sisters. Mr. Wemple was elected to the office of township trustee on the democratic ticket.

AARON YODER. Farming is the oldest industry, and it is one of the most important, attracting to it some of the exceptional men of the country, who recognize the fact that in it they can develop from comparative poverty to affluence provided they are willing to exert themselves and save their money. One of the leading agriculturalists of LaGrange County, who has placed himself in the front ranks of his calling through his own efforts, is Aaron Yoder, of Newbury Township. He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, November 26, 1862, a son of Daniel and Barbara (Kauffman) Yoder, both natives of Pennsylvania, where he died in 1886, aged sixty-one years. His widow survives him and is now eighty-one years old. Their children were as follows: Aaron, whose name heads this review; Noah, who was taken away by death in 1887; Levi, who was third in the family; Stephen; and Nathaniel. The father was a widower when he married the mother of Aaron Yoder, having been previously married to Miss Catherine Hostetter, and their children were as follows: Cynthia; Moses, who died at the age of twenty-six years; Josiah, who died in 1887; Daniel; and Barbara.

Growing up in his native state, Aaron Yoder attended its public schools, and remained at home assisting his father until he attained his majority. At that time he commenced working for the neighboring farmers for a year, when he moved to LaGrange County. During the two years that followed his advent in the neighborhood he worked for others, and then rented a farm for nine years, moving from it to another rented place for a year. In 1898 he bought sixty acres of land in Newbury Township, later adding forty acres to it and now has 100 acres of finely cultivated land. He has two sets of modern buildings on the place, and his farm is well improved in every way.

In 1887 Mr. Yoder was united in marriage with Amanda Hostetter, born in Pennsylvania in 1861, but brought to LaGrange County by her parents, Samuel and Sarah (Miller) Hostetter, in 1866. Mr. Hostetter is now deceased, but his widow survives and makes her home with Mr. and Mrs. Yoder. Childless themselves, Mr. and Mrs. Yoder adopted a boy when he was only six weeks old and reared him. He was born November 11, 1894, and after taking the grammar and high school courses of his neighborhood attended Goshen College, and for three winters was engaged in teaching. During the World war he was called into the service March 20, 1918, and after the preliminary training at Camp Taylor was sent to France, and was at the front when the armistice was signed. He was returned to the United States in May, 1919, and after his honorable discharge returned to the farm, where he is now engaged in assisting his father. Mr. and Mrs. Yoder are consistent members of the Mennonite faith.

JOHN H. GEORGE. Among the men known in Steuben to be good, practical farmers and representative citizens is John H. George of Otsego Township. He was born in Crawford County, Ohio, February 16, 1869, a son of Robert and Anna (Smith) George, he born in Morrow County, Ohio, November 12, 1842, and she in Crawford County, Ohio, in 1848. For a time after their marriage they lived in Crawford County, Ohio, but in 1878 came to Steuben County, Indiana, buying forty acres near Fox Lake



in Pleasant Township, but later went to Scott Township, on eighty acres which they bought. After selling this farm they went on the Russell farm in Steuben Township, but after four years went on another farm in the same township and conducted it for seven years. Once more they went on the Russell farm, and there Mrs. George died July 24, 1912. Robert George died in a hospital at Ann Arbor, Michigan, October 6, 1917. In politics he was a democrat, but did not aspire to office. The United Brethren Church held his membership. A level-headed man, he worked hard and did his duty as he saw it, and no man in his neighborhood was held in higher esteem. He and his wife had children as follows: Alice, who died at the age of three years; John H., whose name heads this review; W., who lives at Pleasant Lake; Dora, who is the wife of Eugene Van Auken; an unnamed infant; Elsa; Frank; two unnamed infants; and Robert.

John H. George was reared as any farmer's son of his time and locality, and received the benefits of a public school education. In February, 1909, he bought eighty acres of land in Richland Township, and in 1912 made another purchase, investing in twenty acres in Otsego Township on which he now lives. In 1918 he added forty acres to his original eighty acres in Richland Township. All of the improvements on his property have been made by him and the land is very valuable, and he is a man of considerable means. In national affairs he is a democrat, but in local elections reserves the right to cast his vote for the man he deems best fitted for the office in question. Mr. George joined the Odd Fellows at Angola, later transferring to the lodge at Metz, and now belongs to Mount Pleasant Lodge No. 239, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and Metz Lodge No. 2111, Knights of Pythias.

Having spent his life in Steuben County, Mr. George naturally is deeply interested in it and all that pertains to its welfare, being willing and ready to lend his aid to further public improvements. His family is an old and honored one in this part of the state, and its members are desirable additions to any community in which they have located, for they are upright and law abiding and thoroughly American in every respect.

**HENRY MORELAND WADE.** While he owns the farm on which he lives in comfort and plenty in Springfield Township of LaGrange County, Mr. Wade since 1905 has relieved himself largely of the responsibilities and labors of its management and is enjoying a well merited leisure during his declining years.

His family had very early and pioneer associations in Northeast Indiana. However, Mr. Wade himself was born in Canada, June 23, 1844. He was five years of age when his parents returned to LaGrange County in 1849. His father, Robert Wade, was born in England and in 1829 came to America with his brothers John and Richard, locating in the region around White Pigeon, Michigan. In 1830 Robert Wade wrote a very detailed letter back to his parents in England, giving a description of the country of Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana, then practically an uninhabited wilderness. Probably through the influence of this letter his parents, Robert Wade, Sr., and wife, also came to America and spent their last years in LaGrange County. In 1833 Robert Wade married Jane Giles. She came from England to Detroit, Michigan, with her parents in 1830, but the entire family went back to England the same year. Soon afterward they returned to the United States and settled on English Prairie in Greenfield Township,

LaGrange County. John Giles, her father, as one of the pioneers on English Prairie, made a device from stones by which he was able to grind wheat, and that was probably the first instance of flour manufacture in that community. John Giles and his wife Jane, are both buried at Old Lexington, now Brighton, in Greenfield Township.

In 1837 Robert Wade and wife removed to Canada and, as noted above, lived there until 1849, when they returned to LaGrange County and settled in Springfield Township. In 1853 Robert Wade went west to California and a few years later met his death as a passenger on the Central America, a ship which went down off the coast of Lower California. He had served as a volunteer soldier at the time of the Blackhawk Indian war in 1832. His wife died June 20, 1885, aged seventy-seven years, five months and four days. She was an active member of the Methodist Church. Robert Wade and wife had a family of eight children: Elizabeth, deceased wife of Addison Phillips; Mary Ann, deceased wife of Abram Ackerman; John and Charles, both deceased; Ellen, who married Henry Deal; Henry M.; Sarah Jane, who was the wife of Headly Deal; and Walter, who died in infancy.

Henry Moreland Wade was educated in the public schools of Springfield Township, and in early youth he and his brother Charles bought out the interests of the other heirs in the old homestead. Later Henry sold his share to his brother Charles and then bought eighty acres where he is now living. His farm at the present time comprises ninety acres, forty acres in LaGrange and fifty acres in Steuben County. His farm has modern buildings and for years Mr. Wade conducted it as a high class general farm. Mr. Wade is a republican and served four years as trustee of Springfield Township. He is widely known for his musical gifts and was a teacher of music for many years and was a member and for thirty years was chorister at the Springfield Church.

December 16, 1870, Mr. Wade married Mrs. Christina Schreder. She was born December 28, 1837, and died April 5, 1911, aged seventy-three years, three months and eleven days. Her first husband was George Schreder, and her two children by that union were Thomas Herbert and Mary Matilda, the latter the wife of James Spero. Mrs. Schreder's maiden name was Lupton. Her father, Thomas Lupton, was a Methodist minister and also owned a farm in Lenawee County, Michigan, where he died. Rev. Mr. Lupton married a Miss Cooper.

Mr. and Mrs. Wade had two children, Effie Janet and Dr. Robert L. of Fremont, Indiana. Concerning this son special mention is made elsewhere. The daughter, Effie, was born September 9, 1873, on the farm where she now lives. She was educated in the public schools and also studied music at Hillsdale College under Professor Chase and in Detroit under Professor Neff. On February 27, 1907, she became the wife of Henry Spears.

Mr. Spears was born January 5, 1877. He is a successful farmer, owns eighty acres of good land and also handles the Wade farm of ninety acres and lives at the Wade homestead. He is a republican in politics. Mr. Spears is a son of John K. and Emma (Helmer) Spears, of an interesting family of LaGrange County. John K. Spears was born in Springfield Township while his wife was a native of New York. His grandparents were Tunis and Mary Spears, who came to LaGrange County in 1836. Tunis was a native of New Jersey and his wife of Connecticut. They came to LaGrange County from Ohio and took up eighty acres of government land a little north of Applemanburg.

This land was all under timber and Tunis Spears was busily engaged in clearing and developing it as a farm. He died in 1850 and his widow subsequently married a Mr. Sears and died at the present site of the Village of Helmer, owning the land on which that town is built. The wife of John K. Spears was a daughter of Peter and Esther Helmer, who came from New York State about 1848 and acquired land in Milford Township, making a home in the woods, where they spent their last years. John K. Spears acquired his early education in LaGrange County and was left to shift for himself when about thirteen. He worked out for monthly wages, subsequently acquired a farm south of Milford and later lived on and owned a farm in Jackson Township of Steuben County. In 1897 he moved to the farm now owned by his son in Springfield Township and had eighty-five acres there. He was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Salem Center. John K. Spears and wife had eight children: Etta, Mrs. John Weber, of Salem Center; Eliza, wife of F. T. Miller, of DeKalb County; Dora, Mrs. R. Butler, near Wolcottville in Noble County; John Alva; Fred, of Salem Center; Clara, Mrs. Bijah Emerson, deceased; Henry Spears; and Harley, present county surveyor of LaGrange County.

John Alva Spears, who lives on the old Spears farm, grew up in Steuben County, later was in the meat business in Livingston County, Illinois, for three years had a market at Millersburg, Indiana, and in 1901 came to the home farm of eighty-five acres. He was one of the organizers of the Stroh Shippers Association. He is unmarried.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry Spears have two children: Lillian Matilda, born April 10, 1909, and John Wade, born November 17, 1914.

NATHAN METZ, member of a very well known family of Steuben County, was born there soon after the family located in Indiana, and since early manhood has been an industrious and successful farmer, and besides making comfortable provisions for himself and family through his efforts has been honored twice with the office of trustee of Richland Township. He is still the incumbent of that office.

Mr. Metz was born in Otsego Township September 2, 1863. His father, Christopher Metz, was born in Baden, Germany. He married in February, 1842, Eva Katherine Gretchman. She was born in Baden April 2, 1822, daughter of Carl and Marguerite Gretchman. Christopher Metz brought his family to America in 1855. They were 103 days on the ocean. One of their sons died in Germany, they buried a daughter at sea, and another daughter was buried in New York. When they embarked on the ship they carried with them supplies of clothing and other goods, but all these possessions were lost in New York. The family went on to Ohio, and about 1860 came to Otsego Township of Steuben County, where with the exception of two years Christopher Metz spent the rest of his life. His children besides those above mentioned were: Catherine and Joshua, who were born in Germany; J. H. Metz; William, Martha, and Nathan.

Nathan Metz attended district schools and finished his education in the Tri-State College at Angola, graduating in the commercial department. On January 14, 1896, he married Mrs. Eugenia Morley, widow of Robert G. Morley and daughter of G. C. and Cordelia (Purvis) Cary. Her first husband, to whom she was married October 3, 1875, was Robert G. Morley, who was born in Richland Township in 1855, only son of Albert and Ruth (Dally) Morley. Albert Morley was born in New

York in 1832, of New England parentage, and his father, Ebenezer Morley, settled in Richland Township of Steuben County in 1842, among the pioneers. Robert G. Morley was for several terms county surveyor of Steuben County and died July 22, 1886, when his career was especially full of promise. Mrs. Metz by her first marriage had three children: Leo R., who married Lelia Dewire; Nellie C., who is the wife of Shirley Teegardin; and Ruth Dea, who died August 22, 1889, at the age of five years.

Mrs. Metz finished her education in the Angola Academy and for about six years was a successful teacher in Steuben County. After his marriage Mr. Metz began farming on the present place in Richland Township, and has done much to improve and increase the value of his farm, comprising eighty-five acres in section 20. He has remodeled the barn and carries on an extensive business as a crop raiser and raiser of good livestock. Mr. Metz served about fourteen years on the Advisory Board of Richland Township, and from that position was advanced to the office of trustee of the township in 1914. He gave such good service in handling the schools and other matters entrusted to his official jurisdiction that he was re-elected in 1918. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church and he is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Hamilton.

G. C. Cary, father of Mrs. Metz, was born in New Jersey and in 1849 came to Richland Township and acquired some land in section 20, eventually owning a well improved farm of ninety-six acres. He was one of the early school teachers in Richland Township. He died in January, 1900, and his wife in 1909. Their children, five in number, were Lewis; Eugenia; Milton, who died at the age of twenty-three; Lizzie, who married Elmer Lees and residing in Edon, Ohio; Lutie, who married George Scott and also lives at Edon, Ohio.

JACOB J. LAMBRIGHT. To the credit of the many hard working years of Jacob J. Lambright is a farm accounted one of the best in LaGrange County, known as the Grain and Meadow Farm, comprising 190 acres in Edon Township. This beautiful country estate is five miles north and a mile and a quarter west of Topeka, and part of the land was in the old Lambright homestead where Jacob was born December 28, 1879.

He is a son of Jacob J. and Sarah (Yoder) Lambright. His father, a native of Germany, was brought to the United States as a boy and was bound out to a family in Ohio. After coming to Indiana he married and settled in Newbury Township, but about two years later sold that place and moved to the farm where his son now lives and where he died. He had a family of four sons and four daughters, six of whom are still living: Amos and Michael, of Newbury Township; Jacob J.; Lizzie, wife of Samuel Miller; Laura, wife of David Hostettler; and Tillie, wife of Calvin Troyer.

Jacob J. Lambright grew up on the old farm and acquired a common school education. He began working for others when about fourteen years old, and while he inherited some money, most of his property has been acquired through the intelligent effort by which he has accepted his opportunities and managed his resources.

He married Fannie Yoder, a native of LaGrange County. After their marriage they rented land one year and then bought ninety-six acres of the old homestead. Mr. Lambright now owns altogether 325½ acres, having eighty acres two miles south of the homestead and 55½ acres just east. He is a republican in politics, and he and his family are members of the Amish Mennonite Church.



He and his wife have nine children: Jeremiah, Tobias, Ammon, Edward, Clara A., Milton, Zilma, Elsie, and Freeman.

**CARMAN J. CLOSSON.** There is no other line of activity which exacts such exhausting service if success is attained than that of farming, but on the other hand it richly rewards those who are willing to labor early and late for some years, enabling them to retire at an age when they are still young enough to take pleasure in other pursuits, and give intelligent attention to civic matters. Steuben County has a number of these substantial men who, having accomplished their aims, are now living in enjoyment of what they earned, leaving the active operation of their lands to others. One of these retired farmers is Carman J. Closson, of Steuben Township, owner of 160 acres of very valuable farm land.

Carman J. Closson was born in Delaware County, Ohio, September 14, 1850, a son of George W., and grandson of John Closson and his wife, Esther. George W. Closson was born in Genoa Township, Delaware County, Ohio, January 8, 1816, and was there reared and educated, and there he was married to Bertha Weeks, born in 1819. In 1852 George W. Closson and his father, John Closson, came to Steuben County, Indiana, the latter locating in Otsego Township, and the former in Steuben Township. George W. Closson bought 160 acres of land in Steuben Township and spent the remainder of his useful life upon it. In addition he owned forty acres of land in Otsego Township, and was a man of considerable influence in his community. He and his wife had the following children: Adalaide, Mary, Edgar, Carman J., and Bertha, all of whom were carefully reared by their watchful parents, and given the advantages offered by the public schools of Steuben Township. They were taught habits of industry and thrift, and became valuable members of whatever communities they settled in.

Carman J. Closson is a farmer by inheritance and inclination, for he has always liked the work and believes that there is no other equal to it. After he grew up he assisted his father, and in 1875 began farming the homestead on his own account. In time he became its owner, and has made many improvements upon the place, which is one of the best in the township. Here he carried on general farming and stockraising and was unusually successful. He still retains his farm, although in 1911 he retired from the active management of it, his son-in-law, Coy Myers, attending to that for him.

On November 17, 1877, Carman J. Closson was united in marriage with Eugenia Carter, a daughter of James and Mary (Staley) Carter. Mr. and Mrs. Closson became the parents of the following children: Ruth, who is deceased, was the wife of Bart Scoville; Carrie, who married Blaine Huffman, has two children, Esther and Russell; Lois, who died in childhood; Isabel, who married Coy Myers, has two children, Ellen and Ned; and Dorothy, who is at home. Mrs. Closson died March 18, 1914, having been a most devoted wife and mother, and she was deeply mourned by the entire neighborhood for her many noble characteristics and gentle charities. Mr. Closson has spent his entire life upon his present farm, and is proud of the fact that it has descended to him from his father. He believes in keeping these landed properties in the family, feeling that a community benefits when people keep on living in it from one generation to another. When too frequent removals are made a feeling of indifference arises, and it is difficult to maintain proper civic pride.

**HON. C. H. GRUBE**, former representative of DeKalb County in the Indiana Legislature, is a farmer by occupation but has many broad interests and connections that made him truly a representative of his home locality.

He was born in Stafford Township January 6, 1888, a son of William Henry and Mary (Haas) Grube. His grandfather, Peter Grube, was born in Bavaria, Germany, December 26, 1804, and in 1835 married Elizabeth May, who was born in Bavaria in 1811. They came to the United States in 1836, in 1838 settled in Ohio and in 1843 moved to DeKalb County. Peter Grube arrived in this country with only \$11 in cash, and after many years of hard work had more than 200 acres of farming land. It is said that when he bought his first eighty acres he could pay only \$50 in cash. He was celebrated among the old timers for his great endurance and powers as a pedestrian. He was the father of five children: William H., Elizabeth, Peter, Kate and Jacob, all of whom are deceased with the exception of William Henry.

William Henry Grube was born at Massillon, Ohio, November 25, 1842, and from the age of one year was reared in DeKalb County. He was a thresherman for a number of years, and developed two fine farms, one of 110 acres and another of 160 acres in Stafford Township. He is also a director in the First National Bank of Butler, and has many other financial interests. He is a democrat in politics and is affiliated with Forest Lodge No. 239, Free and Accepted Masons, Butler Chapter No. 106, Royal Arch Masons, Butler Council No. 83, Royal and Select Masters, Apollo Commandery, No. 19, Knights Templar, and the Mystic Shrine at Fort Wayne. He has been a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Butler for fifty years and was instrumental in the building of the new Independent Order of Odd Fellows Building of Butler. In 1880 William Henry Grube married Mary Haas, a Canadian girl who came with her parents to the United States about 1870. Their oldest child, Charles, was killed in 1903 while in his junior year at Purdue University and while on his way to Indianapolis to play football with Purdue against Indiana University. The second is C. H. Grube. Andrew P. is a graduate of the Butler High School and now runs the old homestead.

C. H. Grube grew up on the farm, is a graduate of the Butler High School and since early manhood has been a practical and progressive farmer. He has 102 acres of land in Stafford Township. He is also a member of the Wilmington Grange at Butler, and is president of the board of directors of the Farmers Elevator Company. He was one of the first members of the Farmers' Mutual Rodded Fire Insurance Company, which takes in the counties of DeKalb and Steuben. This company was organized five years ago and they now have nearly \$2,000,000 of insurance. Mr. Grube has been actuary for this company for four years. He was elected to the Legislature on the democratic ticket in 1916. Mr. Grube is past master of his Masonic Lodge past high priest of the Chapter, and a member of the Council, of Royal and Select Masters, and past patron of the Eastern Star, of which Mrs. Grube is past matron. She is also a member of the Methodist Church.

In 1913 he married Garnet Brink, daughter of Frank A. Brink, a well known attorney of Butler. She was a teacher before her marriage. They have one daughter Mary M., born September 22, 1914.

JAMES K. DUFF, D. D. S., who has enjoyed unusual success in his professional labors as a dentist at LaGrange during the past ten years, is a member of an old and well known LaGrange County family, son of William H. and Harriet (Keith) Duff. Concerning his parents and other members of the family further mention is made in other pages of this publication.

Doctor Duff was born at old Lima, now Howe, November 29, 1882. He attended the public schools of Howe to the age of nine, and then lived with his parents at LaGrange. He graduated from the LaGrange High School in 1901. For three years Doctor Duff was a rural mail carrier out of LaGrange. In 1906 he entered the Indiana Dental College at Indianapolis, and was graduated after the full course in 1909. He at once began practice at LaGrange, and in his professional and through various manifestations of public spirit has closely identified himself with his community. He is a member of the town board of LaGrange. During the World war he was active in the Preparedness League of American Dentists, and served as dental member of the medical advisory board. He is a member of the American, state and local dental societies and the Isaac Knapp Dental Coterie of Fort Wayne. He also belongs to the Interstate Association of Anesthetists. He is a member of Sigma Delta dental fraternity. Politically Doctor Duff is a republican.

In 1909, the same year he began his professional work, he married Bess L. Gilbert, daughter of Charles A. and Vira (Hackett) Gilbert. Reference to her parents is made on other pages. Doctor and Mrs. Duff have one daughter, Gladys Betty, born July 11, 1911.

JAMES B. WATKINS. It is but seldom that a man is elected to public office unless he possesses the confidence of his fellow citizens and has proven by his life among them that he is worthy of such distinction. Thus it is that occupancy of office is usually taken as a proof of high character and ability, and when this is combined with years of successful endeavor along any one line it furnishes incontestable evidence of desirable citizenship. James B. Watkins, a native son of Steuben County, spent his life in the county, was one of the prosperous farmers of Otsego Township, and upon several occasions was chosen by his fellow citizens for important offices of the township and county, so that, judged by the above standards, he measured up exceedingly well among the best element of this part of the state. His death occurred on the 25th of April, 1919.

James B. Watkins was born in Richland Township, Steuben County, Indiana, February 23, 1853, a son of Simpson Watkins and grandson of Simpson Watkins, the latter having been an extensive shipper of merchandise and produce out of New Haven, Connecticut. His children were as follows: Greenleaf, who was a pioneer of Illinois, lived to be over 108 years of age; Alonson, Oliver and Simpson.

Simpson Watkins, the younger, father of James B. Watkins, was born in New York State, where he was later married to Adelia Thompson, a daughter of James and Mary (Mahetibal) Thompson. About 1836, desiring to secure Government land, Simpson Watkins came as far west as Steuben County and entered a tract in Richland Township, after which he rejoined his family in the East. In 1840 he once more made the trip to Indiana, this time bringing with him his wife and their two little daughters, coming from New York to Detroit,

Michigan, and thence the remainder of the way with teams. At Adrian it was impossible to secure horses, so oxen were hitched to the wagons, and the little party arrived in safety at the new home. There residence was maintained until about 1870, when he moved into Otsego Township and lived there for eleven years. For the subsequent ten years he was in Michigan, but then returned to Otsego Township, where he died December 23, 1901. The children born to Simpson Watkins, the younger, and his wife were as follows: Rosman; Hulda, who married Joseph Hall; Oliver; Lucretia, who died in infancy; Elonson; Victor; James B.; Homer; Willard; and Emory.

James B. Watkins attended the schools of Richland Township and Angola, and learned farming in all of its details from his father, and after he attained his majority he began conducting the homestead. After he had been married about four years Mr. Watkins moved on his present farm, where he afterward resided with the exception of four years when they lived at Angola during his period of service as county auditor. This farm comprises 147 acres, on which he carried on general farming and stock raising. The original farm consisted of forty acres, to which Mr. Watkins added from time to time. All of the land is in a high state of cultivation except that portion reserved for pasturage, and he erected all of the buildings, as well as made other improvements, and it is now a very valuable property.

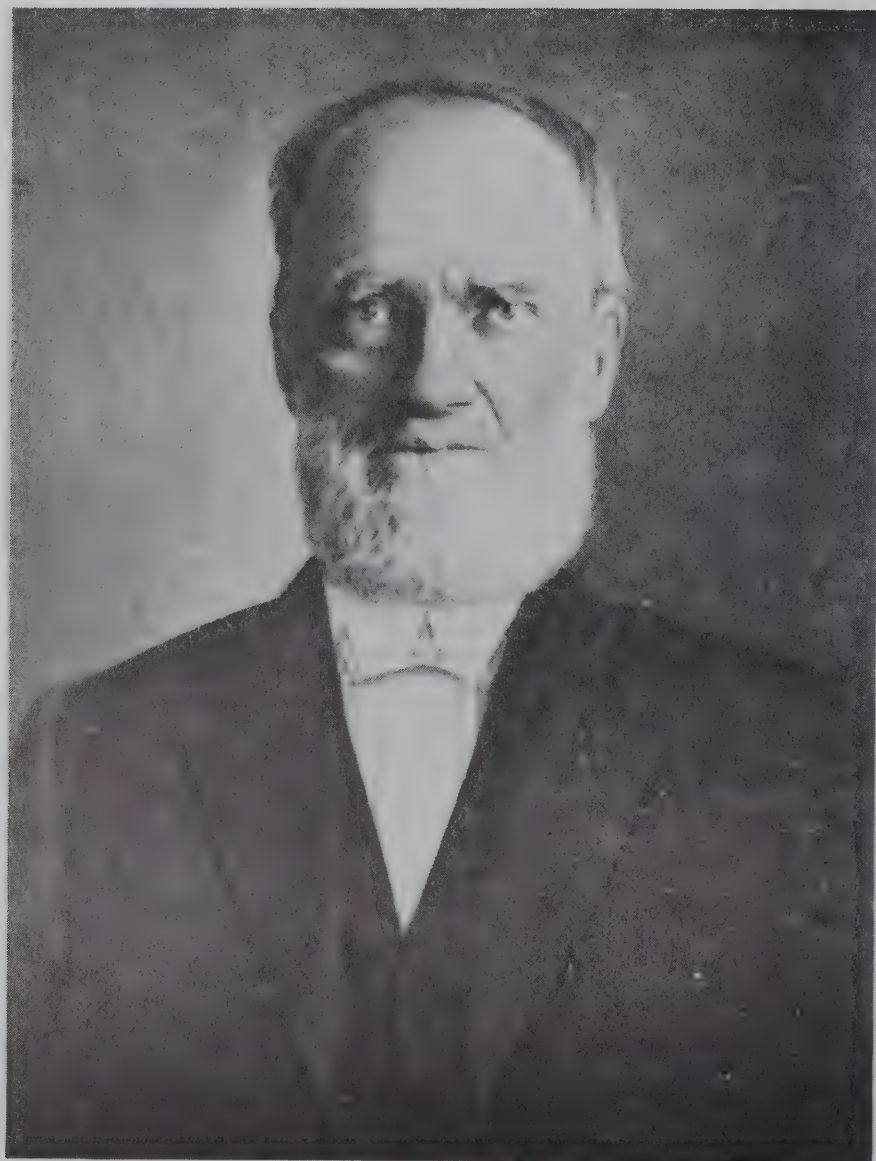
On December 27, 1877, Mr. Watkins was united in marriage with Margaretta Cruson, born in Wood County, Ohio, a daughter of Wesley and Mary Ann (Apple) Cruson, the former of whom came to Otsego Township, Steuben County, in 1864, and was engaged here in farming the remainder of his active life. He died May 8, 1917, his wife having passed away June 4, 1898. They had two children, Margaretta and Harlow. Mr. and Mrs. Watkins had the following children born to them: Alta, who married Charles Ransburg, and has a daughter, Pauline; Frank, who married Olive Lewis, and has a son, James Howard; and Muriel, who married Glenn Zimmerman and has a daughter, Margaretta. Mrs. Watkins belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church, to which Mr. Watkins gave a liberal support. Some years ago Mr. Watkins was elected trustee of Otsego Township, and served two terms, and later he was elected auditor of Steuben County, and discharged the duties of both offices capably and with due regard to the community's interest.

JAMES B. CHANDLER. For the greater part of his active lifetime James B. Chandler has given his time, energies and enthusiasm to his business as a farmer in Johnson Township of LaGrange County, to his duties as a public official, and to the performance of all the obligations laid upon a high-minded and responsible citizen.

Mr. Chandler, who is a former township trustee, was born in LaGrange, Indiana, June 14, 1853, a son of Samuel R. and Julia H. (Strang) Chandler. His father was born in Ohio August 25, 1828, and his mother in New York City August 13, 1829. They came to Indiana with their respective parents, the Chandler family settling in LaGrange County during the '30s, and the Strangs in 1840. Samuel and Julia were married November 12, 1848, in Clear Spring Township of that county, and after living on a farm for a few years moved to LaGrange, where Samuel was in the grocery business the rest of his life. He also served as deputy sheriff, and while in that office was one of the most vigilant prosecutors of horse thieves in the early days. An







*John S. Boots*



important part of his business was dealing in horses. A judge of a good horse he had few superiors, and in the early days he frequently bought large numbers of horses which he took to market at Toledo and Detroit. While he was a good mixer, mingled with men and affairs all his life, he was a model of temperance, never tasted whiskey nor tobacco, and did not indulge in profanity. In politics he was a republican. He and his wife had four children, two sons and two daughters. Both daughters died in childhood. The other son died at the age of thirty-nine.

James B. Chandler was twelve years old when his parents removed from LaGrange to a farm in Clear Spring Township. He had rather limited opportunities to get a good education, and from early manhood has farmed, worked in a sawmill for several years, and spent one year in New York State working at the trade of carpenter. From the age of thirty-three he gave his entire attention to farming.

Mr. Chandler married Frances S. Koontz, who was born in Ohio July 22, 1854, and came to Indiana in 1858, and has ever since lived in LaGrange County. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Chandler lived in Clear Spring Township, and from 1886 to 1894 he served as superintendent of the Rogers Orphans Home in that township, being appointed to those duties by the board of county commissioners. He served as road superintendent of Clear Spring Township during the life of that law. His service as trustee of Johnson Township was for a term of four years. These various positions of responsibility have come to him without solicitation, and he has been only nominally active in democratic politics. Mr. Chandler has a good farm of ninety-five acres, and still handles its cultivation.

He and his wife have one son, John P., who graduated from the common schools at the age of thirteen, also attended high school, and since he married Eva Huff has lived on the home farm with his father and mother. Mr. Chandler is affiliated with Ionic Lodge No. 380, Free and Accepted Masons of Wolcottville, Indiana.

**JAMES A. BOOTS.** There is no name that has stood for better things and has been longer identified with DeKalb County than that of Boots. The family was established here by the late John S. Boots, whose life was one of great purpose and energy and in many ways was directly associated with the progress and upbuilding of the community.

The late John S. Boots was born in Jefferson County, Ohio, October 5, 1822, a son of James and Sarah (Stringer) Boots. His father died in 1855 and his mother in 1877. When he was two years old, the family removed to Richland County, Ohio, where John S. Boots grew to manhood and acquired a district school education. On April 12, 1849, he married Eliza Ambrose. She was born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, February 22, 1823. A few days after his marriage John S. Boots started for the West to find a place to locate, entered land in section 35 of Jackson Township, and on June 20th again started from Ohio, this time with his wife to make permanent settlement. He had only \$2 when he arrived in Indiana, bought 160 acres, cleared and improved, and worked steadily until he was rated as one of the prosperous men of the township. He developed a fine farm of 280 acres. He was a real leader in the township, and was a pioneer in the good roads movement. For many years he was road supervisor, and his district, No. 5, was twice awarded prizes for the best roads in the county. He was also a school director and in every sense a public spirited citizen. John S. Boots died

in 1909. His first wife passed away August 26, 1866, the mother of six children: Sarah J., Amanda S., James A., Ida, William R. and John T. In 1868 John S. Boots married Matilda Hall. Three children were born to their union: Pearl, Clyde and Myrtle, all living. John S. Boots was a member of the Masonic order and a republican in politics. The old homestead farm is now owned and occupied by three of his children: Amanda S., James A. and William Rufus.

James A. Boots, who was born on the farm where he now resides, constituting the northeast quarter of section 35, 3½ miles west of Spencerville, on March 19, 1856, has lived here all his life and has never married. He is a director in the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Spencerville and a republican in politics.

**I. D. DELLER.** One of the thoroughly representative farmers of Steuben County is I. D. Deller, who owns 180 acres of valuable land in Steuben Township. He was born in this township December 19, 1858, a son of Nicholas Deller. The original ancestor was born in Switzerland, but came to the United States in 1827, settling in Butler Township, Columbiana County, Ohio, where he continued to live until his death.

Nicholas Deller was born near Berne, Switzerland, in 1818, accompanied his father to the New World in 1827, and was reared in Butler Township, Columbiana County, Ohio. There in young manhood he was married to Lydia Redman, who died in 1848, leaving three children, George H., John A., and Aaron. There were also two children who died before their mother. Nicholas Deller was married second to Mary Ann Fetterhoof, born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, and they had the following children: Serena, Loretta, I. D., Thompson, and Perry N. In 1851 Nicholas Deller moved with his wife and children to Steuben Township, Steuben County, and settling in section 8, lived there until death claimed him, June 21, 1874. He was a farmer by occupation, and worked hard all his life.

I. D. Deller began farming on his present farm and has made a valuable property of it, erecting all of the present buildings, which are modern and well adapted for their several purposes. He owns 180 acres of fertile land, and here he does general farming and stockraising, and his efforts have met with a gratifying success.

On March 28, 1878, Mr. Deller was united in marriage with Margaret A. Harpham, and they have the following children: Geneva, who married Ottimar Chasey, has two children, Paul D. and Margaret A.; and Clarence F., who married Dean McDowel. For a number of years Mr. Deller has been a consistent member of the United Brethren Church, of which he is at present a trustee. In all of his business transactions he is scrupulously upright, and when he makes a promise those acquainted with him know that he will keep it, no matter what the cost may be. He is well posted on current affairs, and gives support to movements looking to securing good roads, efficient teachers and first class transportation facilities for farm products.

**CHARLES C. SOUDER,** whose farm home is two miles north of Butler, has been industriously engaged in agriculture in DeKalb County for over twenty years. He is a son of George B. Souder, a well known retired farmer living in Troy Township.

George B. Souder was born in Perry County, Pennsylvania, June 30, 1846, son of John and Rachel A. (Billow) Souder and a grandson of Martin Souder. Martin was a native of Germany, came to the United States when a boy, settling in Perry

County, Pennsylvania, and married and reared his family there. His children were Henry, John, Katie, Rebecca and Sarah. John Souder's wife, Rachel A. Billow, was a daughter of George Billow, also a native of Germany. George Billow while a soldier was taken prisoner and with six companions was shut up in a barn preliminary to being hanged. The prisoners escaped, and he soon afterward came to the United States, settling in Perry County, Pennsylvania, where he married Susanna Ensminger. For a number of years they conducted a popular place of entertainment known as the Billow's Tavern. After his death his widow moved to Shelby, Ohio, where she died. In the Billows family were children named David, Adam, George, Susan, Sarah and Rachel. John and Rachel Souder moved from Perry County, Pennsylvania, to Richland County, Ohio, where they spent their last years. Their children were: Jane, wife of George Blatman, of California; George B.; Hannah, wife of Amos Snyder, of Butler, Indiana; Rachel, wife of Will Sheley, of Brownstown, Indiana.

George B. Souder was fourteen years old when he accompanied his parents to Richland County, Ohio, and he acquired most of his education in a German school in Pennsylvania. On February 27, 1868, he married Sarah Melissa Adams, who was born in Crawford County, Ohio, January 15, 1848, and was reared near Shelby. After his marriage George B. Souder rented his father's farm five years and in 1873 came to DeKalb County and bought eighty acres in Franklin Township. He lived there until 1878, when he bought his present home. He is a republican in politics and has filled the office of supervisor. Of his six children five are living: Charles C., of Franklin; George M. and Ernest C., also of the same township; Jessie M., who is the wife of Charles A. Dohner, of Troy Township; and Harry L., also a resident of Troy Township on his father's farm.

Charles C. Souder was born near Shelby, Ohio, October 18, 1871, and was a year old when his parents moved to DeKalb County. He grew up on the home farm, attended the local schools, and in March, 1896, married Catherine Coll. She was born in Troy Township. They have one child, Ora L., who was born June 23, 1898, and is a graduate of the Butler High School and took a business course at South Bend.

Mr. Souder is a stockholder in the Arctic Co-operative Livestock Shipping Association, and conducts his general farming and stock raising operations on a place of eighty acres. He is a republican and is affiliated with Butler Lodge No. 283 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

HARLIE J. HERN has been a resident of LaGrange County the greater part of his life, is a practical farmer, for many years was engaged in educational work, and on November 5, 1918, was elected to the responsible office of sheriff, of which he is the present able incumbent.

Mr. Hern was born in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County, June 2, 1872, a son of Harlow J. and Martha (Mix) Hern, the former a native of Bloomfield Township and the latter of Lima Township in LaGrange County. His father after his marriage became a Union soldier, and afterward returned to LaGrange County and followed farming the rest of his life. He was an ardent prohibitionist. He had eight children, five of whom are still living.

Harlie J. Hern grew upon the farm, and had meager advantages to obtain a good education until

after he was on his own responsibility. At the age of thirteen he went to work for a neighbor and at the age of fourteen went west to Nebraska and spent four years in that state as a cattle herder and also as an employee of a big contractor on railroad construction. He was working for Reuben J. Towne when the latter was elected sheriff of Thayer County, Nebraska, and then became his deputy, serving about a year in that capacity.

Mr. Hern on returning to LaGrange County at the death of his grandmother took charge of the farm and has continued farming and teaching school in winters many years. He owns a well improved place of 142 acres in Lima Township. He was called from the farm to the duties of public office by his election as sheriff.

December 30, 1897, he married Florence E. Long, a native of LaGrange County. They are the parents of five children, Robert J., Dorothy F., Ralph E., Martha A. and Helen J. The family are members of the Episcopal Church at Howe. Mr. Hern is affiliated with the Masonic Order and Knights of Pythias Lodge at Howe, being past chancellor of the latter. In politics he is a republican, and was elected on that ticket to the office of sheriff, though his general popularity among the citizenship also counted heavily in his favor.

ABRAHAM L. PHILLIPS has lived on one farm in Steuben County since he was a small child, has cultivated his acres and made many crops, and throughout has borne the reputation of being a hard-working and public-spirited citizen.

Mr. Phillips, whose home is in York Township, was born in Hancock County, Ohio, May 19, 1866. His father, the late Augustus C. Phillips, who died January 26, 1918, was born in Athens County, Ohio, February 23, 1834, a son of Job and Louisa Ann Phillips. The Phillips family located in Hancock County, Ohio, in 1835, and subsequently moved to Hardin County in the same state, where Job Phillips died in 1879. Augustus Phillips married, November 11, 1858, Tabitha White, who was born in Hancock County April 7, 1843, daughter of George and Isabel White. Mrs. Augustus Phillips died February 25, 1917. She was the mother of ten children, and the six to reach mature years were: Leander B., Louretta, Abraham L., Lucinda, Adolphua and Flora D.

Augustus C. Phillips brought his family to York Township, Steuben County, in the fall of 1869, buying eighty acres of partially improved land in section 20 of York Township.

On that farm Abraham L. Phillips has lived since childhood, acquired an education in the public schools, and for several years farmed the place on the shares with his father.

December 25, 1900, he married Mabel L. Stallman, a daughter of A. A. Stallman, a well known citizen of Steuben County. Mrs. Phillips died June 29, 1919. She was a member of the Powers Methodist Episcopal Church, as is also Mr. Phillips.

CHARLES S. ROYER is a LaGrange County citizen and has been prospered as a farmer, has been a good business man and has shown an active public spirit in all his relations with the community. Mr. Royer owns one of the well developed and valuable farms of Johnson Township, in section 8.

He was born in the same township August 29, 1862, son of A. J. and Catherine (Wert) Royer. His father was born near Akron and his mother near Van Wert, Ohio. His father first married in Ohio Martha Stahl. They had one child, Norman, who is now a rural mail carrier at Wolcottville.



A. J. Royer came to Indiana, where his first wife died, and he then married Catherine Wert and settled on a farm. They lived in Johnson Township for forty years and then moved to LaGrange, where the father spent his last years in retirement. They were members of the Evangelical Church at Woodruff and in politics he was a republican. Of eight children born to their marriage seven are still living; Mary, wife of J. H. Murray of Albion, Michigan; Charles S.; Dr. William A. of Battle Creek, Michigan; Ida, wife of Clinton Stover of Chicago; Jennie, wife of Daniel Free of Battle Creek; Laura, wife of Arthur Munger of Oklahoma; and Mrs. Lou Wortheridge, living in Canada.

Charles S. Royer grew up on a farm in Johnson Township, had a common school education, and lived at home to the age of twenty-one. He chose farming as his vocation, and for nine years occupied and managed the old homestead. In 1899 he bought his present place, comprising seventy-one acres, well improved and very productive. He breeds good horses and cattle. Mr. Royer is a republican in politics and is affiliated with Lodge No. 76 of the Masonic order at LaGrange and also the lodge of Odd Fellows in the same town. He is a very active member of the Methodist Church at Valentine, and is church steward.

October 17, 1888, Mr. Royer married Miss Lizzie C. Troxell. Mrs. Royer is one of the practical and public spirited women of LaGrange County and has been active in promoting many affairs of value to the community. She was born in Florence Township, St. Joseph County, Michigan, near Constantine, January 12, 1862, a daughter of George and Mary E. (Bradley) Troxell. Her father was born in Pennsylvania in 1839 and her mother in 1842. Her mother died August 29, 1913, and her father is also deceased. Mrs. Royer was six years old when her parents came to Indiana and settled near Ontario in LaGrange County. She was educated in the local schools and taught nine years. Mrs. Royer was one of the seven who organized the Agricultural and Horticultural Society of LaGrange County and she has served as its secretary throughout its existence with the exception of three years. The society now has over 100 members, meets six times a year and has accomplished an immense amount of good in the matter of general enlightenment and the promotion of those principles of co-operation upon which good agriculture, fruit growing and other rural interests depend for their success. Mrs. Royer is also a member of the Eastern Star and of the Rebekahs, and belongs to two literary societies, one at LaGrange and one at Wolcottville.

HOWARD E. PURDY. It is an opinion shared by many people in Steuben County that Howard E. Purdy has done his work well, whether as a practical farmer or as a good citizen. He has spent practically all his life in Steuben County and for nearly thirty years has enjoyed the ownership and the returns from a fine farm in Jackson Township.

He was born in Orland, Indiana, April 1, 1865, a son of Robert N. and Eliza (Benschoten) Purdy. His father was born in Canada, near Lake Ontario, January 1, 1824, and died August 12, 1906. The mother was a native of Erie County, Ohio, a daughter of Daniel Benschoten. Robert N. Purdy when a young man moved from Canada to Ohio, from that state went to Fond du Lac County, Wisconsin, working in a sash, door and blind factory, and about 1859 settled at Orland, Indiana, where his services as a carpenter were in demand throughout the rest of his active life. He and his wife had seven children: Tacy; Wilton, who died in child-

hood; Jennie, Corena, Wilton, Iona, and Howard. The public schools of Orland furnished Howard F. Purdy with his early advantages. He made wise use of them and was himself a teacher for twelve years, spending one year in LaGrange County and the rest of the time in Steuben County. He taught his first school in 1884, at the age of nineteen, and continued teaching even after he became a farmer, until 1896. Mr. Purdy has occupied his present farm in Jackson township since 1890. He owns 160 acres, eighty acres in section 3 of Jackson and eighty acres in section 34 of Millgrove Township. The substantial buildings on the place have been put there in his time, and he has done much to develop his farm as a stockraising proposition. He is one of the few breeders in Steuben County of the Milking Shorthorn cattle.

On October 20, 1886, Mr. Purdy married Lydia O. Stayner, daughter of William Perry and D. Jane (Powers) Stayner. Her father, now deceased, was born in Ohio in February, 1829, and was about two years old when he came to Steuben County with his father, John Stayner, and his uncle, Jacob. Both his father and uncle had served as soldiers in the War of 1812. John Stayner built a cabin in the wilderness on the north side of Jackson Prairie, and for over eighty years members of the Stayner family have played a notable part in Steuben County. John Stayner died in 1870. It was at his suggestion that his township was named in honor of General Jackson. He was instrumental in building the first schoolhouse in the township, the first county clerk's office was in his residence, and the first election was held in his dooryard. At one time he represented his district in the Legislature. Mrs. Purdy's father for many years owned and occupied the old pioneer homestead. He married Jane Powers, who was born in New York State in 1835, and her father, Stephen Powers, came to Steuben County in 1837. Mrs. Perry Stayner is still living at Orland. Of her six children only two reached mature years, Oliver and Lydia. The latter was born August 28, 1866. Mr. and Mrs. Purdy have two children: Leo B. and Bertice.

Leo B. Purdy graduated from the Orland High School, took the commercial course in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola and also the normal work taught in the public schools of Steuben County seven years, and is now teacher of manual training in the Orland High School. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Orland and by his marriage to Wilma Case has two children, Raymond C. and Betty Jane.

Bertice Purdy is also a graduate of the Orland High School, took her normal preparation in the Tri-State College, and was a teacher for six years in Steuben County prior to her marriage to D. Carl Brown, who has recently been returned to civil life after serving with the national forces. He sailed for France on the Saxonia September 1, 1918, being a member of Company D, Three Hundred and Thirty-Fifth Infantry, Eighty-Fourth Division. From the Eighty-Fourth he was transferred to Company D of the Ninety-First Division and still later was placed in the Twenty-Seventh Division. He was returned to New York March 9, 1919, and was mustered out at Camp Grant April 5, 1919.

H. O. WALTZ is a prosperous farmer of Spencer Township, and is also one of the influential men in the community in promoting co-operation among the farmers of DeKalb County in marketing their products. He is manager of the Tri-Township Shipping Association. This corporation has as its officers: J. E. Ulm, president; F. E. Rhodes, secretary and treasurer; and Mr. Waltz, manager.

Mr. Waltz was born in Defiance County, Ohio, March 14, 1875, son of William and Ellen (Hilbert) Waltz. His parents were both born in Defiance County and his father was a farmer there until his death in 1878. The mother is still living at Lima, Ohio. Both were members of the United Brethren Church.

H. O. Waltz, the only one now living of two children, was reared in the home of his maternal grandparents after the death of his father. He acquired a common school education and after his marriage he farmed the Hilbert place for two years.

November 24, 1898, Mr. Waltz married Miss Cora Farlow. She was born in the same community where she is still living. They lived on a farm in Defiance County for a number of years, but in 1915 came to DeKalb County and bought the 110 acres known as the Sunny Brook Farm. Mr. and Mrs. Waltz have two sons: Harold and Olan, both of whom graduated in the same class in the common schools and the former is now in high school. The family are members of the United Brethren Church but attend the Christian Church at Spencerville. Politically Mr. Waltz is a democrat.

ROZAIN HENRY NEWMAN, now living retired in the City of LaGrange, has spent almost a lifetime identified with the agricultural enterprise in LaGrange County. He and his wife were among the charter members of the Horticultural and the Agricultural Society of that county.

Mr. Newman was born at Ontario in Lima Township, LaGrange County, February 22, 1844. That was three-quarters of a century ago, and the family name was one of the first to be identified with the pioneer settlement of the county. His parents were Richard L. and Mary Ann (Parker) Newman. His father was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, December 12, 1820, and his mother was born in Genesee County, New York, in August, 1821. Richard L. Newman came to LaGrange County in 1832, when eleven years of age, in company with his uncle. He grew up in Lima Township, acquired his education in the primitive schools there, and in 1851 bought a farm west of Howe. He lived on that land until 1858, when he sold and moved to Van Buren Township, acquiring 160 acres which he occupied and cultivated until the death of his wife in December, 1893. After that he lived among his children and died at the home of his son Rozain in LaGrange June 28, 1912, at the venerable age of nearly ninety-two. He and his wife were married in Lima Township. He was a republican, and was one of the charter members of the First Baptist Church established in LaGrange County. That church was located at Howe, and he was one of the builders of its first edifice. In the family of Richard L. Newman and wife were five children: Rozain H.; Frances Emma, who died at the age of two years; Delmar, of Van Buren Township; Orinda, who died in July, 1895; and Charles, who lives at Howe, Indiana.

Rozain H. Newman attended common schools in Lima and Van Buren Townships, and finished his education in the Collegiate Institute at Ontario. When a young man he bought the land included in his father's original farm a mile west of Howe, and remained there seven years. After selling that he bought eighty acres in Clay Township, and at the present time owns 200 acres of fertile and well improved land in that township. He has placed all the building improvements on the land except the barn. He was steadily identified with productive agriculture on that farm for twenty-eight years. September 6, 1906, Mr. Newman moved to La-

Grange, and for the past thirteen years has lived retired.

Mr. Newman is a republican, though he has never sought official honors. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church. October 8, 1865, was the date of his marriage to Almida Laughlin. She was born in Williams County, Ohio, June 23, 1848, a daughter of James and Isabel (Libey) Laughlin. In 1853 her parents moved to LaGrange County and settled on a farm in Van Buren Township, where her father died in 1863, at the age of thirty-six, and her mother on November 11, 1888. Mr. and Mrs. Laughlin had nine children: Almida; Oscar, deceased, Margaret, Lydia Ann, Mary Emma, John D., James B., Samuel and Belle.

Mr. and Mrs. Newman have been married more than half a century. Their two children were born early in their married life. Emma, born July 19, 1867, was educated in the public schools of Clay Township and the Normal School, and is the wife of Oliver Schutt. She has two sons, named Floyd and Vern. The only son of Mr. Newman is Frank Burr, born April 28, 1870. He had a good education in the local schools and is now in the shoe business at Jackson, Michigan. Frank B. Newman married Della Kimler. To their marriage were born four children, Flora, wife of Thomas Cook, Hollis, Cecil and one that died in infancy. The son Hollis entered the aviation department in the National Army in February, 1918, and was in training at the aviation field at Lake Charles, Louisiana, and later at San Antonio, Texas, where he was honorably discharged in April, 1919. The son Cecil has had a very interesting army experience. He joined the regular army in 1917, and was on the Mexican border, participating in the expedition under General Pershing in the pursuit of Villa. Later he went to France with General Pershing as a member of Company G in the First Division. He participated in many battles, in the great conflict of the Argonne Forest. He was wounded in the left leg and the right hand and was also gassed. He received his honorable discharge in March, 1919. Cecil Newman married Beatrice Minnich, a daughter of Charles Minnich, of Ontario, Indiana.

FRANK H. CHADWICK. A veteran merchant, a citizen whose public spirit has entered into and inspired every worthy community enterprise for years, Frank H. Chadwick is one of Steuben County's foremost men of affairs and has lived in this section of Northeast Indiana all his life.

He was born in Jamestown Township of Steuben County October 23, 1854. His grandfather, Andrew Chadwick, was a native of New York State, and was an early settler in Northern Ohio at Perrysburg, where he died when his children were very young. He left children named John, Charles, Samuel, Rowena, who married William Maholm, Samantha, who became the wife of Hiram Wakefield, and Harriet, who married William Haynes. His widow afterward married a Mr. Pratt and became the mother of a daughter named Ann, who married Fred Birdick.

John Chadwick, father of the Steuben County merchant, was born in Ohio June 25, 1825, and was a small boy when his father died. He married Abigail Saxon, a native of New York State. John Chadwick was one of the men who helped clear the wilderness of Steuben County. He arrived here in 1848 and bought eighty acres of woodland in Jamestown Township at \$1.25 an acre. About 1859 he moved to Clear Lake Township, on another farm of eighty acres, and in 1863 to a farm two miles north of Angola in Pleasant Township. It was on



that land that he built his first frame house, his previous residences having been the typical log cabin. Mrs. Abigail Chadwick died June 18, 1865, soon after removing to Pleasant Township. About 1868 John Chadwick moved to a farm two and a half miles southeast of Angola in Steuben Township, and in 1874 left this county, going to Branch County, Michigan, and locating on the main road between Coldwater and Quincy. In 1880 he sold his Michigan farm and after spending one year in Missouri went to Osage County, Kansas, and about 1890 moved to a small farm near Topeka and a year later to Potawattamie County in that state. Upon the death of his second wife, Jane Owen, he returned to Topeka, spent two years in the home of a daughter, and then returned to Steuben County and lived with his son Frank H. the rest of his life. He died October 1, 1909. By his marriage with Abigail Saxon he had four children, namely: John, who died in infancy; Ethel R., wife of Ezra Hawley; Frank H.; and Fred N. He also had four children by his second marriage; Mabel, wife of Nelson McConnell, Pearl H., Lynn and Alice. John Chadwick was for a number of years affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Angola.

Frank H. Chadwick acquired a good education, attending public schools, including the high school at Angola, and after completing high school he taught one term in Jamestown Township during the winter of 1872-73. His career as a merchant began on the 23rd of March, 1873, more than forty-five years ago, when he was assigned duties as a clerk for the well known old time firm of Scoville & Latson. He remained in their store three years and on April 12, 1876, removed to Pleasant Lake and began a general merchandise business which has grown and prospered through more than forty years of active management. The firm was originally Chadwick & Company, engaged in general merchandise and the produce business. The silent partner of the firm for fourteen years was Henry Linder. Afterward the business was reorganized and became Chadwick, Ransburg & Company, Mr. Linder remaining in the firm until his death in 1906, and Mr. Chadwick then bought his interests and the firm has since been Chadwick & Ransburg. This is the old reliable and largest store for general merchandise in the little city of Pleasant Lake. Mr. Chadwick has distinguished himself as a man of unusual business ability, and in all his affairs has been very systematic and efficient.

In 1914 he was one of the organizers of the First State Bank of Pleasant Lake, which was opened for business November 1, 1914. Mr. Chadwick is vice president. He has served as deacon and trustee of the First Baptist Church of Pleasant Lake, and from 1902 to January, 1919, was superintendent of its Sunday school. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Angola.

October 24, 1875, Mr. Chadwick married Miss Arletta S. Snyder, daughter of John and Cornelia Snyder. They became the parents of three children: Carl D., who died when about two years old, John Guy and Ray D. John Guy is a resident of Pleasant Lake and is a traveling salesman for a New York wholesale house. He married Ethel Lemon, and has three children, named Robert, Joyce and Frank D. Ray D. Chadwick married Agnes Rose, of Lexington, Kentucky, and they have two children, named Judith and Ann. Ray Chadwick is a very successful educator with some unusual experience as a school administrator, and in 1916 he was called to the Morgan Park School at Duluth, Minnesota, as its principal to organize and introduce the Gary school system there.

Mr. and Mrs. Chadwick were born on the same day and their first child was born on their birthday. Mr. Chadwick had the misfortune to lose his wife after they had been married more than forty years, on January 14, 1916. He married for his present wife Mrs. Nellie L. McElhennie, of Montpelier, Ohio.

**CHARLES WOLF.** The well-directed labors of Charles Wolf, one of the progressive and energetic representatives of LaGrange County, is represented in the ownership of a handsome property in Johnson Township, all of which stands as a monument to his hard work and his career, which he began as a farm hand and continued as a renter until he was able to become a land owner. Mr. Wolf is classified as a general farmer, and is also a successful breeder of Belgian horses.

He was born in Orange Township of Noble County March 27, 1866, a son of Washington and Rebecca (Keefer) Wolf. His father was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1837, and his mother in Pennsylvania in 1843. The family came to Noble County, Indiana, in early days, where Washington Wolf spent his active career as a farmer. He was a democrat, and by his first marriage was the father of four children, three of whom are still living, Charles; William, a farmer in Orange Township; and Eugene, a farmer in the same locality. By his second marriage he had two children, Harvey and Erie.

Charles Wolf grew up at the old home farm, acquired a district school education, and on January 27, 1887, married Lucetta Keck. She was born in Orange Township April 10, 1866.

Mr. and Mrs. Wolf had practically no capital when they were married. He supported his family by working out at day wages for fourteen years. He then became a renter in Johnson Township, and for several years rented the farm which he now owns, comprising 147 acres. He also owns thirty-two acres in another tract.

Mr. and Mrs. Wolf are the parents of ten children: Arthur, Claude, Inez, Hilda, Ross, Mary, Lester, Russell, Hester and Paul.

**EDWIN BALL.** The Ball family is one of the old established ones of Steuben County, and its representatives have been connected with agricultural pursuits since locating in Indiana. One of the present members of this family, who is well known and highly esteemed in his neighborhood, is Edwin Ball, a prosperous farmer of Pleasant Lake, Steuben Township, where he was born October 23, 1863, a son of Augustus V. Ball.

Augustus V. Ball was born in Ontario County, New York, May 24, 1818, and died May 14, 1907. He was a son of Gideon Ball, the founder of the family in Steuben County, who was born at Granville, Massachusetts, December 27, 1785. When he was still a child the parents of Gideon Ball took him to Eastern New York, and located at the mouth of Catskill Creek, on the Hudson River. Still later removal was made to Ontario County. There Gideon Ball was married to Lydia Dodge, born at Wiscassit, Maine, July 6, 1794, but taken to Ontario County, New York, by her parents while yet a little girl. In 1832 Mr. Ball came west to Sandusky, Ohio, and in 1835 to Steuben County, Indiana, where he entered about 900 acres of wild land in Otsego, Steuben and Salem townships. Having thus prepared for his family, he brought them to the new home May 24, 1836. For many years after locating in Steuben County Gideon Ball was engaged in buying and selling land, and usually was successful, so when he died he was a man of considerable means.

At his death, in July, 1870, he was survived by eight children, all but the youngest being natives of New York. These children were as follows: Sheldon, Augustus V., Julius, Edwin, Frank, Charlotte, Demia, and Emeline.

Augustus V. Ball was eighteen years old when he came with the rest of the family to Steuben County, and until he was twenty-four years of age he assisted his father in clearing the land. In that year he spent a summer season cod fishing at Hudson Bay. Upon his return he cleared a farm for himself and conducted it for a time, but then moved to Pleasant Lake and engaged in merchandising until 1865, and in that year moved on a farm of 164 acres in sections 23 and 14. This gave him two farms, aggregating 274 acres. Augustus V. Ball was married to Emeline Stuttler, born July 31, 1843, a daughter of William and Sarah Reber Stuttler. Mr. and Mrs. Augustus V. Ball became the parents of three children, Edwin, Theda, and Dora, but the last named died at the age of nineteen years. Mrs. Ball died August 8, 1909.

Edwin Ball attended the public schools of Pleasant Lake and until he attained his majority he assisted in the work of the homestead. After he was twenty-one years old he began buying land for himself, now owning 266 acres, a portion of which formed his father's homestead, on which he has practically spent all of his life. Here he carries on general farming and stock-raising. For many years he has been regarded as one of the progressive agriculturalists of his township, and he has been very successful in his operations.

On February 16, 1892, Mr. Ball was united in marriage with Zora Lemon, a daughter of J. B. and Celesta (Carter) Lemon. Mr. and Mrs. Ball have one son, Wayne E. Well known as a Mason, Mr. Ball belongs to the local lodge of that order. He fully realizes the importance of his calling, especially now when the raising of food occupies so much attention, and is proud of the fact that he and his have been connected with agricultural pursuits. Never caring to enter the political arena, Mr. Ball has nevertheless done his duty as a citizen and given his support to men and principles which best measured up to his ideals of Americanism. Having lived in Steuben County all his life he is naturally interested in everything connected with its progress, and can be counted upon to lend assistance to any movement which has for its object the advancement of local improvements. His excellent judgment on agricultural matters has caused him to be accepted as an authority, and his advice is oftentimes sought by those less experienced than he.

ABRAHAM OTT has had a long and prosperous career as a farmer in Noble County, and his attractive and valuable home is in Noble Township, where he has lived for thirty-five years.

He was born in Green Township of the same county October 24, 1856, a son of Jesse and Dica (Brown) Ott, both natives of Preble County, Ohio. His father who was born in 1822, grew up and married in Ohio, and about 1850 brought his family to Indiana and settled in Green Township of Noble County. He was one of the early settlers and was a man who well earned the rich esteem which he enjoyed in his community. He was one of the first members of the Christian Church in his neighborhood and for many years a trustee. Of the family of eight children seven are still living. Cornelius, a farmer in Noble Township; Amanda J., wife of William Clucus; John, a farmer in Noble Township; George W., deceased; Fred, a farmer in Green Township; Abraham; and Eli, of Whitley County.

Abraham Ott had his childhood experiences on the home farm in Green Township and was educated in the district schools there. After attaining man's estate he farmed the homestead two years. In May, 1882, he married Jane Harlan, a sister of Samuel F. Harlan. For two years after their marriage they lived in Whitley County, and then came to their present home of 160 acres in Noble Township. Mr. Ott conducts this farm as a general crop proposition and is also a successful stock raiser. He and his family are members of Miriam Christian Chapel, of which he is one of the trustees. In politics he is a republican.

He and his wife had eight children, seven of whom are still living: Dica, wife of Raymond Reed; Agnes E.; Levi, of Columbia City; Ethel, wife of Fay Conrad; Sula and Ruth, both at home; and Harlan Zay, who attended high school one year. The deceased child is John, who died aged: eighteen months.

WILLIAM C. PATTERSON, one of Angola's most prominent merchants and business men, and representative of an old family in Steuben County, was born at Angola, December 24, 1863, a son of Robert and Amanda (Mallory) Patterson. His mother, who is still living, was born in Vermont in 1828. Robert Patterson came to Steuben County from Ashland County, Ohio, and for many years was a merchant at Angola. He built the block where Frank E. Burt now has his jewelry store. His death occurred in Angola in 1870. They had four children: Charles, who died at the age of four years, Frank, who died when twenty-four years of age, William C. and Fred R.

William C. Patterson attended the public schools of Angola and began his business career as clerk for A. H. Brokan, a grocer. Later he became associated with S. R. Latson in the dry goods trade, and was with him from 1880 to 1888. In the latter year he bought out his employer and soon afterward formed a partnership association with his brother Fred. They have kept their business growing and expanding until the Patterson department store is now one of the best and most reliable sources for high grade merchandise and mercantile service in Northeast Indiana.

Mr. Patterson is a republican and an Odd Fellow and a member of the Congregational Church. January 29, 1889, he married Luna Weaver, who was born in Kosciusko County, Indiana, a daughter of Jonathan and Elmira Weaver. Mr. and Mrs. Patterson had three sons, the first dying in infancy. The other two are Robert G. and Ralph W. Robert G., born August 26, 1892, is a graduate of the Angola High School and the Indiana State University, and left his father's business to join the officers' training camp at Fort Benjamin Harrison, where he was commissioned a second lieutenant. He went with the Eighty-Fourth Division to France and participated in the record of that division of the Expeditionary Forces. Ralph W. Patterson was born April 3, 1897, was educated in high school and the Tri-State College, and is now an assistant in his father's store.

ROY E. ROZELL. One of the substantial men of Otsego Township, who is now serving as trustee of his township, was born here December 16, 1876, a son of Charles O. and Sarah C. (Lininger) Rozell, and grandson of David C. Rozell, a native of New Jersey. When the latter was still a little boy his parents migrated as far west as Ohio, and he, in 1849, animated by the same venturesome spirit, crossed the plains to California in search of gold,







GEORGE M. DITMARS AND FAMILY



making the return trip by way of the Isthmus of Panama, and New York City. While he was successful in his search for gold, he was unfortunate enough to deposit his fortune in an unreliable California bank, and lost it when that institution collapsed. Upon his return he went into the woods of Michigan, near the present City of Saginaw, where he lived until 1870, at which time he came to Steuben County, Indiana, buying a farm in Otsego Township, where he lived until his death. He had three children by his first marriage, namely: Horace, Charles O. and Cordelia. After the death of the first Mrs. Rozell, Mr. Rozell was married to Mary E. Todd.

Charles O. Rozell was born near Fremont, Ohio, September 25, 1849, and died March 9, 1906. His wife was born in Otsego Township December 24, 1851, and died May 3, 1911. She was a daughter of John and Elizabeth Lininger, the former of whom was born in Stark County, Ohio, February 7, 1824, the fourth in the family of nine children born to Samuel and Catherine Lininger. The Lininger family came to Hancock County, Ohio, in 1839. John Lininger was married August 26, 1849, to Elizabeth Dotts, born in Stark County, Ohio, and their children who grew to maturity were as follows: Sarah C., John A., Francis M. and Perry. After the death of the first Mrs. Lininger, John Lininger was married to Mrs. Amelia (Taylor) Cleveland, and their children were as follows: Sylvia A., Elmer, Luella and Nettie. In 1850 John Lininger came to Indiana and spent that winter in Noble County, but the subsequent spring came to Steuben County, locating on eighty acres of land that was heavily covered with timber, in section 5, Otsego Township, later increasing this homestead to 120 acres, and in addition to it he owned forty acres in Pleasant Township, all of which he cleared and developed. In 1862 he enlisted for service during the Civil war in the Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry, but was honorably discharged in a few months on account of ill health. His politics were those of a republican. Fraternally he belonged to Angola Lodge No. 180, Independent Order of Odd Fellows. Charles O. Rozell was engaged in farming during all of his mature years, first on rented property, and later on his own farm of 160 acres in Otsego Township. He and his estimable wife had the following children: Ora, who died in childhood; Roy E., whose name heads this review; Ray O., who lives near Hillsdale, Michigan; Glen C., who is a farmer of Otsego Township.

Roy E. Rozell grew up in his native township and laid the foundations for higher educational advantages in the district schools, later becoming a student of the Tri-State College at Angola. Subsequently he became one of the popular educators of Steuben County, teaching for four consecutive years. From 1901 to 1909 Mr. Rozell was connected with the Government service as an employe of the postoffice of Toledo, Ohio, but in the latter year located on his present farm, which he owns. There are 105 acres in this homestead and it is a part of section 8, Otsego Township. In addition Mr. Rozell is serving as secretary of the Co-operative Shippers' Association of Hamilton, Indiana, shippers of live stock. Mr. Rozell was chosen by his fellow citizens on November 5, 1918, to represent their interests as a trustee of Otsego Township, which office he is still holding.

On April 28, 1898, Mr. Rozell was united in marriage with Jessie M. Williams, a daughter of Joseph and Mary Williams. Mr. and Mrs. Rozell have had the following children born to them: Letha G., who was graduated from the Angola High School,

attended the Tri-State College of Angola, graduated from that institution, and she is now engaged as a teacher of the Hamilton, Indiana, High School; Leon E., who is a student of the Angola High School; Alice P.; and Sarah J. Mr. Rozell is well known as a Mason. He is a man of pleasing personality, and his varied experience has taught him to be an excellent judge of men and conditions. As a farmer he is making a record for himself, as he has in other lines in which he has been engaged, and is justly regarded as one of the most representative citizens of Steuben County.

NELSON BAUGHER is an honored veteran of the Civil war, and for sixty years has lived in one locality of LaGrange County. He and his brother Isaac are bachelor brothers who have always remained together, have kept their home in common, and have shared many of their business and other interests.

Nelson Baugher was born in Chester Township of Wabash County, Indiana, February 28, 1842, a son of Jesse and Clarinda (Tindle) Baugher. His father, a native of Rockingham County, Virginia, was married in Wabash County, Indiana, and after some years there moved to Whitley County, where in return for clearing forty acres of land he received a like amount of wild land. Later he sold that and bought eighty acres on section 4, Johnson Township, LaGrange County, and there spent the rest of his life. He was born in 1813 and died in 1894. He was very hard working, but never attained any degree of wealth. He was a republican, and he and his wife were active members of the Christian Church. In the family were twelve children, only three of whom are living today: Nelson; Mattie E., wife of Elias C. Wemple; and Isaac W. Isaac was born in the residence of Rev. Squire Rowe, in Johnson Township, April 22, 1858, and is still living in the house that was his birthplace.

Nelson Baugher grew up on a farm, and had little opportunity to attend school, his services being required at home as soon as his strength permitted him to work in the fields. On September 28, 1864, he was called upon to shoulder arms in defense of the Union, and served with a Union regiment until mustered out in June, 1865. He reached home July 3d of that year, and it may be said that from that time to the present he has had no other outside interests than that constituting his farm and the immediate locality. His brother Isaac is a member of and has filled some of the chairs in LaGrange Lodge No. 144, Knights of Pythias, and Nelson is a member of both the lodge and encampment of the Odd Fellows and has taken the Rebekah degrees. Both brothers are republicans and Nelson served a number of years as supervisor. He is also affiliated with the Grand Army Post of LaGrange. The brothers own ninety-eight acres of land.

GEORGE M. DITMARS since early manhood has carried on the operations of the old Ditmars homestead in Jackson Township of DeKalb County. He is the only son of the late Isaac Ditmars, who owned and developed this farm. The Ditmars farm is two miles southwest of Auburn.

George M. Ditmars was born in Keyser Township of DeKalb County August 1, 1869, a son of Isaac and Martha (George) Ditmars. His parents are both natives of Ohio, his father of Holmes County. The Ditmars and George families came to DeKalb County in the early days, and Isaac spent his life as a farmer. He died in 1919 and his wife in 1906. He had served as a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war and was an active member of the

Grand Army. He was a Baptist and republican. Of four children, one died at the age of ten years and George M. is the only son. Mary is the wife of Frank Olinger and Anna, the wife of Frank Dawson.

George M. Ditmars grew up on the home farm and attended the district schools. November 8, 1893, he married Cora E. Olinger, who was born in Keyser Township, a daughter of John S. and Lucy (Yarde) Olinger. Ever since his marriage Mr. Ditmars has lived on the homestead and manages and owns about 120 acres in general farming and stock raising. He and his wife had two children: Chester, who was born October 7, 1895, and died at the age of three years, four months and twenty-five days; and Floyd F., who was born December 6, 1897, and is a graduate of the common schools and has attended the Auburn High School.

Mr. Ditmars is a republican, and though living in a township normally democratic by over eighty votes came within four votes of being elected trustee.

**HENRY SUNDAY.** A farm in section 8 of Steuben Township has been under the continuous ownership and management of the Sunday family for over half a century. Henry Sunday was born there, and for the past fifteen or twenty years has owned the old homestead and has made it the scene of his productive labors. He is one of the leading citizens of that part of Steuben County.

Mr. Sunday was born July 2, 1869, son of Andrew and Mary (Ritter) Sunday and grandson of Daniel and Catherine Sunday, early settlers of Steuben County. Both were born in Center County, Pennsylvania, Daniel in 1809 and Catherine in 1806. They moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio and from the latter state came to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1855, accompanied by their sons John and Dan. Their son Andrew preceded them to this county about two years. Andrew Sunday was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, August 11, 1831, spent the greater part of his life in Steuben Township, and owned a place of 120 acres, which his industry did much to improve and make valuable. He built the barn which is still standing on the farm. He was a hard working man, but did not realize all the fruits of his industry, since he died February 25, 1870, when not yet forty years of age. Andrew Sunday married Mary Ritter, who was born November 4, 1835, and died April 6, 1912. Her father, Henry Ritter, was born in Union County, Pennsylvania, in 1803, was reared in Ohio, and in 1851 settled in section 8 of Steuben Township. He brought only a few hundred dollars to that county, lived in a log cabin, and gradually saw his industry bear fruit, and he had a large farm of over 200 acres. Henry Ritter married Mary Harpster, and they were the parents of five children: David, Elizabeth, Mary, Catherine, and one daughter that died in infancy. Andrew Sunday and wife had seven children: Levi, born April 11, 1856, died November 26, 1860; Emma J., born June 30, 1857, died August 26, 1858; David, born January 2, 1859; Willie, born December 9, 1862, and died May 8, 1864; Mary Catherine, born June 26, 1864, was married to Jefferson Hartman; Carrie Della, born December 11, 1867, wife of William H. Freed, of Steuben County; and Henry. The mother of these children was an active member of the Reformed Church.

Henry Sunday after getting his education in Steuben Township went to work on the home farm and at the age of about twenty-one rented the farm from his mother. After his mother's death, in 1913, he bought the old homestead and is using it as a general purpose farm, raising the special crops fitted to this climate and livestock.

September 21, 1892, Mr. Sunday married Dora Hoyer. She was born April 26, 1873, in Williams County, Ohio, a daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Saul) Hoyer. Mr. and Mrs. Sunday are members of the United Brethren Church. They have two daughters, Vera G., born March 6, 1897, and Dessa M., born May 17, 1902. Vera is the wife of Bert J. Swager, and her only child, Robert, was born September 7, 1917.

**PETER KALB** is one of the oldest residents of Washington Township, is now retired from his active responsibilities as a farmer, and is still living at his country home in section 3.

He was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, January 17, 1837, a son of John and Phoebe (Howenstine) Kalb. His mother was born in Germany and was brought to the United States at the age of three years. John Kalb was a native of Pennsylvania, was married in that state, and he and his family moved to Ohio with wagons and teams, settling in Stark County. Peter Kalb grew up in that section of Ohio and married there Sarah J. Henning. Not long afterward they came to the woods of Noble County, Indiana, and Mr. Kalb bought eighty acres, which his sustained industry through a long period of years brought under cultivation and gave him a good farm, where he has prospered and where he has lived for half a century. He still owns sixty acres, but has not cultivated it for a number of years.

His first wife died in this county, and was the mother of eight children, four of whom are still living: Amanda, wife of Sam Shoupe; Phoebe, wife of Adam Stump; Millie, wife of Marshall Draime; and Edward, of Washington Township. Mr. Kalb married for his second wife Lydia A. Deardorff, who died in 1907. She was the mother of one daughter, Maude May, born September 21, 1885.

Mr. Kalb is a member of the Christian Church and is a republican in politics. He served as township supervisor fourteen years.

**ELROY BROOKS**, a retired farmer living at Angola, was born in York Township of Steuben County April 12, 1856. His grandfather was a native of England, and he brought his family of ten children to America and settled in Steuben County. Elroy Brooks' father was born in England. He was reared and educated in Steuben County, and left his farm of fifty acres to enter the Union army in Company B of the One Hundredth Indiana Infantry. He died as a result of exposure and hardship in the war. His wife was Barbara Douglass, and their children were Elroy, Elizabeth, Jay and Samuel.

Elroy Brooks spent thirty years of his life as a successful farmer. He owned a good place of forty-six acres in Millgrove Township. Since 1912 he has lived at Angola. In 1878 he married Rosella Robnet, daughter of James and Cloa Robnet. To their marriage were born five children: Cora, wife of Henry Nelson; George, who was killed August 15, 1918; Dora, wife of Worthy Crowell; Barbara, wife of Wade Crampton, of Otsego Township; and Samuel I.

**FRANK M. BROWN**, a resident of Fremont, is one of the largest land owners and farmers in Steuben County and is a member of a family that has been identified with this part of Northeast Indiana since pioneer days. The Brown family has always been one of prominence and its members have a record of unadulterated American patriotism.

Several of his early ancestors lived at Windham, Connecticut, and they were represented by service in the Revolutionary war. His great-grandfather



was Elijah Brown, who was a son of Stephen, a grandson of John and great-grandson of Ezekiel Brown, a line of ancestors going back to the very earliest times of the Connecticut colony. Elijah Brown was born in 1773 and married Elizabeth Greenfield.

Russell Brown, grandfather of Frank M. Brown, was born in Stephentown, Rensselaer County, New York, January 24, 1805. In 1828 he married Laura Sweet, of Stillwater, New York. Her father, William Sweet, was a Revolutionary soldier. In 1836 Russell Brown came to LaGrange County, Indiana, and for many years was identified with the upbuilding and improvement of that locality. He and his wife had five children, Philena, who died at the age of fifteen, Ezekiel, Warren, Erastus and William.

Ezekiel Brown, father of Frank M. Brown, was born in Cayuga County, New York, in 1830, and was about six years old when brought to LaGrange County. He attended a log cabin schoolhouse and in 1858 moved to Steuben County and became a merchant at Crooked Creek. Soon afterward he bought 250 acres of land, about 100 acres of which was in stumps. Eventually he had over 500 acres, constituting one of the finest farms in Steuben County, improved with splendid buildings. The Brown home was always noted for its hospitality. Ezekiel Brown represented his county in the State Legislature in 1878. In 1855 he married Mary C. Barry, daughter of John and Mary A. (Darrow) Barry, natives of Orleans County, New York, who came to Indiana in 1835. Ezekiel Brown and wife had two sons, Frank M. and Clinton M.

Clinton M. Brown, who was born February 2, 1859, attended high school at Angola, graduated from Hillsdale College in Michigan in 1881, and in the fall of the same year moved to Nebraska, and in many ways has been prominent in that state. He now lives at Cambridge, Nebraska, where he is president of the First National Bank of Cambridge. He is an attorney by profession and represented his district in the State Legislature. He also owns and manages a large cattle ranch in Wyoming.

Frank M. Brown, who was born January 3, 1858, in Appelmanburg, Springfield Township, LaGrange County, received his early education in Jamestown Township of Steuben County. He attended high school at Angola and took up farming at an early age, having made a definite choice of his vocation as an agriculturist. He farmed in Jamestown township from 1882 until the spring of 1916, at which time he retired with an adequate competence for all his future requirements. Since then he has lived in Fremont, but he still owns three farms aggregating 526 acres, some of it the finest land in Steuben County.

January 3, 1882, Mr. Brown married Myra Wilder, who was born in 1860, a daughter of Norton and Lyda (Shut) Wilder. Her father came to Jamestown Township in 1858. Mr. and Mrs. Brown have three children: Lewis Glenn, born January 6, 1883, married Pearl Leg and has two children, Roscoe and Russell. Lucile, born May 15, 1884, is the wife of Elmer Van Gilter, living on a farm in Jamestown Township, and their children are Marjorie, Maxine and Roberta. The youngest, Laura Bell, born May 14, 1891, is the wife of L. W. Masters, a dentist by profession.

J. W. VAN DREW. A resident of LaGrange County nearly fifty years, J. W. Van Drew is one of the staunch and sturdy followers of agriculture in Johnson Township, and is a man who in all the relations of a busy life has stood true to principle, has been successful in his affairs, and is known and

honored for the fine family and good influence that has always radiated from his home.

Mr. Van Drew, who lives in section 19 of Johnson Township, was born in Pennsylvania, June 17, 1850, a son of Jacob and Margaret (Neighwander) Van Drew. His parents spent all their lives in Pennsylvania, where his father was a farmer. His father was a democrat, and he and his wife were members of the Mennonite Church. Of their seven children six are still living: Sarah, J. W., Jennie, Sarah, Eliza and Margaret.

J. W. Van Drew grew up on his father's farm and had a common school education. At the age of twenty he left home and came to Indiana, and in 1872 settled in LaGrange County. He married Alice Case. She became the mother of three children, two of whom are still living: Guy, a merchant at Des Moines, Iowa; and Ray, a merchant at Valentine, Indiana. On November 7, 1889, Mr. Van Drew married Emma Charles. She was born in Seneca County, Ohio, a daughter of Jasper E. and Susanna (Grossman) Charles. Her parents were born and were married in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, moved from there to Seneca County, Ohio, and in 1873 settled at Woodruff in Johnson Township of LaGrange County, Indiana. Mrs. Van Drew received her education in the schools of Ohio and Indiana. She became the mother of three children. Loyd C., who had a high school education and a business course at Fort Wayne, Indiana, was with the American Expeditionary Forces in France and is now at home. Hazel M., after three years in high school, took the nurse's training course, is a graduate nurse of Christ Hospital at Cincinnati, Ohio, and in 1918 engaged in Red Cross work. Florence M. left high school to train in the Lutheran Hospital at Fort Wayne. Mrs. Van Drew is a member of the Lutheran Church. In politics Mr. Van Drew follows the democratic allegiance. His place of business is a farm of sixty-nine acres, where he gives his time to general farming and stockraising.

EARL REED, one of the oldest residents of Steuben County, figured for many years as a prominent timber buyer throughout Northern Indiana, and is now busily engaged in looking after and supervising his fine farm just east of Fremont.

Mr. Reed, who was brought to Steuben County when a child, was born in Richland County, Ohio, November 11, 1842, son of James and Adaline M. (Weber) Reed, the former a native of Seneca County, Ohio. Adaline Weber was a daughter of David and Lucy Weber. James Reed followed farming in Richland County, Ohio, and in 1853 brought his family to Salem Township, Steuben County, buying eighty acres. Later he lived in Pleasant Township and still later in Scott Township, where he died.

Earl Reed attended school in Pleasant Township and as a young man began farming there. When about thirty-four years old he took up the business of buying timber for Huffman Brothers of Fort Wayne. He also bought for the Michigan Tie Company of Grand Rapids. It was a business that required much travel and gave him the acquaintance of the owner of nearly every important timber lot in Northeast Indiana. He thoroughly understood his business, relied upon honest principles of dealing, and has a host of friends among his former patrons. In 1904, after retiring from business as a timber buyer, he bought his present farm just out of the corporation limits of Fremont. He owns 100 acres, and has done much to improve it in material building equipment and also in increasing the fertility of the soil. Mr. Reed is a man of modern and progressive views in this respect, and every year feeds

a large number of live stock not only for the profit there is in it but to conserve the fertility of his farm. Each winter he feeds a large number of lambs.

Mr. Reed married for his first wife Alta Mabery, daughter of Daniel Mabery. She was the mother of three children, Lula, Clyde and Carl. Clyde married Lona Boor. For his second wife Mr. Reed married in 1889 Rachel Hodges, daughter of Charles Hodges.

JONAS M. HUTCHINS has lived most of his life in Noble County. Farming has absorbed his energies and has given him the substantial prosperity he now enjoys. At the same time he has taken an interest and helpful part in all commercial affairs, including the church and educational interests, and is still giving his time to the operation of his farm in section 2 of Wayne Township, on rural route No. 1 out of Kendallville.

Mr. Hutchins was born in section 2 of Wayne Township, May 21, 1852. His parents were Roscoe and Susie (Stahl) Hutchins. Roscoe Hutchins was born in Knox County, Maine, March 8, 1831. His father, Henry Hutchins, took his family from Maine to Ohio in 1834, locating near Fostoria, where he lived and died. His children were Roscoe, Charles, Franklin, Lydia A. and Almetia. The son Franklin was a Union soldier and was killed in the great battle of Chickamauga.

Roscoe Hutchins grew to maturity in Seneca County, Ohio, attended the common schools there, and soon after his marriage brought his bride to Indiana, in 1851, locating in Wayne Township of Noble County. He lived the rest of his life in section 2 of that township, from which community he went out when the Civil war was raging as a member of Company K, 46th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and though he was on constant duty for three years he was never wounded. At the close of the war he rejoined his family in Noble County, and thereafter was a successful farmer. He was a democrat in politics. Of his children, six in number, two are still living, Jonas M. and Lydia Ann Eliza, the latter being the wife of George R. Lovett, a farmer in LaGrange County, Indiana. The deceased children are: Delcena, who married Frank Bower and died at the age of twenty-four; Franklin, who died when two years old; Jerome D., who died at the age of twenty-one; and Henry, who died when fifty-five years old.

Jonas M. Hutchins spent his early life on the home farm in Wayne Township, and while there put in the usual time attending the district schools. He was with his parents to the age of twenty-one, and earned his way by contributing his labors to his father. He also worked as a farm hand by the month, and gradually accumulated enough to enable him to buy his first farm, consisting of fifty-four acres. He did well in handling that land and has since increased it by eighty acres, giving him a well proportioned and arranged farm of a hundred and thirty-four acres, highly improved and well stocked.

Mr. Hutchins married for his first wife Opal Myers. She was the mother of two children: Bessie F., wife of Clarence Simon, and Sterling, a graduate of the common schools and now living at South Milford. For his second wife Mr. Hutchins married Ida May Randal. To this marriage were also born two children: Wava B., a graduate of the common schools, and also a student at the European Schools of Music, Ft. Wayne, Indiana, is the wife of Roy C. Green; Audrey S., a graduate of the South Milford High School class of 1917, is the wife of Fred C. Zimmerman. The

family are members of the Evangelical Church. Mr. Hutchins is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Kendallville, being a past chancellor and a member of the Grand Lodge. He has filled the office of justice of the peace in his precinct for the past ten years, and has gained much esteem in his community for his impartial handling of the various cases tried before him. He is very active in his church, and is a democrat in politics.

JOHN DYGERT. The record of the Dygert family has an inalienable right in the affairs of Steuben County, where the name has been represented prominently for over eighty years.

John Dygert was born in Montgomery County, New York, February 27, 1826, a son of Adam and Jane (Duesler) Dygert, both natives of New York. The Dygert family after leaving Montgomery County lived for two years in Seneca County and later in Monroe County, New York. In the early thirties Adam Dygert came to Steuben County and entered land in York Township, acquiring 160 acres. In 1838 he settled his family there, and he and his wife lived in the county until death. They were members of the Presbyterian Church, and in that generation the politics of the family was democratic. Adam Dygert and wife had children named Lany, Abraham, William, Christian, Levi, Benjamin, Harvey, John, Jeremiah and Henry Adam, John Dygert being the only one still living.

John Dygert was twelve years old when he arrived in Steuben County October 19, 1838. For over eighty years he has been a witness of changing scenes and conditions. He attended some of the early day schools and as a youth he manufactured many grain cradles and also worked one year at the blacksmith's trade. As a farmer he bought a tract of cranberry land two miles east of Angola, and later bought the farm where his sons Levi and Carl reside and where he makes his home. Mr. Dygert is independent in politics and has served as assessor and township treasurer and has been an active leader in the Grange and Farmers' Alliance and in other local movements. He is the last surviving county official of the group who were incumbents of office when the court house was built. At that time he was serving as county commissioner. He is liberal in his religious views.

In 1851 John Dygert married Caroline Stotts, of Steuben County. She died in 1875, the mother of two children: Charles F., a farmer in Scott Township, and Sarah Jane, who became the wife of Jackson Nisinger and has two children, Merle and Caroline.

April 20, 1881, Mr. John Dygert married Miss Mary Grubb. She was born in Richland County, Ohio, September 27, 1843, a daughter of John and Mary (Bellamy) Grubb. Her parents were natives of England and her father was killed by a falling tree in Richland County, Ohio, in 1845. Mrs. Dygert came with her widowed mother to Steuben County in 1862. Her mother died February 1, 1881. In the Grubb family were seven children: Sarah, William, Ann, John, who died while a soldier in the Civil war, Alice, Elizabeth and Mary.

Mr. and Mrs. Dygert had three sons: Ora Clyde, Carl and Levi. Carl married Grace Weicht, and their six children were John, Audra, deceased, Mildred, Louise, Galen and Herman.

Levi Dygert, who was born on the home farm in 1885, was educated in the common schools, and for a number of years with his brother Carl has worked the homestead. He is independent in politics, a member of the Odd Fellows and Moose. In 1911 he married Miss Balding, who was born in Scott Township June 3, 1891, daughter of George



and Alice (Nisinger) Balding. Her father died in 1894. Levi Dygert and wife have two children: George Wendell, born January 26, 1913, and Rollin John, born February 27, 1917.

**WARREN D. WELLS.** This veteran editor and newspaper man of Northeast Indiana has evidently had very few of the vicissitudes and rapid changes of the average publisher, since he has been a fixture and a useful one at Fremont for over a quarter of a century, where he founded and has conducted the Fremont Eagle.

Mr. Wells was born in Allen County, Indiana, November 17, 1859, a son of John and Julia (Dewey) Wells. His mother was a native of Steuben County, New York. John Wells was born in 1825 and spent many years of his life as a farmer in Allen County, Indiana, where he died in 1901. His widow after his death made her home with her only son and child, Warren D., at Fremont, where she died in 1911.

Warren D. Wells acquired a good education, at first in the public schools in Allen County, later in Fort Wayne College and also in Valparaiso College. He taught school several years, and in 1889 began the printing trade at Fort Wayne. Three years later, in 1892, he came to Fremont and established the Fremont Eagle, a paper that has stood for the best interests of the community, has been published and owned by Mr. Wells for a quarter of a century, and has become a highly successful property.

Mr. Wells while he has given his time to the management of his newspaper has also been a figure in the public affairs of Steuben County, and held the office of County Recorder from 1908 to 1912. He is a Mason and Knights of Pythias.

In 1884 he married Anna M. Clark, a daughter of Thomas R. and Margaret (Miller) Clark. They have a family of six children: Emma G., wife of Otto O. Wolter; Arthur D., who married Hazel Whitmore; Edgar D., who married Edith Birch; Donald H.; Henry F., who married Sylvia Noggle; and Winifred. Arthur has followed in his father's footsteps as a journalist and is editor of the *Orland Zenith*, published at Orland, Indiana. Mr. Wells is very proud of the fact that three of his sons were in the country's service during the war, Edgar, Donald and Henry. Donald is now managing editor of *Base Hospital Journal* at Camp Sherman, Ohio. Henry is with Battery C. of the One Hundred and Twenty-Fourth Field Artillery, and is with the American Army of Occupation in Luxemburg.

**CHARLES RAMER.** Though a comparatively brief life was vouchsafed to Charles Ramer, he developed a real farm out of the woods of Clear Spring Township, and left his family in comfortable circumstances. He was highly esteemed as a citizen and was true to himself and to all the duties and obligations of life.

He was born in Brown County, Ohio, January 14, 1861, a son of Henry and Catherine (Suffel) Ramer. His parents were both natives of Germany. Henry Ramer came to the United States when a young man, and after a year or two went back to the Fatherland to settle up his father's estate. On his second trip to this country he met Catherine Suffel, and on May 27, 1859, they were married and in the same year located in Brown County, Ohio. Henry Ramer was born April 22, 1830, and his wife was born April 16, 1838. They were the parents of twelve children. In 1877 the family moved to Noble County, Indiana, and in 1896 to LaGrange County, where Henry Ramer died July 15, 1897, and his widow March 23, 1905.

Charles Ramer was sixteen years old when brought to Indiana, had a farm rearing, and a common school education, and on April 19, 1885, married Mary A. Reidenbach. She was born in Elkhart Township of Noble County May 3, 1862, a daughter of Philip and Catherine (Kermin) Reidenbach. She was reared on a farm in Noble County and had a common school education.

Mr. and Mrs. Ramer after their marriage lived in Noble County a few years, and on coming to LaGrange County located on the place of 160 acres which at that time was all in the woods and which Mr. Ramer's industry converted into the good farm which it is today. He died there in the midst of his labors, when he was beginning to realize their fruitage, on May 30, 1916. He was active in the Methodist Episcopal Church, as is Mrs. Ramer, and in politics was a democrat.

There were five children: William A., who married Dorothy Steinbarger; John W., a graduate of the common schools and unmarried; Amelia M., who completed her work in the local schools and is the wife of Harry Wiard; Laura L., a common school graduate, wife of Ira M. Keim, who served with the American forces in France, and is now at home; and Carl F., a graduate of the common schools. There are also the following grandchildren: Lawrence E., Florence M., Mildred M., John C., and Dona Belle.

**JOSHUA J. METZ** is spending the evening of life at his comfortable rural homestead in Otsego Township. The energies of his manhood's prime were well bestowed, had ample fruitage, and gained him not only sufficient of this world's goods but the esteem and good will of the community where he has lived so many years. Mr. Metz is an honored veteran of the great Civil war.

He was born at Baden, Germany, June 25, 1846. His father, Christopher Metz, was also born in Baden, Germany. He married in February, 1842, Eva Katherine Gretchman. She was born in Baden April 2, 1822, daughter of Carl and Marguerite Gretchman. Christopher Metz brought his family to America in 1854. They were 103 days on the ocean. One of their sons died in Germany, they buried a daughter at sea, and another daughter was buried in New York. When they embarked on the ship they carried with them supplies of clothing and other goods, but all these possessions were lost in New York. The family went on to Ohio and about 1862 came to Otsego Township of Steuben County, where with the exception of two years Christopher Metz spent the rest of his life. His children besides those above mentioned were: Catherine, who was born in Germany; Joshua; J. H.; William; Martha, and Nathan.

Joshua Metz was only nine years old when brought to this country, and he acquired his education in the public schools of Steuben County, in Otsego and York townships. In the time when all the young men of the country were aroused to a sense of patriotic duty, Joshua Metz showed unusual patriotism and when not yet seventeen years of age, on Christmas evening of 1863, enlisted in Company A of the One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry. He saw nearly two years of active service, and received his honorable discharge at Charlotte, North Carolina, August 29, 1865. He took part in some of the hardest fighting which broke the back of the Confederacy, including the battles of Resaca, Buzzard Roost, Fort Fisher, Five Forks, Goldsboro and numerous skirmishes.

When the war was over he returned to Otsego Township and in September, 1866, married Sarah

Hantz, daughter of Jesse and Mary (Garman) Hantz.

After his marriage Mr. Metz farmed a year in Scott Township, was then in Otsego Township until 1872, and from there moved to Richland Township for a year, lived in DeKalb County two years, and since then has spent his energies on one farm in Otsego Township, in section 13. He owns 120 acres and its improvements and buildings represent his individual labors and investments.

Mr. and Mrs. Metz are members of the Methodist Church. They have been married over a half a century, and while they had struggles and privations at the beginning they have ease and comforts at life's decline. They are the parents of three children, John I., David E., and Lillian. John married Lora Avery, who died in 1917, leaving two children, Dorothy M. and Dawson. John Metz married for his second wife Mrs. Hattie Ferrel. David Metz married Lura Anspaugh, and has two children, Pauline L. and Sarah L.

ARTHUR B. COOKERLY. Of all the positions of trust and responsibility in LaGrange County none is more important to the welfare of the present and future generations than that of superintendent of the public schools. The present incumbent of that office is Arthur B. Cookerly, a man of high ideals in an educational way, of long training and thorough experience, and has been identified with practical school work as a teacher and administrator since early manhood.

He was born at South Milford, Indiana, April 3, 1884, a son of J. C. and Emma (Smith) Cookerly, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of DeKalb County, Indiana. J. C. Cookerly came with his parents to Jay County, Indiana, where he grew to maturity, acquired the trade of mechanic and for a number of years worked at Kendallville. Later he moved to Orland in Steuben County, had a blacksmith shop there, and later at South Milford, where he is now living retired. He and his wife have nine children, A. H., Arthur B., Zura, Mary A., Vennie, Archie, William, Edith and Richard. Archie and William Cookerly were both soldiers in the World war, and William was with the Expeditionary Forces in France.

Arthur B. Cookerly spent most of his early life in South Milford, and attended the public schools there, graduating from high school in 1904. He has always been a student as well as a worker in the practical lines of his profession and attended the State Normal School two terms, was for two years in Indiana University, and two terms at the University of Wisconsin. He taught his first school in 1904, and with the exception of one year his service in the profession was continuous until 1917. He served as principal of the Stroh School three years and assistant principal of the South Milford schools four years. Since 1917 he has been county superintendent of schools.

June 17, 1912, he married Zella Parks, daughter of H. R. and Minnie (Fites) Parks. Mrs. Cookerly was born at Montpelier, Ohio, September 24, 1893, and during her early girlhood lived with her parents in Chicago for eight years. She received most of her education in the public schools of Ashley and Stroh, Indiana. She is a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at LaGrange. Both Mr. and Mrs. Cookerly are active in fraternal affairs. He is past grand and past chief patriarch of South Milford Lodge No. 619, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and South Milford Encampment No. 238, and has sat in the Grand Lodge. Both he and his wife are members of South Milford Lodge of Rebekahs No. 416. He is affiliated with LaGrange Lodge No. 144,

Knights of Pythias, with Philo Lodge No. 672, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he is past master, with LaGrange Chapter No. 102, Royal Arch Masons, and with Kendallville Council No. 50, Royal and Select Masters. He and his wife are active members of the Eastern Star Chapter at LaGrange and Mrs. Cookerly is secretary. In politics his affiliations are democratic.

ABRAM F. SUMMEY, whose home is on a farm in Van Buren Township, has during his long and active life had a part in the clearing and developing of five farms in LaGrange County.

Mr. Summey was born in Wayne County, Ohio, September 26, 1858, a son of John and Lucinda (Plumb) Summey. His parents came from Wayne County to LaGrange County in 1866, settling on eighty acres in Newbury Township. Their first home was an old shack of a log house. The father cleared the land and improved it, and spent the rest of his career as a farmer. He was drowned in Shipshewana Lake January 22, 1897, when fifty-six years of age. His wife died in 1898, aged fifty-seven. He was a republican and liberal in his religious views. Abram F. Summey was the second born and is the only one living of six children, the others being Silas, John, Sarah, John and Lillie.

Abram F. Summey from the age of eight years grew up on the homestead in Newbury Township, attended public schools, and for several years farmed his father's place on the shares. He also spent a year farming in Missouri. On returning to LaGrange County he bought forty acres included in his present place in Van Buren Township, and has cleared and improved it with good buildings. Mr. Summey is a republican.

In 1881 he married Hannah J. Arnold, who was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in 1861. Her parents, Mathias and Amy Arnold, spent all their lives in that county. Mr. and Mrs. Summey had eight children: Anthony F., who married Elma Zuber; Eugene, who married Cora Lautenschlager; Ada, wife of Mel Hawkins; Warren, who married Irene Bodish; Hazel, wife of Jay Mast; Wilma, wife of Percy Moser; and Macey and Arnold, both deceased.

C. W. DALLY, manager of the Fremont Lumber Company, is a good and substantial business man and has devoted a large part of his active business life to farming and public affairs in Steuben County. He served six years as a county commissioner.

He was born in Richland Township of Steuben County September 1, 1867, a son of Robert V. and Helen Jane (Morley) Dally. Robert V. Dally, who was born in Guernsey County, Ohio, January 28, 1824, a son of Isaac and Eleanor Dally, came with his parents to Richland Township in 1846. Robert Dally gave a service of great usefulness in this community for thirty-six years as a carpenter. All that time he owned a farm, and managed to keep its improvements up, and finally on leaving his trade devoted all his time to agriculture. He owned 100 acres. He died in October, 1905. He was an active member of the Christian Church.

Robert V. Dally married Helen Jane Morley, who was born in Ontario County, New York, June 16, 1829, and died September 5, 1903. She was a daughter of Ebenezer and Celinda Morley, the former born in Connecticut April 26, 1792, and the latter in Vermont in 1797. Ebenezer Morley came with his family to Steuben County in 1842, and only five other families were living at that time in Richland Township. He settled in section 21 and was a basket maker and farmer, and died there in 1864. Robert V. Dally and wife had five children: An-







*Jonathan Harver*



nette Celinda, who married A. Barren; Mary, who became the wife of Orson Parrett; Jessie, wife of Theron Gordon; Morton R., who married Della Ingle; and C. W. Dally.

C. W. Dally attended public school in Richland Township and in early manhood became identified with farming in his home township. In 1906 he moved to York Township, and actively prosecuted his interests as a farmer there until 1917. He still owns a good farm of eighty-five acres in that township. After a few months of residence at Angola Mr. Dally moved to Fremont, and for the past two years has given his time to the management of the Fremont Lumber Company. His service as county commissioner was from 1911 to 1918. Mr. Dally is a member of the Methodist Church and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. In 1896 he married Dora B. Duell, daughter of Byron and Mary Duell. Four children were born to their marriage: Charles E., who married Bessie Hall and has one son, Olan; Bernice, born in 1899 and died in 1908; Frank W.; and Herman R.

PAUL E. SIGLER. There are many reasons why the people of LaGrange County have been willing to entrust their public affairs to the management of Paul E. Sigler, who is now county commissioner representing the southern district of that county. Mr. Sigler has lived in LaGrange County all his life, is a practical farmer, and in all the relations of a busy life has proved true and deserving of confidence and trust. He was born in section 2 of Clear Spring Township August 22, 1861, a son of William and Lydia (Hime) Sigler. His father was born in Washington County, Maryland, October 20, 1820, and died June 20, 1902, at the age of eighty-two. His wife was born March 5, 1823, in Pennsylvania, and died in 1903. They were married in Ohio December 29, 1841, and on October 2, 1852, came to LaGrange County. William Sigler at that time was poor in purse but had great ambition and enterprise, and in the course of years acquired 316 acres of land. While exceedingly busy, he was always a liberal supporter of the church and did much to help out his neighbors and those in misfortune. He and his wife were members of the Lutheran Church and politically he was a republican and served as one of the early constables of Clear Spring Township. William Sigler and wife had eleven children, six of whom are still living: Amanda, widow of Lewis Moore; Samuel L., of LaGrange County; Matilda, wife of Emanuel Shelly; Solomon F., of Sturgis, Michigan; Amelia, wife of Allen Shoup; and Paul E.

Paul E. Sigler grew up on the old home farm and attended the district schools. May 22, 1881, he married Jennie Todd. She was born in Lima Township, LaGrange County, March 1, 1862, and acquired a good education and was a successful teacher before her marriage. She is a daughter of Milton Todd, an early resident of Indiana. He married D. E. Rowan.

Mr. and Mrs. Sigler settled on the old Sigler farm, which he rented until after his mother's death, and then bought thirty-five acres of the land, and now has seventy-five acres. Besides farming he has been much occupied with public affairs. He served as assessor of Clear Spring Township six years, and for two years held the office of county drainage commissioner, resigning that to accept appointment as county commissioner. He is an official member of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and has been Sunday school superintendent.

Mr. and Mrs. Sigler have three children: William C., who married Ora Updike; H. Ort, a grad-

uate of the LaGrange High School, formerly a teacher and now a farmer in Bloomfield Township, and who married Alta E. Seybert; and Lulu M., unmarried and living at home.

JONATHAN FARVER. The business community of Shipshewana has one of its oldest and most forceful figures in Jonathan Farver, veteran lumberman and lumber manufacturer, active head of the Farver Lumber Company.

Mr. Farver, who has lived in LaGrange County since early childhood, was born in Holmes County, Ohio, June 6, 1857. He is a son of Abraham and Harriet (Snyder) Farver and a grandson of John Farver, who was born in New Jersey of French parentage. John spent most of his life as a farmer in Holmes County, Ohio. His children were named John, George, Jacob, Abraham, William, Jonathan, Solomon and Barbara. Abraham Farver became a millwright by trade. His wife, Harriet Snyder, was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Daniel Snyder. In 1863 the Farver family moved from Holmes County to Newbury Township of LaGrange County, acquiring a farm about four miles south of Shipshewana. While living in that locality Abraham Farver spent part of his time as a cabinet maker, but in the main operated his farming interests and lived on his farm until his death in 1892, at the age of sixty-six. His wife passed away in 1873. In religion he was a Presbyterian, while his wife was of the Menonite faith. They have six children, named Elizabeth, Jonathan, William, Emma, Barbara and Moses.

Jonathan Farver, who was six years old when brought to LaGrange County, attended the district schools of Newbury Township and in early life followed in the same line as his father, learning the cabinet making trade. Mr. Farver spent about twenty-seven years as a building contractor. He became associated with his brother William in 1889 in the sawmill and lumber business in Shipshewana. Thus that industry has been established there under the Farver name for thirty years. William Farver dissolved the partnership by death in 1906, and until 1915 Mr. Farver continued the business alone. In the latter year the Farver Lumber Company was incorporated with Mr. Farver as president. His firm still operates a saw mill, manufacturing hardwood lumber for both the wholesale and retail trades. In the yards at Shipshewana they handle all kinds of building material, cement and coal.

In 1882 Mr. Farver married Catherine Weaver, a daughter of David and Catherine Weaver and a sister of V. D. Weaver, cashier of the National Bank of LaGrange. Mr. and Mrs. Farver have five children: Laura, wife of Samuel P. Curtis; Belva, wife of James Beecher; Stewart, who died at the age of six years; Cuba, wife of Fred Lampman; and Irene. The daughter Irene, who completed her junior year in high school in 1919, has in all her school experience not a single case of tardiness nor absence recorded against her score. Mr. Farver is an active member of the Methodist Church at Shipshewana.

CHRISTIAN K. PARSELL. A number of the progressive agriculturalists of Northeastern Indiana are specializing on certain lines of activity, experiments proving to them that their farms are adapted for certain purposes, and if they desire to achieve the best results it is better that they utilize all the possibilities. One farmer will devote himself to the production of dairy products, another prefers to grow varied grain crops, while still another specializes in breeding live stock. With the great demand

for wool has come large profits in raising sheep, and the farmers of this section of the state are turning toward this branch of agriculture with profitable results. One of the men who is well known as a sheep breeder is Christian K. Parsell of Steuben Township, Steuben County.

Christian K. Parsell was born in Salem Township, Steuben County, Indiana, February 7, 1865, a son of Wickliff W. and Elizabeth (Klink) Parsell, the former of whom was born at Millburn, New Jersey. About 1863, Wickliff W. Parsell came from New Jersey to Steuben County, and spent some time with his brother, William Parsell, in Jackson Township. He was then married to Elizabeth Klink, a daughter of Christian and Mary Klink, and bought 160 acres of land in Steuben Township, on which he and his wife located in the spring of 1865, residing upon it the remainder of their lives. Their children were as follows: C. K., whose name heads this review; Blanche, who married W. A. Ferrier; and Bertha, who married a Mr. Meisner.

Christian K. Parsell was born in Salem Township and attended the schools of Steuben Township and those of Angola. After attaining his majority he began farming on rented land in Steuben Township, but in 1890 he inherited seventy acres of land in the same township, and bought nine more, making eighty acres. On this tract he has since lived, carrying on general farming and stock raising and specializing in the breeding of Oxford sheep, having been engaged in the latter line for the past twenty years, increasing his flocks to meet the demands of a rising market.

On December 1, 1887, Mr. Parsell was united in marriage with Ollie M. Gonser, a daughter of Daniel and Catherine Gonser. Mr. and Mrs. Parsell have four children, namely: Daniel Ward, Charles C. and Grace E., all of whom are living, and the third child, Warren, who died at the age of seventeen years. The family are very well and favorably known throughout Steuben County, and Mr. Parsell is recognized as an authority on sheep breeding, and his advice is often sought by those who wish to follow his example. He is a friend of the public schools, good roads and other improvements, realizing that this is an age of progress and that anything calculated to advance the community raises the value of property, and offers more inducements to the rising generation to remain at home instead of going into the neighboring cities.

FRANK CHASE WADE, M. D. One of the busiest firms of physicians and surgeons in Northeast Indiana is that of Doctors Wade and Wade at Howe. They handle the practice for the Howe Military School and also a large general practice. Both are capable, talented young physicians, and men of the best qualifications for their chosen profession.

The older, Dr. Frank Chase Wade, was born at Mongo, Indiana, July 27, 1877, and is a son of Alfred A. and Emily Eleva (Chase) Wade. A sketch of the career of his father is given on other pages of this publication. Doctor Wade was eight years old when his parents moved from Mongo to Howe, where he attended the public schools and graduated from the Howe Military School in 1894. He completed his under graduate medical training at Detroit College of Medicine in 1900, and since then has taken post-graduate courses in New York City and at Harvard University in Boston. He began active practice in 1900 at Howe and since 1909 his brother, Alfred A. Wade, Jr., has been associated with him. Doctor Wade is a member of the County, State and American Medical associations.

He is a prominent Mason, being affiliated with

the Lodge at Howe, LaGrange Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, Council No. 50, Royal and Select Masters, at Kendallville, and with the Scottish Rite bodies and Shrine at Fort Wayne. He is also a member of the Knights of Pythias at Howe. He and his wife are members of the Episcopal Church.

October 24, 1900, Doctor Wade married Miss Minnie M. Schaeffer, daughter of James W. Schaeffer of Howe. She died January 26, 1910, leaving one daughter, Rachel Elleva, who was born December 20, 1903. On August 14, 1912, Doctor Wade married Miss Ruth M. Nelson, daughter of Myron Nelson, of Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County. Doctor and Mrs. Wade have two daughters, Mary Ann, born June 17, 1913, and Ella Jane, born January 14, 1916.

THAD K. MILLER, one of the prominent citizens of Steuben County, where he has lived for over half a century, was born in Seneca County, Ohio, August 2, 1847, a son of Samuel and Katharine (Kain) Miller, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Ohio. His mother died in Seneca County in 1853. His father came to Steuben County during Civil war times, and followed the trade of millwright. He died in 1891, at the age of seventy-nine.

Thad K. Miller grew up in Seneca County, had a good education in public schools and academy, and in 1862, at the age of fifteen, enlisted in Company A of the Sixty-First Ohio Infantry, and he saw some very hard service until June 10, 1865. He was at Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, Missionary Ridge, the Atlanta campaign and the march to the sea. Mr. Miller came to Steuben County June 1, 1865, and has been a resident of the county ever since. He located in Jackson Township and acquired a farm there. For many years his chief work was as a marine engineer, and for several years he had his headquarters at Detroit. In 1895 he was elected county recorder of Steuben County, and filled that office with admirable efficiency for four years. He then took up the practice of law and has had many cases before the Department of Interior and the Treasury at Washington. He is an active member of the Grand Army of the Republic and the Christian Church and is affiliated with the Lodge, Council and Commandery of the Masonic Order and is prominent in the different branches of Masonry.

April 18, 1869, he married Ellen M. Stout, of Steuben County. Her father, Hervey B. Stout, came to this part of Northeast Indiana in 1836. Mr. and Mrs. Miller had four children. Frank H., a railroad engineer living at Montpelier, Ohio, married Artie M. Davis and has six children: Harold E., a first lieutenant of infantry; Ralph, of Company A, One Hundred and Twelfth Supply Train, now in France; Lois, John, Sarah and Thad K., Jr. Belle S. Miller is the wife of William Mabie, a farmer of Steuben County, and has a son Thad K., Jr. Harry W. is a merchant in South Dakota and married Ida Day. Katherine is the wife of A. G. Weldin, of Coldwater, Michigan, and their children are Ellen R., Marjorie D. and Leander M.

G. RILEY POWERS. From the time the Powers family landed in the woods of York Township, Steuben County, in 1837, much of the history, much of the development and many of the most important influences that have shaped and moulded that community have had this family as their determining factor. In their case the term "old family" also means a race of strong people, industrious, capable, upholders of religion and education and valuable elements in the county and state.

The ancestry of the Powers family goes back to



Ireland, where Arad Powers married Lydia Bruce, a native of Scotland. Coming to America before the Revolutionary war, they settled in Massachusetts. Their son Oliver Powers was born in Massachusetts and married Lydia Winn. Oliver Powers was a Revolutionary soldier. After the winning of independence he moved, to Oneida County, New York, and afterward to Ontario County.

Josiah Powers, son of Oliver, was born in Massachusetts in 1772, and married in 1799 Hannah Church. After their marriage they moved to Oneida County, New York, and in 1805 to Ontario County, where Josiah died in 1808. His sons, most of whom became connected with Northeast Indiana, were: Stephen, born in 1800; Winn, born in 1801; Clark, born in 1803; Josiah, born in 1806; and Calvin, born in 1808.

Winn Powers was born in Oneida County, New York, in December, 1801. He acquired a good education and taught school for a time. In 1825 he married Betsy Reeves, who was born in New Jersey in May, 1801. After their marriage the young couple moved to Allegany County, New York, and settled on a wild farm. About 1836 they concluded it was their duty to provide homes for their children, and they therefore sold their possessions in New York and started for Indiana, where the brothers Clark and Calvin Powers had entered land in the spring of the preceding year. The Powers family were really the first settlers of York Township. Winn Powers started from Allegany County, New York, in May, 1837, with a two ox team, and drove all the way to York Township. From Fremont to Angola this was the first team to get through the woods. Winn Powers had to cut much of the brush and trees in the way. He took up eighty acres of heavily timbered land, and started out a poor man. They lived in a log cabin, and their lot was one of heavy labor, the endurance of many hardships, but in the course of time he had his children well established and Winn Powers had 200 broad acres to account for his own industry. He was a member of the Masonic Lodge for about thirty years, was an active democrat, and he and his brothers did much to promote religious worship and education, providing for the Powers Church and the Powers Cemetery and also for the school known as the Powers School House. Winn Powers died June 24, 1883, and his wife on April 14, 1873. Their children were: Myron, born in 1826; Hannah, born in 1828; Edwin, born in 1831; Calvin, born in 1834; Mowry, born in 1836; Ann Eliza, born in 1839; and George Riley.

George Riley Powers, whose life record makes him a man of prominence in York Township, where he has spent the greater part of half a century as a farmer, was born on the old Powers farm in section 29 of that township July 27, 1842. He attended the Powers School House as a boy, worked on the farm, and at the age of twenty-one started for himself on the place where he is still living, and which has been the center of his work and associations for fifty-five years. All the improvements on that good farm have been erected by him.

September 3, 1864, he married Lydia A. Hemry, daughter of Abraham and Mary Ann Hemry. Mr. and Mrs. Powers own ninety-one acres in sections 29 and 30 of York Township.

Mrs. Powers' father was born in Ohio, a son of Isaac Hemry. Abraham Hemry was a farmer in Crawford County, Ohio, and about 1860 came to York Township in Steuben County and spent the rest of his life there. He owned eighty acres of land. The maiden name of his wife was Mary Ann

McLaskey. They had the following children: John; Margaret, wife of James Foster; Nancy J., wife of John Stance; Lydia, wife of G. R. Powers; Rebecca, who married Alexander Hanselman; George E.; Delia, wife of Haden Franks; Andrew J.; and Eva, wife of Douglas Gamber. After the death of his first wife Mr. Hemry married Mrs. Elizabeth Hanselman, and had a daughter, Mary E., who married Minard Headley.

Mr. and Mrs. Powers are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church known as Powers Church. He served one term as trustee of York Township and has interested himself in every worthy community improvement. He and his wife have two children. Emry married Della Lash and has a son Wayne. Luella married Henry Van Pelt and has two children, Lena and Forest.

WESLEY C. STRANG. In addition to the material success which has awarded his efforts as a LaGrange County farmer, there is special interest in the career of Wesley C. Strang, whose home is two and a half miles east of Topeka, in the fact that practically all his life, constituting three score years and ten, has been spent in the one environment. Here he grew up when the woods were tall, and has witnessed a remarkable transformation and evolution, has played his own part worthily, and still enjoys many of the associations which were familiar to him as a boy.

He was born on the farm which he now owns August 23, 1846, a son of John L. and Margaret (McQuiston) Strang. His father was a native of New York City and his mother of Virginia. They grew up in Indiana, were married in LaGrange County, and then settled on the land which is now in the home farm of their son Wesley. They were active members of the Methodist Church. John Strang was a republican in politics. Of the five children three are still living: Mary A., wife of B. A. Jones; George E., of Michigan; and Wesley C.

Wesley C. Strang attended the common schools of the '50s and early '60s, and the only time he was ever away from home for any important interval was a six weeks' trip to the far west during his early manhood. In 1872 he married Mary V. Tritipo, who was born in Ohio October 22, 1841. Mr. Strang is owner of a well proportioned farm of 200 acres in section 33 of Clear Spring Township. He is a republican and has served as township supervisor.

He and his wife had four children: Jesse R., a graduate of the common schools, who married Edna Sutton and lives at Indianapolis; Ethel is the wife of Willis O. Sesoline, of South Bend; Porter E. married Lulu Bowman, of Topeka; and John L. is a high school graduate and was with the American Expeditionary Forces in France. He has returned from the overseas service and is now in the regular army as a first lieutenant.

LEWIS A. HENDRY. One of the most conspicuous names in the early settlement of the northwestern corner of Steuben County is that of Hendry. The family have an honorable place throughout the records of the county for over eight years.

Lewis A. Hendry, now living at Angola, is regarded as one of the men who have been most closely identified with the growth and development of that city. He was born in Lorain County, Ohio, November 18, 1835, son of George and Thankful (Hotchkiss) Hendry, the former a native of New York and the latter of Ohio. It was in the spring of 1836 that the Hendry family came to Steuben

County and located 2½ miles south of Orland, close to Jackson Prairie. They made the journey from Lorain County, Ohio, with wagons and ox teams. George Hendry had already selected 120 acres of Government land and had built a log house preparatory to the shelter of his family. By trade he was a blacksmith and for many years he kept his shop on his farm. Later he lived in York Township, but finally moved to Angola, where he died in 1898, at the age of eighty-six. His widow survived until 1907, and was ninety-four when she died. They had six children: Marsden, Marcia, Lewis A., Elmina and Elzina, twins, and William.

Lewis A. Hendry was only a few weeks old when the family came to this country. He attended the district schools near his father's home, and later was a student in Oberlin College, located in the same county where he was born. He began life as a farmer and for many years did an extensive business as a dealer in live stock. He also extended his enterprise to general merchandising, and became widely known as a grain and wool buyer. In some years his dealings in wool reached a high total of \$100,000. About fifteen years ago he gave up the dry goods business, and has since exerted his means and influence for the material upbuilding and improvement of Angola. He has probably given that city as many substantial improvements as any other individual. He built several substantial blocks and is owner of the Hendry Block, which covers about an acre and a half of ground and includes the Hotel Hendry. He was also one of the men most prominent in financing the Tri-State College. He has been a lifelong republican but never an aspirant for any office.

During the Civil war he married Miss Catherine Jackson, of Steuben County. The only child of that union, Belle, married Doctor Lewis and her daughter, Bessie, is the wife of Mr. Lowe, and they have four children. After the death of his first wife Mr. Hendry married Chloe Moss. By this marriage there were three children. The oldest is Ada, wife of Frank Beil. The second is George, a resident of Angola, who married Zella Brown. Of their four children their son George Jr., saw active service in France during the war. The third of the family is Gladney A., referred to in following sketch.

GLADNEY ARTHUR HENDRY, son of Lewis A. Hendry, whose career is given above, has for a number of years been one of the leading business men of Angola.

He was born in that town July 11, 1874, and was well educated in the public schools, the high school and the Tri-State College. For several years he managed the Hotel Hendry for his father and for about eight years was also a practical farmer. In 1909 he engaged in the building material business and has built up a large trade and developed facilities adequate for a wide and comprehensive service in that line.

Mr. Hendry is a republican in politics and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks. In 1899 he married Miss Stella Allen, of Windfall, Indiana. To their marriage were born five children: Pauline and Genevieve, who died April 27 and April 28, 1917, respectively, both of diphtheria; Helen, Luella and Sarah Virginia.

GEORGE E. SHANOWER. While practically all his life has been spent in Northeast Indiana, George E. Shanower has had experience as a farmer in Noble as well as LaGrange County. He owns a good farm in Bloomfield Township of the latter

county, and is one of that community's most highly respected and valued citizens.

He was born in Noble County September 30, 1867, a son of Samuel and Susan (Hartz) Shanower. His parents were both born in Ohio, his father in 1841 and his mother in 1847. The paternal grandfather, George Shanower, was an early settler in Johnson Township, LaGrange County, locating on eighty acres a mile south of Adams Lake. He sold that property and moved to Noble County and finally retired to Wolcottville, where he died at the age of eighty-six and his wife at seventy-two. Their children were Fannie, Samuel, Mary Ann, deceased, Jacob, Clinton, Newton, Amos, Harriet, and George, deceased.

Samuel Shanower came to Northeast Indiana when he was a boy, had a public school education, and served in the 44th Indiana Infantry as a Union soldier until the close of the war. After the war he rented a farm in Milford Township, later was in Elkhart Township of Noble County, where he bought a hundred twenty acres, and from there came to Johnson Township in LaGrange County and owned a farm of a hundred fourteen acres and later a place of sixty-two acres. Recently he sold out his landed possessions and is now living retired at Wolcottville. He is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic and a republican in politics. His wife, Susan Hartz, is a daughter of Samuel Hartz, who was an early settler in Johnson Township and later moved to Michigan, ten miles north of Toledo, where he spent his last days. In the Hartz family were five children, named Jacob, Amanda, Samuel, Fannie and Susan. Samuel Shanower and wife have three children: George E.; Jennie, wife of Ira Brill; and Loren.

George E. Shanower was educated in Noble County and when about twenty-one years of age came to LaGrange County. He lived in Johnson Township until about 1905, when he bought his present farm of eighty-eight acres in Bloomfield Township. He is a republican in politics.

On January 26, 1893, Mr. Shanower married Miss Lottie Price. She was born in LaGrange County, a daughter of Dr. Henry and Mary Ann Price, early settlers of the county who came here from Pennsylvania in the spring of 1865. Her father practiced medicine at Brighton and later at Woodruff. Doctor Price and his wife are both deceased, the doctor dying in 1894 and Mrs. Price in 1906.

MOSES J. MILLER. The name of Moses J. Miller is connected with some of the best farming that has been done in Newbury Township, and he is held up as an example of the rising generation of what a good man and a desirable citizen should be. He was born in his present township, April 29, 1844, a son of John and Margaret (Sutter) Miller, who made the long trip overland to Indiana from Pennsylvania in wagons in 1842, and upon their arrival in LaGrange County bought eighty acres of land in Newbury Township for \$250.00. The father worked hard at clearing off the land until his death in 1861, when he was forty-nine years old. His widow survived his death until 1873, when she died at the age of fifty-nine. In religious faith they belonged to the Amish Society. Their children were as follows: Joseph, who died November 28, 1918, aged seventy-five years; Moses J., whose name heads this review; John, who died at Shipshewana, December 14, 1918, aged seventy-two years; and Barbara, who died at the age of three years.

Moses J. Miller was reared in his native township, and after he had attended the public schools he became a student of the institute at Ontario,



Indiana. For nine terms he was engaged in teaching school, and then in 1875 bought 160 acres of land in Van Buren Township, adding to it until he had 345 acres.

During his residence in Van Buren Township, he was engaged in the public affairs of his township, being elected township assessor in 1884, and served one year satisfactorily and to the approval of his constituents, and as executor of wills, administrator of decedents' estates, he administered and settled many estates, always to the satisfaction and approval of the parties connected therewith. In 1903 he bought another farm of eighty acres at Pashan in Newbury Township, and moved thereon and conducted it for six years, owning in all now 425 acres. During these six years he sold the farms in Van Buren Township and in 1909 bought the Brookside Farm of 102 acres in Newbury Township, which is one of the best improved farms in the township, and moved on it. He erected a tenant house, retired, and rented the farm, which is devoted to general farming and stockraising. Politically he has given his support and vote to the candidates of the republican party. Both he and his wife are Mennonites.

On April 9, 1865, Mr. Miller was married to Elizabeth Miller, born in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, in 1848, a daughter of Joseph and Nancy (Yoder) Miller, who came to LaGrange County in 1855, and settled west of Emma in Eden Township. Later they moved to Missouri, where he died about 1870, and she returned to her old home and there died.

Mr. Miller dates his ancestry in this country back to his great-grandfather, John Miller, who lived in Berks County, Pennsylvania, as early as 1757, later moving to Somerset County, that state. His son, Joseph Miller, was born in that latter county, and was the father of John Miller, the father of Moses J. Miller. At the time the great-grandfather, John Miller, was still living in Berks County, occurred the terrible massacre of the Hostetter family by the Indians in that region. One of the descendants of the latter family was married to Moses P. Miller, and they lived in Clay Township, LaGrange County.

The children born to Mr. and Mrs. Miller have been as follows: Nancy, who died at the age of eleven years; Martha, who is the wife of Henry Elliott, has the following children, Florence, Fern, Bruce, Brice, Claude and Katie; Mary, who is the wife of Edward Mishler, of Van Buren Township, has the following children, Bertha, Ida, Howard, Harley, Fern and Mildred; Frank, who married Esther Taylor, has two children, Kelso and Taylor; Katie, who is the wife of Monroe Hostetter, and their children are as follows: Joy, Guy, Margaret and Claude; Minnie, who is the wife of Levi Hooley, and their children are Amos, Nancy, Titus, Rachael, Reva and Vada; and Loretta, who is the wife of Levi Berkey, has the following children, Cletus, Perry, Harley and Opal, living, Ray having died. Mr. and Mrs. Berkey rent the homestead from Mr. Miller.

The grandchildren of Mr. Miller who are married are as follows: Florence Elliott, who married Leonard Hess, has the following children, Lucile, Mark, Paul and William; Bruce Elliott, who first married Wanona Michael, had two children, Lester and Chester, twins, and afterward he was married to Alva Jessup, and their child is named Herman; Brice Elliott, who married Rosy Yoder, a daughter of Tobias V. Yoder, and their children are George, Arthur and Henry, and Brice died in 1918; Fern Elliott, who married Ira Shideler, and their children are Frank and Harry; Claude Elliott, who married Irene Holderman, had one child, Robert.

As will be seen by the above, Mr. Miller is connected with nearly all of the leading families of the county, and he and his stand very high in public esteem.

JOHN W. STIENBARGER. One of the prosperous general farmers and stockraisers of Steuben County is John W. Stienbarger of Scott Township, who was born in Elkhart Township, Noble County, Indiana, April 1, 1855, a son of Charles G. and grandson of Joseph Stienbarger. The great-grandfather was Frederick Stienbarger, who was born in Culpeper County, Virginia, but the family originated in Prussia, Germany. Joseph Stienbarger was born near Culpeper, Virginia, but later moved to Ohio, where he was married to Mary Cracraft, born in Shelby County, Ohio. The Stienbarger family were millers and distillers, and when Joseph Stienbarger came to Cooperville, Noble County, Indiana, he built a saw and grist mill, and was engaged in operating it until his death. Some of the material in this mill was hauled by team from Adrian, Michigan. As his mill was the only one in the neighborhood, at some seasons of the year the farmers would so crowd the capacity that it was kept running day and night, and those desiring their grain ground would have to wait two days for their turn. These farmers came from a distance of twenty miles, carrying their grain on their horses in front of them as they rode over the dirt highways. There were four sons and two daughters in his family who grew to maturity.

Charles G. Stienbarger was a farmer of Elkhart Township, Noble County, where he spent his entire life. His wife bore the maiden name of Sarah Lininger, and she was born in Star County, Ohio, a daughter of Samuel and Catherine (Weir) Lininger. Mr. and Mrs. Stienbarger had the following children born to them: John W., George, Joseph H. and Sarah. The first Mrs. Stienbarger died, and Mr. Stienbarger later was married to Rebecca Lamp, his children by his second marriage being as follows: Ansel, who died in infancy, David M., Mary, Charles and Fred. All his mature years Charles G. Stienbarger was a consistent member of the Lutheran Church.

John W. Stienbarger attended the public schools of his native township, and for some years after he reached his majority, he worked for different farmers, thus gaining a practical and first hand knowledge of farming. On April 11, 1880, he was united in marriage with Manda J. Zimmerman, a daughter of Noah and Fannie Zimmerman. Mr. and Mrs. Stienbarger became the parents of two children, Charles H., who married Zella Teagarden, and Millard, who married Alta Ettinger. In 1894 Mr. Stienbarger moved on his present farm, which was formerly owned by Mrs. Stienbarger's parents, and which comprises eighty acres of very valuable land. Mr. Stienbarger has made a success of his farming and is held in high esteem by his neighbors, who appreciate his good qualities as a man and a citizen.

HENRY J. HOSTETLER, who has lived in LaGrange County fifty-five years, has found his time fully occupied since early manhood in the vocation of farming and in the performance of his varied relationships with the community, both as a public official and as a private citizen. He is a farmer with home located two miles east of Topeka.

Mr. Hostetler was born in Holmes County, Ohio, June 18, 1863, a son of Moses J. and Elizabeth (Maust) Hostetler. His parents were both natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. The father was

born June 9, 1812, and the mother May 1, 1822. They were married January 7, 1838. The father died April 17, 1894, and the mother on August 9, 1889. They were hard working, industrious, God-fearing and worthy people, were parents of a large family of thirteen children, were active in the old Amish Church and the father was a democrat in politics. The names of their children, with dates of birth, are as follows: John M., born April 16, 1839; Samuel J., February 19, 1841; Elias M., October 3, 1842; Moses M., March 21, 1844; Eve, March 18, 1846; Paul J., November 25, 1847; Elizabeth, November 26, 1849; Polly, February 2, 1852; Jacob J., August 12, 1854; David, July 10, 1856; Andrew, August 18, 1858; Uriah, March 6, 1861; and Henry J., June 18, 1863. Six of these are still living.

Henry J. Hostetler, the youngest of the family, was about a year old when his parents came to Indiana in 1864 and located in Eden Township of LaGrange County. He grew up there, with an education in the common schools, and at the age of twenty-six moved to Clear Spring Township, where he has since had his home. He owns eighty acres of land, thriftily and productively cultivated, and is also a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank of Topeka, and is a stockholder in the Sycamore Literary Society at Topeka. As a voter he has always been affiliated with the republican party and gave a very competent administration of the office of trustee of Clear Spring Township from 1900 to 1904. He and his family are members of the Mennonite Church.

June 1, 1886, he married Miss Ida May Roderick. Their four children were: Velma B., born March 18, 1888, now the wife of Dale Stroman; Lora V., born August 10, 1891, wife of Kenneth Leming; Bessie, born July 6, 1893, who died at the age of eighteen; and Willie H., born December 7, 1898, married Lucile Cline.

LATTA F. HERSHEY, whose people came to Steuben County seventy years ago, has been an active farmer forty years, and was called from the routine duties of his crops and fields to the office and responsibilities of sheriff of Steuben County. He served capably two terms, and has since remained in Angola as deputy sheriff, though still owning and supervising the work of his farm.

Mr. Hershey was born in Fremont Township of Steuben County April 29, 1858, son of George R. and Joanna (Freligh) Hershey, his paternal grandparents being George and Nancy (Holsinger) Hershey and his maternal grandfather John Freligh. George R. Hershey was born in Ontario County, New York, January 25, 1811, and his wife was a native of the same state. He was educated in the public schools, was married in New York State, and in 1849 brought his family to Steuben County, Indiana, establishing his home on a farm in Fremont Township. He was a mason by trade and followed that in connection with farming, and by his industry made ample provision for his family. He lived in Steuben County the rest of his life with the exception of one year. He and his wife had a large family of children, named Mary, Nancy, Susan, Moses B., Martha, George, Joan, Eugene, Marshall and Latta F.

Latta F. Hershey acquired his education in the public schools of Jamestown Township. He was only a young man when he began farming, and in 1879 he established a home of his own by his marriage to Rosetta Richardson. She was born March 17, 1862, a daughter of Lewis and Frances (Hutchens) Richardson. Mr. Hershey took his bride to his farm in Jamestown Township, and then followed an uninterrupted career of diligent work and good

management until January, 1913. At that date he removed to Angola to take up his duties as sheriff, an office to which he was elected in 1912. He was re-elected in 1914, and gave all his time to the management of his office until January, 1917, since which date he has remained as deputy of the office. Mr. Hershey owns a good farm of 320 acres, cleared part of the land and all the substantial buildings represent his personal investment and supervision.

Mr. Hershey lost his wife by death on February 14, 1898. She was the mother of two sons, Ross, born January 17, 1882, and Lewis B., born September 12, 1893. Lewis has made a splendid record as a soldier, going overseas as adjutant with the One Hundred and Thirty-Seventh Field Artillery. He ranks as a captain, and in the spring of 1919 was at Brest, France.

Mr. Hershey is affiliated with the Chapter, Council and Commandery of Masonry and is a member of the lodge and encampment of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias.

IRA FORD, supervising editor for LaGrange County in the compilation of this publication, has been in close touch with people and events in that county for at least half a century and has lived there since he was about eight years old.

Mr. Ford was born in Wayne County, New York, October 13, 1848, and came with his parents from that county to LaGrange County in April, 1856. His father and mother were Jared and Rebecca Ford, and all of their seven children grew to manhood and womanhood, Ira being the youngest, the only one now living.

Mr. Ira Ford was educated at LaGrange, and beginning when he was twenty years of age taught school in that county. His teaching continued from 1868 until 1881. After that he applied his efforts to farming in Clearspring Township, and he made his farming enterprise notable over the county for his breeding of fine sheep and hogs, and later he became a specialist in the breeding of fine poultry.

For four and a half years Mr. Ford was cashier of the Ellison Bank at Topeka, Indiana. He served as trustee of Clearspring Township from 1882 to 1884. He is president of the Old Settlers Association of LaGrange County, is a staunch republican in politics, is affiliated with Haw Patch Lodge No. 760 of Odd Fellows at Topeka and is an elder in the Presbyterian Church at LaGrange.

On February 6, 1873, he married Julia A. Peck, daughter of Hawley and Harriett Peck. Her father came with his family to LaGrange County in 1846 from Wayne County, New York, making the journey by wagons and settling in Clearspring Township. Mrs. Ford was one of twelve children, four of whom are still living.

CHARLES A. YOTTER was born in Iowa and came to Steuben County to attend the Tri-State Normal at Angola. After finishing his education there he studied law in a local office, and during the past quarter of a century has become one of the most prominent members of the bar of Northeast Indiana.

He was born in Lee County, Iowa, January 16, 1864, and lived in that state until after reaching manhood. He is a son of Jacob and Anna Marie (Carstens) Yotter. The father was an architect and practical mason in Southeastern Iowa. He died on the 12th of February, 1911, at Fort Madison, Iowa, and the mother died at the same place in 1901. Charles A. Yotter received his early education in Denmark Academy and the Iowa Wesleyan University at Mount Pleasant. He came to Angola in 1887, graduated from the Tri-State Normal College in 1900, and began the study of law in the







*Alan Goodwin*



office of Best & Bratton. He was with them two years, and in 1893 was made a partner of the firm, and has been steadily engaged in practice ever since. Mr. Yotter is a democrat and a member of the Knights of Pythias, and he and his family are communicants of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In October, 1897, he married Gussie B. Best, a daughter of John G. Best and a niece of Judge D. R. Best. Mrs. Yotter died in 1900, leaving one child, Carolyn, who died December 20, 1909, at the age of ten years. In 1902 Mr. Yotter married Rena Sears, daughter of Charles E. and Maggie (Veasey) Sears, of LaGrange County. They are the parents of four children: Anna Marie, born December 13, 1906; George Albert, born July 13, 1909; Edward Sears, born May 12, 1914; and Ruth, born July 13, 1916.

**HARVEY WILSON.** The increased demand for foodstuffs, with the consequent betterment of marketing facilities and advance in prices, have led a number of essentially representative men to return to the farm and devote themselves to agricultural pursuits. That this move was a patriotic one goes without saying, but the success which is attending these experienced farmers shows that it was one of good judgment as well. One of these men is Harvey Wilson, whose family has been connected with the cultivation of the land of Steuben County for many years. He is now living on the homestead of his father in Otsego Township, where he owns a finely cultivated and well improved farm.

Harvey Wilson was born in Wayne County, Ohio, March 27, 1858, a son of Alexander Griffin and Ann Jane (Maxwell) Wilson, he born in Pennsylvania, October 15, 1829, and she in Ashland County, Ohio, November 10, 1828. They were married in 1850, and in the fall of 1860 they came to Steuben County, Indiana, locating on a farm in Otsego Township entered from the Government by Joshua Hunt. After the death of the mother in 1906 the father retired, but he is still living. They had nine children born to them, namely: Wesley, Olive Curtis, Samuel James, Harvey, Minerva Jane, Marcella, Alexander, Franklin and Leander.

The boyhood and youth of Harvey Wilson were spent on the home farm, and he acquired a knowledge of the fundamentals of education in the district schools. His first business experience was gained in the mercantile field, in which he remained for three years, operating in Troy Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. He then conducted a wagon route from Hamilton to the outlying rural district for three years in the interests of Hagerty and Swaidner. Mr. Wilson then engaged with Byers brothers and Wesley Davis in the poultry, butter and egg business at Angola, but left it in 1914 to buy his present farm, which is a portion of the one his father purchased upon coming to Steuben County. He erected a new barn in 1917, making it conform to sanitary regulations and sufficiently commodious for all purposes for which it is used, and remodeled the house, making it modern and very comfortable. Here he carries on general farming and stock raising, and as he thoroughly understands all the details of his work is making money. Politically, he is a strong republican. He belongs to the Knights of Pythias. The Methodist Episcopal Church holds his membership and benefits by his generous donations.

In 1881 Mr. Wilson was united in marriage with Phebe Elizabeth Baker, who died in November, 1901, leaving two children, Jacob Griffin, who married Eunice Skelton, and they have a son, Rosco, and Jessie, who married Curtis Casebere, of Edgerton, Ohio, and has four children, Earl, Wannita, Aletha

and Ruth. In 1907 Mr. Wilson was married to Mattie Goudy, a daughter of William and Mary E. (Dirrim) Goudy, pioneers of Steuben County. Mr. and Mrs. Goudy lived at Orland, Indiana, but subsequently went to Nebraska. Coming back to Indiana, they lived for a time in DeKalb County, but later bought land in Richland Township, Steuben County, and still later moved to Otsego Township, settling near Cold Lake, where he died in February, 1904, Mrs. Goudy surviving him and is still living on the farm. William Goudy was a son of Samuel Goudy. Mr. and Mrs. Goudy had the following family: William, who died in infancy, Fletcher, Frank, Mattie, Charles, Robert, Fannie, Timothy and Crissie. Mr. and Mrs. Wilson have one son, Raymond, who was born April 28, 1914. The Wilson and Goudy families are among the old established ones in this part of Indiana, and their members stand very well wherever they are found. The majority of them are interested along agricultural lines, are owners of property and in every way substantial and influential citizens, who hold the respect and confidence of their fellow citizens. It is such people as these which make the United States what it is, and enable it in times of stress to measure up to the highest standards of manhood.

**ALVIN A. GOODWIN** has heavy responsibilities in a business way, being manager of the Goodwin Lumber Company, one of the chief firms engaged in hardwood lumber manufacture in Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan. Mr. Goodwin for many years has been engaged in the lumber business either as a retailer or manufacturer, and is a member of one of the old and prominent families of Northeastern Indiana.

He was born at the Town of Waterloo in DeKalb County September 8, 1872, son of Leander S. and Rebecca (Hively) Goodwin. His grandfather, Samuel Goodwin, was born in Pennsylvania in October, 1816, son of David and Catherine (Zimmerman) Goodwin. In 1822 the Goodwin family moved to Wayne County, Ohio, later to Ashland County, where David Goodwin died, and Samuel Goodwin grew up in Ashland County and in 1843 married Elizabeth Good. From that section of Ohio in 1854 they moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, and settled on a farm near Waterloo in Union Township. Samuel Goodwin cleared away the woods and made a choice farm of 115 acres and accumulated a good property which kept his age free from care and labor. His wife died in 1865. Two of his brothers, David and Daniel, also came to DeKalb County, and as they had adjoining land the three families constituted almost a community. By his first marriage Samuel Goodwin had five children: Mary E., who died in 1918; Leander S.; Joseph W., of Fremont, Indiana; Lucy, who married Stephen George; and Alice, who became the wife of William Atwood. Samuel Goodwin married for his second wife Mary Brubaker, a widow, and they had three children, Ina, Frank and William.

Leander S. Goodwin was born in Ashland County, Ohio, August 18, 1846, and was about eight years old when the family moved to DeKalb County. He grew up on a farm there, acquired a public school education, and in addition, to farming he sold agricultural implements and was also a dealer in timber lands. He was a republican, and during the session of 1895 served as postmaster of the House of Representatives in the Indiana Legislature. He died in 1898, and his wife, who was born in Ohio in 1847, died in 1884. Both were active members of the United Brethren Church. Leander Goodwin and his first wife had five children: Etta; Ella, ticket agent

at Waterloo; Alvin A.; Elizabeth, who died in 1876; and Samuel L. Leander Goodwin married for his second wife Jennie Lawhead, and they were the parents of three children, Martha, Jay and William. Both Jay and William have been soldiers in the great war. Jay is now with the army in France. William has been assigned to duty on the military police in New York City.

Alvin A. Goodwin grew up in DeKalb County, attended the public schools, and in 1891, at the age of nineteen, went to Pleasant Lake in Steuben County and entered the service of his uncle, Joseph W. Goodwin, in the saw milling business. In 1900 Mr. Goodwin bought a local lumber and coal yard, and continued that business for twelve years, building it up to large proportions and selling out at a figure which represented a comfortable competency. For many years he had been engaged in the manufacture of lumber, and, as above noted, is manager of the Goodwin Lumber Company, which has a number of mills in Southern Michigan and Northern Indiana. In 1918 this corporation furnished about \$75,000 worth of lumber for government purposes. Mr. Goodwin is also the owner of the Standard Body Company, of White Pigeon, Michigan, which company builds cabs and bodies for automobile trucks, and their product is sold throughout the central states, mostly from their distributing branch in Detroit. Their slogan—"From Tree to Truck" is well known in the motor truck world and the factory is always away behind in filling orders because of its being impossible for the production to keep pace with the increasing business. The product of this factory is seen throughout the country, on the busy streets of all the large cities and on country roads.

While so much of his time has been taken up with practical business affairs Mr. Goodwin is known to a great many people not in a business way but as an author. His poetry has attracted much attention, and has been published in some of the leading magazines, also in the columns of the Fort Wayne daily papers. Some of his selected poems have been published in book form. Mr. Goodwin is affiliated with Pleasant Lake Lodge No. 593, Free and Accepted Masons, with the Order of Gleaners, and with the United Commercial Travelers of Fort Wayne. He and his family are members of the United Brethren Church.

In 1895 Mr. Goodwin married Miss Lena Bigler of Pleasant Lake. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin have two children: Van, whose individual sketch follows; and Verne, born June 29, 1902, still in high school.

Politically Mr. Goodwin is a republican, but has been too busy to concern himself with the responsibilities of public office, though he is an active worker for his party and served on the Credentials Committee at the State Convention in 1916.

**VAN BIGLER GOODWIN.** In vegetation the flower is often esteemed more than the fruit. Childhood and youth are the flower of human growth, and their perfect symmetry and beauty, when their time of fruitage in experience and achievement is denied, frequently represent the greatest ultimate good within the compass of mortal vision.

It was the brevity of his years, and not any imperfection involved in youth itself, that lent a tragic aspect to the death of Van Bigler Goodwin, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alvin A. Goodwin of Pleasant Lake, which occurred on October 12, 1918, as a result of influenza in the terrible epidemic which swept the country.

Although but twenty years of age—he was born September 6, 1898—he was one of the most widely known men of Northeastern Indiana and a promis-

ing young life went out because of the ravages of the disease.

He first became widely known as one of the best basket ball players in the country, his skillful and at the same time clean playing winning him friends by the thousands, and this, added to a remarkable irresistible personality, made him one of the best liked young men of the several counties of Northeastern Indiana.

At the conclusion of both the 1917 and 1918 basket ball tournaments at Kendallville, at which place some eighty players had been in action, he was selected as one of the two "forwards" on an "All-Star" team, the selection being made by the referees who knew none of the players of the tournament.

Many fans mourn his death, for he made hundreds of friends in surrounding towns who never failed to get an inspiration from his smile which he always carried even in the heat of the game, and it is conceded by all who knew him that he was one of the factors in making basket ball a popular game in this part of the state.

A remarkable circumstance is, that his friends were not confined to those of his own age, but business and professional men of all ages, and those much younger than he, were among his best friends and he will always live in the hearts of those who were fortunate enough to meet him.

"Van, you're gone but not forgotten,  
By the world you left behind;  
From old age back to the cradle,  
By every class of human kind."

**LEDGER D. MCKIBBEN.** It is a fortunate and truly American community that reflects the progressive spirit of such citizens as Ledger D. McKibben. Mr. McKibben is a member of an old family of LaGrange County and is living on the farm near Valentine, where he was born February 18, 1881.

His parents were James S. and Lissa A. (Vankirk) McKibben, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Bloomfield Township, LaGrange County. They were married in this county and lived on the farm until the spring of 1905, at which time they moved to the City of LaGrange and are now living retired. Both were charter members of the Methodist Church at Valentine, and the father served it many years as a trustee. Formerly a republican, he is now an equally ardent prohibitionist. James S. McKibben and wife had two sons: Orley R., a farmer in Bloomfield Township; and Ledger D.

Ledger D. McKibben grew up on the home farm and is a graduate of the LaGrange High School with the class of 1900. Before getting married and settling down to the serious occupation of farming he taught district schools for three years. June 15, 1904, he married Alice E. Scott. She was born at Ontario, Indiana, and her father, J. G. Scott, is prominently known as a former county treasurer of LaGrange County. Mrs. McKibben is a graduate of the Howe High School with the class of 1899. To their marriage were born four children: J. Scott, a graduate of the common schools in 1919; Lucile Iona, Francis E. and Carol E. The family are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Valentine. Mr. McKibben teaches a class of boys and young men in the Sunday school and Mrs. McKibben is a teacher of the young ladies' class. Out of his Sunday school class there were eleven young men who went into the service in the World's war, five going overseas to France, and two wounded in action. Politically Mr. McKibben is a prohibitionist. His farming activities are conducted on a model place of ninety-seven acres, and besides looking after his farm he handles the local agency for the Overland automobile.



SAMUEL E. WEAVER, who is one of the leading farmers and is secretary of the Shipshewana Shippers' Association, has proved the truth of the contention that whoever is willing has a place of usefulness and honor in his community.

He was born at Nappanee, Indiana, February 26, 1880. His father, Emanuel Weaver, was born in Holmes County, Ohio, in 1849, grew to manhood in Elkhart County, Indiana, and moved his family to LaGrange County in 1890. In 1876 he married Magdalena Yoder, who was born in LaGrange County in 1854. They are now retired and have a home with their son Samuel. Of their seven children whom they reared five have college degrees.

Samuel E. Weaver attended primary school in Elkhart and LaGrange counties, graduated from the common schools in 1894, from the Newbury Township High School in 1899, being a member of the first class of the commissioned school, and after finishing high school did teaching, being connected with the schools of Newbury Township from 1899 until 1908. In 1911 he graduated from Goshen College, and from 1912 to 1917 was superintendent of the Newbury Township High School. He was only thirteen years of age when he took his place as a farm hand during the summer months at wages insignificant compared with modern salaries even on a farm. He never missed a summer of work on the farm until 1909 when he was in college. It is within the strict limits of truth to say that Mr. Weaver began his career absolutely without capital. By a singular compensation of energies, thrift and good business ability he is now proprietor of an eighty-acre farm nearly paid for, keeps pure bred stock, and for a number of years has been one of the successful exponents of alfalfa growing in his locality.

During the war Mr. Weaver was a solicitor for the Red Cross and Y. M. C. A. funds, and as a notary public he worked almost night and day filling out the boys' questionnaires. He has held a commission as notary public since January 22, 1918. He also gives much of his time to his duties as an official of the Shippers' Association at Shipshewana. Mr. Weaver has been an active member of the Mennonite Church since 1899 and in 1904 was ordained to the ministry and was a preacher in his home locality until 1916, when he resigned on account of ill health and lack of support.

In 1902 he married Miss Fanny Stahly, who died a year later after giving birth to son, Stahly Weaver. In 1904 he married Laura Johns, a daughter of Jacob Johns and member of the Johns family after whom Johnstown, Pennsylvania, was named. They have two children: Rachel Weaver and Eunice Weaver.

LAFAYETTE BURKETT has deserved well of his fellow men by reason of the four years he spent in the Union army during the Civil war, by over fifty years of residence accompanied by hard work and productive effort in Steuben County, and through all the responsibilities and duties of life he has proved faithful.

Mr. Burkett, who lives in Angola, retired, was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, December 25, 1841, son of Peter and Sarah (Burkett) Burkett. His father was born in Pennsylvania and his mother in Sandusky County, Ohio. The great-grandfather, John Burkett, was a native of Switzerland and came to the American colonies in time to serve in the war of independence as a member of Washington's army. He afterward removed to Ohio, and died in Sandusky County at the advanced age of ninety-nine years, eleven months and twelve

days. His son William Burkett was a soldier in the War of 1812. Thus the record of the Burkett family is almost unsurpassed for American patriotism and military service. Peter Burkett, father of Lafayette, spent his life in Sandusky County, Ohio, where he died when his son Lafayette was a small child. The latter's mother married again and had nine children. Lafayette Burkett at the age of fifteen came to Steuben County, Indiana. He was then dependent upon his own resources and worked by the month or by the day. In August, 1861, he enlisted in Company B of McClellan's Dragoons, and served eighteen and a half months with that organization. At Harrison Landing he was taken ill with typhus fever, and received an honorable discharge. He soon re-enlisted this time in Company K of the Seventh Indiana Cavalry, and was with that command two and a half years. His total service in the Union army was four years lacking six days. While in a campaign in Mississippi between Okalona and Pontotoc he was wounded and received a furlough.

After the war Mr. Burkett returned to Steuben County and resumed work by the day. Finally he invested his modest capital in twenty acres of land, and sold that and acquired sixty-three acres in Scott Township. He lived on that farm for thirty-three years, and laid the bulk of his prosperity while there. On November 12, 1917, he came to Angola, and has since sold his farm and owns a good home on Broad Street.

Mr. Burkett has always been a steadfast republican in politics, is a member of the Grand Army of the Republic, and he and his wife are affiliated with the Christian Church.

On June 7, 1863, while he was a soldier, he married Sarah Zimmerman. She was born in Pennsylvania September 30, 1841, a daughter of Godfrey and Sarah (Cramer) Zimmerman. In 1852 they identified themselves with the community of Steuben County, Indiana, settling in Scott Township. They were farmers there and Mrs. Burkett's mother died August 6, 1871, at the age of sixty-three and her father in 1881, at the age of seventy. There were seven children in the Zimmerman family, the three now living being Mrs. Burkett, Jane and Mary. Mr. and Mrs. Burkett have had the satisfaction of seeing children grow up around them, and they also have a number of grandchildren. Their oldest child, Ada, is the wife of Clark Ellis and has two children, Ford and Welma. Welma is the wife of Earl Berry and has a daughter, Martha, and they live in Philadelphia, where Earl Berry is an engineer. William Lafayette Burkett lives in Angola and is married. Ethel first married William Zimmer and for her second husband Samuel Ramsey, and her only child, Sarah Elizabeth Ramsey, was two and a half years old when Ethel died, the daughter being now tenderly cared for in the home of her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. Burkett. Maud Bell is the wife of J. C. Gilbert. Daisy, who died at the age of twenty-five, was a very talented young woman, a proficient musician, a great worker in the Christian Church and a teacher in the high school at Angola. Her sisters Maud and Ella also taught school.

BOYD M. DAVIS is owner of a drug business at Ashley which his father conducted for a number of years, and is a graduate pharmacist from the Northwestern University of Chicago.

He was born at Ossian in Wells County, Indiana, March 22, 1885, a son of Andrew B. and Bertha A. (Hayward) Davis. His father was born on a farm near Ossian in 1855 and for about thirty-six years was engaged in the drug business. The mother is still living at Ashley. Both were members of the

Methodist Church, and the father was a Knight of Pythias and Mason and was the first chancellor of the Knights of Pythias at Ossian.

Politically he was a republican and held the office of postmaster eight years. There are five living children: Dessie, a graduate of the Ossian High School, wife of Thomas Sharp, of Flint, Michigan; Boyd M.; Hope, a graduate of the Ashley High School; Orville, who graduated from the Hudson High School; and Everett, attending high school at Ashley.

Boyd M. Davis received his education in the grammar and high schools at Ossian and later entered the pharmacy department of Northwestern University. He had eight years of practical experience with the H. B. McCord drug store at Auburn, Indiana. He bought his father's business at Ashley in 1915, and he also owns the business block and a home in Ashley and is an active member of the Cooperative Association.

He married Elta R. Ritter, of Hudson, Indiana, a graduate of the high school of that town. They have two children, Winford and Marjorie. Mr. Davis is affiliated with Ashley Lodge No. 394, Knights of Pythias, and is the present keeper of records and seals of the lodge. He is also a member of Lodge No. 614, Free and Accepted Masters, and Hudson Chapter No. 152, Royal Arch Masons.

**WILLIAM MARCUS GALLUTIA.** One of the men who is successfully engaged in farming in Steuben County is William Marcus Gallutia, a son of David and Mary (Fox) Gallutia and grandson of Joseph and Lucy Gallutia and George and Emeline (Gordon) Fox. Joseph Gallutia was a farmer of Ohio, where he and his wife both died. They had the following children: David, who was the father of William Marcus, and Milo, who died at the age of thirty-three years in Steuben County, was living with his brother David. George Fox was born in June, 1816 and his wife was born in April, 1815. They came to Steuben County many years ago, buying 120 acres of land which they cleared, and on which he died in 1902, his wife passing away in November, 1886. Their children were as follows: Mary; Malissa, who is the wife of Joseph Hathaway; and Amy, who is the wife of Christopher Baker.

David Gallutia was born in Morrow County, Ohio, in 1840, and his wife was born in 1843. They were married in Ohio in 1860, and came to Steuben County, Indiana, in the fall of 1865, buying forty acres of woodland in York Township. For a time they lived in a log cabin, but later replaced it with a frame house. After ten years on this farm they sold and bought eighty acres, also in York Township, where he died in 1890, his widow surviving him until May 13, 1916, when she too passed away. He was a democrat, and prominent in local matters. Both he and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, but she later joined the Christian Church. They had the following children: William Marcus, who was the eldest; Emma, who is deceased; Charles; George; and Elnora, who lives with her eldest brother and keeps house for him.

William Marcus Gallutia was reared and educated in York Township, and has always been a farmer. In 1900 he bought eighty acres of land in Richland Township, and has operated it ever since, being a general farmer and stockraiser. He has always voted the republican ticket and takes an intelligent interest in the affairs of his community, but has not sought political honors. For many years he has been a member of the Christian Church. Mr. Gal-

lutia has never married. As he has devoted all of his attention to farming, he understands it thoroughly and has been very successful with his work and is accounted one of the most representative agriculturalists of his township.

**JAMES NORTH.** Among the substantial agricultural element of LaGrange County perhaps none of those now enjoy so much prosperity or had more interesting variety of experience and early struggles than James North, who is still occupying his farm at Woodruff.

He was born in Lincolnshire, England, February 28, 1851, a son of Richard and Sarah (Baker) North. His parents were reared and married and spent their lives in Lincolnshire. His father was a musician and shoemaker, and it is said that he made some of Queen Victoria's shoes. James North was only eighteen months old when his mother died, and six years later his father died. Opportunities to get an education by formal schooling were denied him, and as an office boy he had to work his own way and make a living as best he could. Frequently he was paid only 3 cents a day for what his strength permitted him to do. He managed to get some education in the meantime, and in 1875 he left England and came to the United States, landing in New York City. Later he came to Indiana, to the farm of William Baker, a relative, and in the spring of 1876 was employed by Weible Foster, working for him until he was able to buy a tract of land and clear it up and make a farm.

In 1878 Mr. North married Naomi Baker. She was born and reared in LaGrange County. They then settled on their farm and for many years Mr. North kept his affairs growing and prospering until he had sufficient for his own needs. He still owns 160 acres, and has had other land which he has sold to his sons. He and his wife have seven children: Sarah, a graduate of the common schools, wife of Charles Seigler; Blanche, wife of Ernest Sperron; Nellie, unmarried; William, a farmer in LaGrange County; George, a farmer in Johnson Township; Lizzie, wife of John Milbon; and Russell, unmarried. The family are members of the Lutheran Church and Mr. North is a republican. At one time he was rather extensively engaged in breeding registered sheep.

**HENRY E. KRATZ.** For a period of nearly thirty-five years Henry E. Kratz has been the old and reliable druggist of Angola, and during that time has not only kept his business growing but progressively adapted to the needs and conveniences of the community. His record is a most successful one and is the more conspicuous because of the fact that he started life with no capital beyond his own experience, energy and determination.

Mr. Kratz was born in Lorain County, Ohio, October 20, 1857, son of Henry and Barbara (Deichle) Kratz. His parents were both natives of Germany. His father, who was born in 1824, came when a young man to America and settled in Lorain County, Ohio. He married there. His wife's father, John Deichle, settled in Lorain County, Ohio, in 1854, his wife having died near Stuttgart, Germany. Barbara Deichle was born in Germany in 1831. After about six years in Lorain County Henry Kratz moved his home to Henry County, Ohio, and was one of the leading farmers in that rich district until his death in August, 1908. His wife died May 15, 1896. Henry Kratz was one of the very first men in his section of Ohio to become affiliated with the republican party, and remained a staunch adherent the rest of his life. He and his family were members of the Evangelical Church. There were eight children:



Mary, deceased; Henry; Margaret, deceased; William; Katie; John, of Angola; Sarah Jane, deceased; and Barbara, who died in February, 1917.

Henry E. Kratz spent his early life on the home farm in Henry County, Ohio, attended the public schools there, and in 1878 went to work at Napoleon, the county seat, to learn the drug business. The first year he worked for experience only, receiving no salary. The second year he was paid \$50.00 and the third year \$100.00. He remained at Napoleon seven years, and on October 5, 1885, opened his business career at Angola as a druggist. He has been in that business longer than any other man and has developed the largest and finest store of its kind in Steuben County. He also owns a half interest in the building occupied by the store and owns the old Dr. Morris farm of 120 acres near Angola.

Mr. Kratz is a republican, has served as a member of the Angola School Board, and is a member of the Methodist Church. He married in Henry County, Ohio, Miss Catherine Wise. They have two sons, one of whom is a successful druggist and the other a practical farmer. The older, Melvin, graduated from the Angola High School, attended the Tri-State College and later graduated from the Pharmacy School of the University of Michigan. He is now the competent manager of his father's business. He married Elsie Zabst and has one child, Catherine Laura. The second, Harold Franklin, is also a graduate of high school and is now a farmer in Scott Township. He married Vangia Pillrod, daughter of Charles Pillrod, now a resident of Toledo, Ohio. Harold F. Kratz and wife have three children, Louise, Virginia and Henry Franklin, the latter born January 28, 1919.

GEORGE W. MILLER is easily identified among the popular citizens of Stafford Township, not only by reason of his official prominence as township assessor but as proprietor of the Pine Hill Farm, a farm with a character of its own both in the matter of improvements and productiveness. This farm contains a hundred forty-four acres and has been the home of Mr. Miller for over twenty years. All his farming methods are progressive and up to date, and the Pine Hill Farm is widely known as the home of some fine registered Shropshire sheep.

Mr. Miller was born in Defiance County, Ohio, December 19, 1871, a son of Henry and Mary (Prettiger) Miller, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Defiance County, Ohio. After his marriage his father settled on a farm in Defiance County and spent the rest of his life there. The mother is still living and an active member of the Christian Church. The father was a democrat and served about six years as trustee of Milford Township in Defiance County. Beginning life comparatively poor, he at one time owned four hundred acres of good land. Of seven children six are still living: Carrie, wife of Frank M. Light; Flora, wife of J. W. Suffel; Frank H. of Defiance County; George W.; Mary C., wife of Paul B. Hootman; and Lewis, of Defiance County.

George W. Miller grew up on the home farm in Milford Township of Defiance County and acquired his education in the public schools. January 22, 1896, at the age of twenty-four he married Minda P. Hootman. She was born in Defiance County April 9, 1877, and had a common school education.

Soon after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Miller moved to their present farm in the eastern part of DeKalb County. They have one son, Donald E., who was born July 22, 1898. He is a graduate of the Butler High School, attended the Tri-State College at Angola and was a teacher for one year.

Mr. Miller and family are members of the Christian Church at West Milford, Ohio, and he is affiliated with the Ancient Order of Gleaners and is a democrat in politics. As a democrat he was elected township assessor of Stafford November 5, 1918. He is also a stockholder in the Hicksville Grain Company at Hicksville, Ohio.

JOHN CRAIG. This is the name of one of the earliest settlers of LaGrange County in the country around Howe. He came here more than eighty years ago and was then a man in middle age. He passed away long since, and of his family of children, many of whom were identified with the farming community around Howe, only one is now surviving, his daughter Mary, Mrs. Fleming, who is living in Howe.

John Craig was born in Pennsylvania December 23, 1784, was educated there, and on April 29, 1819, married Jane Derr. She was also a native of Pennsylvania. They lived on a Pennsylvania farm until they came West. In the fall of 1835, with their children, they started for the West, their goods being packed in two covered wagons, while a covered buggy was the comfortable vehicle in which Mrs. Craig and some of her smaller children rode. The children consisted of four sons and three daughters, James, Esther, Joseph, and the next younger William had died in infancy, Serena, Frederick, Robert and Mary.

When the family got to the "Black Marsh" in Northwestern Ohio they found the roads impassable, stayed there through the winter and the following spring put in a crop. The next fall they resumed their journey in the same wagon, and after some days of slow travel reached the Lima community now called Howe. John Craig soon bought forty acres of timber land near LaGrange, but never settled on it because it was inconvenient to schools. He rented farms in Lima Township for several years and then bought a place three miles northwest of Howe containing eighty acres. Out of the products of his labor he increased his farm to several hundred acres in extent, and improved it with a fine house, which is still standing there. He and his wife lived out their lives in that home. They were active in the Presbyterian Church, and John Craig was a noted Bible student and reared his family in strict obedience to the tenets of his faith.

Of his children James never married and spent all his life on the old farm. Joseph had a good farm near Howe. Frederick was likewise identified with that agricultural community. Robert lived out his life as a farmer in Lima Township. Esther became the wife of William Smith, a pioneer citizen of Howe. Serena was the wife of John Smith, one of the best known citizens of Lima Township and an associate editor of this publication.

Mary Craig, the only one of the children now living, was born November 9, 1834, and was carried in her mother's arms during the long journey from Pennsylvania west. On November 9, 1871, she became the wife of William Fleming, now deceased. Mr. Fleming had a son by a former marriage, Oran A., now superintendent of the LaGrange city schools. Mrs. Fleming before her marriage adopted Lucinda Switzer at the age of ten years, reared her, and this foster daughter is now Mrs. Frank Cook, of Lima Township. After the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Fleming they lived on his farm a mile away from her home, and later retired to Howe. Mr. and Mrs. Fleming were active members of the Baptist Church at Howe. Mr. Fleming was a son of Abbott and Margaret Fleming, the former a

pioneer Baptist minister of LaGrange County. William Fleming was born on the farm where he spent most of his life.

Though Mrs. Fleming is eighty-five years of age, she does all her own housework, from choice, not from necessity, and the neatness and system with which she keeps her home might well be a model for emulation for younger housekeepers. She is also well known in her community for her kindness and cheerfulness, and she has many interesting reminiscences drawn from her memory of events in the Howe community for fourscore years.

**WILLIAM MCKINLEY.** In the years to come historians in writing of the period of the great war will not confine all their attention to military tactics, but will give due credit to the important part played by those who through their industry and experience made possible the control of the warring nations by furnishing a sufficient amount of food. It is now generally recognized that hunger fomented more discontent and consequent uprising than any other cause, and if a people are well fed they are generally found to be contented and willing to let existing conditions continue. The farmers of the United States have nobly risen to meet the demand of the world for foodstuffs, and Indiana occupies a foremost place among the states in agricultural supremacy. This enviable place has been gained entirely through the efforts of its farmers, and of them Steuben County has furnished its full quota, one of them being William McKinley, of Scott Township.

William McKinley was born in Ashland County, Ohio, October 10, 1856, a son of William McKinley, and grandson of Samuel McKinley, the latter being a native of Ireland. The elder William McKinley was born in Juniata County, Pennsylvania, and he was a second cousin of President William McKinley. When he was still a boy his parents moved to Ohio, and there he was reared. In the fall of 1862 he moved to Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, and remained there until 1887, when he became a resident of Butler Township, DeKalb County, and there he died in 1896. He was first married to Mary Shinniman, and they had three children, Bell, Benjamin and Adam. After the death of his first wife he was married to Sarah Romine, born in Johnson Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, and they became the parents of the following children: Ross, James, Samuel (who was drowned at the age of twelve years), Frank, William, Steve, Almindo and Almeda, twins, Jane, Louise and Alexander.

William McKinley, whose name heads this review, was reared in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, where he attended the public schools, and having learned the principles of farming from his father he started in that line of endeavor after attaining his majority, first in Jackson Township, but in 1881, moving to Butler Township in the same county, he remained there until 1889, at which time he went to Union Township, DeKalb County. After eight years in the latter township he moved to his father's old farm, and took care of his mother until her death two years later. He then bought a farm in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, on which he lived for seventeen years, leaving it in 1917 and selling the farm to buy one in Pleasant Township, Steuben County. In February, 1919, he sold at a profit his property in Pleasant Township, and bought his present farm of eighty-one acres in section 18, Scott Township, where he is now doing general farming and stock raising.

In 1888 Mr. McKinley was united in marriage with Miss Etta Swank, a daughter of George and

Minerva (Woodring) Swank, farming people of Jackson Township, DeKalb County, Indiana. Mrs. McKinley was one in a family as follows: Anna, Etta, William, Ella, Myrtle, John and Maude. Mr. and Mrs. McKinley became the parents of children as follows: Thomas Franklin, who is deceased; and Milo, who married Clara Beebe, and has one son, Robert J. Mr. and Mrs. McKinley are very well and favorably known in the several communities in which they have lived, and although newly come to Scott Township, they have already established themselves in the confidence of their neighbors. The success which has accompanied Mr. McKinley in his former efforts promises equal prosperity in his new locality, and he is planning some very desirable improvements on his property, which will add to its value and perhaps furnish new ideas to his associates in the agricultural line. While his private affairs have hitherto absorbed all his time so that he has had no opportunity to enter public life, Mr. McKinley is to good a citizen not to be interested in local matters and to give the best element his hearty support in every particular.

**JAMES F. ATWOOD.** The career of James F. Atwood reflects practical and useful ideals, and its range of activities has included the promotion of agriculture and the best interests of the community in politics and education. Mr. Atwood belongs to a prominent old family of LaGrange County, and has spent the greater part of his life in Johnson Township.

He was born in New York State December 17, 1846, a son of Andrew J. and Sarah J. (Kapte) Atwood. His father was born in Vermont in 1815 and his mother in Massachusetts in 1813. They were married in New York State, and in 1853 came to Indiana and settled on the shore of a little lake which for many years has been known as Atwood Lake. Andrew Atwood spent the rest of his life there. He was one of the prominent members of the Wesleyan Methodist Church. He was also a republican, and a man of substantial influence in public affairs as well as prosperous in business. He served nine years as county commissioner of LaGrange County. Four years of this time was during the Civil war, when the county commissioners had many unusual responsibilities. Andrew Atwood and wife had five children: Isabel, who never married; Harriett, who died at the age of seventy; Bernard, who died when eighteen months old; James F.; and Jennie, widow of John Schermerhorn.

James F. Atwood attended district school of a primitive kind, and from early manhood to the present has been a farmer. He married for his first wife Clarissa Dallas. They had two children, Clarence F. and Grace L. The latter was well educated in the public schools and by private tutors and is the wife of William Bower. After the death of his first wife Mr. Atwood married Ida Dallas. She is a member of the Baptist Church. In politics Mr. Atwood is a democrat. He owns 325 acres of land and has earned an enviable prosperity sufficient for all his future needs.

His son, Clarence Atwood, who lives on the old farm on the bank of Atwood Lake, was born there and was well educated, graduating from the Wolcottville High School in 1905. Since then he has been busily engaged in farming. February 14, 1914, he married Louise Kitchen, daughter of S. M. and Anna (Rowe) Kitchen. Her father was born in Clear Spring Township and her mother in the same locality. S. M. Kitchen was a son of John and Mary (Butler) Kitchen, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Ohio. They were pioneers of LaGrange County. S. M. Kitchen and wife were



married in August, 1890, and are the parents of eleven children.

Mrs. Louise Atwood was educated at Topeka, Indiana, graduated from the high school at Goshen, and was a successful teacher for four years. Clarence Atwood is affiliated with Ionic Lodge No. 380, Free and Accepted Masons, and he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star. Politically he is a republican. Clarence Atwood handles a large farm of 297 acres, and in live stock gives special attention to Duroc hogs. He and his wife are both stockholders in the Wildman State Bank at Wolcottville.

CLYDE C. CARLIN. Through a period of three-quarters of a century Steuben County has been able to appreciate the services of the Carlin family, at first as pioneer farmers and homemakers, later as influential figures in educational and other phases of professional and public affairs. Of those still living in the county there are Robert V. Carlin, who for many years was superintendent of education in the county, and his son Clyde C., long one of the prominent members of the bar in Angola.

The family was founded here by Robert Carlin, who was born in one of the eastern states in 1806. He married Sarah Perkey, whose birth occurred in 1811. They were early settlers in Wayne County, Ohio, and from there came to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1840 and located in the woods of Richland Township. They made a home there and Sarah Carlin died in 1865 and her husband in 1868. Of a family of thirteen children twelve reached mature years.

Robert V. Carlin was born in Wayne County, Ohio, February 26, 1834, and was six years old when brought to Steuben County, where he was reared and educated. After the limited advantages accorded by the district schools of Richland Township he entered at the age of eighteen Mount Union College at Alliance, Ohio, where he came under the instruction of the noted Professor Holbrook, afterward founder of the National Normal University at Lebanon, Ohio. Robert V. Carlin graduated from Hillsdale College in Michigan in 1866, and during the next four years was principal of the Angola High School. In 1870 he was elected county recorder, and filled that office with characteristic efficiency for eight years. He then resumed teaching, and in 1883 was elected county superintendent of schools and filled that office continuously for fourteen years. His is one of the longest records in the educational annals of Steuben County. For the past twenty years he has lived retired. He is a republican, is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his wife both active members of the Christian Church.

March 31, 1868, Robert V. Carlin married Miss Maria Kinney. She was born November 18, 1831, daughter of Joseph J. and Emily (Hitchcock) Kinney, natives of Vermont, who moved to Ohio in 1830 and to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1851. Joseph Kinney died in 1853 and his wife in 1879. Robert V. Carlin and wife had two children, Emily dying in infancy and Mrs. Carlin died April 8, 1916.

Clyde C. Carlin was born at Angola, July 28, 1870, and had a liberal education as the foundation for his professional career. He attended the Angola High School, graduated in 1888 from the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, and in 1892 received his diploma from his father's alma mater, Hillsdale College. He was associated with E. O. Rose in founding the Angola Magnet in 1893, and was connected with that paper about a year. He then diligently pursued the study of law with William M.

Brown, and in 1898 formed a partnership with his preceptor, and for twenty years has been one of the busy lawyers of Steuben County. Mr. Carlin is a republican, is a member of the Masonic Order and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and has been one of the influential men in his community. October 1, 1911, he married Gertrude Hauver, of Angola, daughter of Henry Hauver, a former county sheriff.

CHARLES W. BROWN. A lawyer by training but a farmer by inheritance and choice, Charles W. Brown has made for himself a distinctive place in the community of Springfield Township, LaGrange County. He has prospered in his business affairs and has so arranged his private matters as to have time not only for civic duties but the pleasures and pursuits of literature.

He was born in Springfield Township April 19, 1868, oldest child of Warren and Falona (Baxter) Brown, both of whom are living. He attended country district school at intervals from the age of four until sixteen. At the age of twenty-one he took a business course at Angola in the Tri-State College, and subsequently pursued the study of law in Huntingdon, Tennessee, under the direction of James H. Land. He was admitted to the Carroll County bar May 6, 1899. Still later he studied the Indiana statutes and reports for several months at Marion under the supervision of G. A. Henry. Convinced that he had more ingenuity in other directions than in the field of law, he never engaged in it as a profession, although he served as justice of the peace in Springfield Township for ten years, from 1905 until 1915, and since 1915 has held a commission as notary public.

He grew to manhood in the vicinity of his birthplace and has lived in that community the greater part of his life. He became acquainted with the duties of his father's farm, and though he appreciated the never ending drudgery he was also attracted by the other advantages of the country, especially the free open air and the wide out of doors, the wholesome exercise and the abundant opportunity for a well balanced and useful existence. In 1905 he took up his residence on the place of ninety acres known as the "Valley Farm," and that has since been his home. For five years he farmed this place and since then has rented the land for the most part and has occupied his time in the broader problems of farm management and in literary pursuits. During his mature years he has been a diligent student, and takes delight in his library of six hundred volumes on a variety of subjects.

Mr. Brown has never joined any church organization. His religious views are between those of the Unitarian faith and the Freethinker. Politically he is inclined to acceptance of the socialist doctrines. In 1901 he joined the association known as the Improved Order of Red Men, Suwanee Tribe No. 311 of Stroh, and continued his membership until the Tribe disbanded in 1917. In 1918 he connected with the Masonic fraternity, Philo Lodge No. 672, at Stroh. He has also been a member since 1912 of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, the Indiana Historical Society, and since 1913 of the Michigan Pioneer and Historical Society.

As to his ancestral record and immediate family Mr. Brown furnishes an account which is a matter of interesting record to the people of LaGrange County and can best be told in his own words:

My most remote ancestor of whom there is record was one John Brown who came to America from England in 1624 with the John Robinson Company,

landing in Massachusetts Bay or Plymouth Harbor. He was one of three brothers who early came to America, one of them crossing on the Mayflower and being one of the original band of Pilgrims. My Brown ancestors for several generations dwelt in Killingly, Windham County, Connecticut. In the meantime they married into Irish families and subsequently emigrated to more western states.

Another branch, the Olneys, were early members of the Roger Williams Colony in Rhode Island, in which state many of their descendants still live.

Of my maternal ancestors, the Smith family came from England to America in 1638 and settled in New London County, Connecticut, which county is the home of many of their descendants to this time. The Caulkins family somewhat later settled in Connecticut in New London County. Of the Baxter family three brothers came from Scotland to America some two hundred years ago, my direct ancestor by that name living for a considerable time at Long Meadow, Connecticut, from which place they eventually drifted westward.

Not less than five of my forefathers were soldiers in the war of the Revolution. One grandfather, Hosea H. Baxter, was a volunteer soldier in the Civil war. His father, Benjamin F., was a graduate of Harvard University and served in the War of 1812.

My grandfather, Russell Brown, in company with his brother-in-law, Orsemus Jakeway, and their families migrated from Cayuga County, New York, to LaGrange County, Indiana, settling in Springfield Township in June, 1836. They went by way of the Erie Canal to Buffalo, thence across Lake Erie to Toledo. They were ten days making the trip from Toledo to LaGrange County owing to difficult traveling through the far famed Black Swamp. He invested in considerable land, which cost him for the most part only one dollar and a quarter per acre. Here in Springfield Township three of his sons grew to manhood, and aside from his farm labors he taught school several winters and served as township trustee. He was unusually proficient in mathematics and assisted in surveying lines for numerous highways in LaGrange and Steuben counties during the early years. He moved to Orland in 1855, where he lived until his death in September, 1888.

My father, Warren Brown, is a native of Cayuga County, New York, where he was born February 6, 1833. He came with his parents to Springfield Township when little more than three years old, and here he has resided continuously except three years in the Village of Orland during the late '50s. He and his three brothers were among the pioneer boys of Northeast Indiana—a generation now few and scattered. Although suffering frequent attacks of illness in his earlier years he has been noted through life for his untiring industry. His occupation through life has been general farming. Of his brothers only one, Hon. William M. Brown, of Angola, survives.

On Thanksgiving day, December 7, 1865, he was united in marriage to Miss Falona S. Baxter, of Norwalk, Ohio. They are the parents of two sons and a daughter, Charles W., Homer H. and Mrs. Laura E. Talmage.

In December, 1916, Warren Brown suffered an injury by a horse, resulting in a broken hip, thus making him a confirmed cripple, his only means of getting around being a wheel-chair. Otherwise his health is fair for a man in his eighty-seventh year.

My mother, Falona S. Brown, was the sixth in her father's family of thirteen children, and the youngest of three born to Hosea H. and Frances

(Caulkins) Baxter. She was born at Vermilion, Erie County, Ohio, June 18, 1841. When scarcely past her infancy her parents moved to South Milford, Indiana, at which place she was left motherless when two and a half years old. She lived in her father's family to the age of ten, when she went to live with an aunt in Norwalk, Ohio. She lived in Norwalk until the age of twenty-three, when, in December, 1863, she came to Orland to visit some uncles and cousins and in the month following, while staying with a sister in LaGrange County, she became acquainted with Warren Brown, to whom she was afterwards married. She was by trade a dressmaker, but worked as a domestic in the family of Russell Brown during the years 1864-65. Since 1866 her home has been in LaGrange County.

Her father, Hosea H. Baxter, was one of the LaGrange County pioneers. He ran several threshing crews or outfits in LaGrange and Noble counties during the season of 1837. Some time during 1841 he moved from Erie County, Ohio, to South Milford, Indiana, and engaged in the mercantile business, conducting a general store. Some time later he went in partnership with Ed Wright, a glove maker, and they carried on the manufacture of potash in connection with the mercantile business both at South Milford and Mt. Pisgah, Mr. Wright having charge of the Mt. Pisgah branch. Mr. Baxter left South Milford for Michigan early in 1849, while Wright removed to DeKalb County and established a third store at what is now Woodruff, at that time Wright's Corners.

HOMER H. BROWN has been a factor in several farming communities in Northeast Indiana for over a quarter of a century and now occupies the old Brown homestead in Springfield Township. He was born in that township March 29, 1871, and is a son of Warren Brown. In the Brown family line he, his father, grandfather and great-grandfather were all second sons. The interesting story of his ancestry and family connections in Northeast Indiana and elsewhere is told on other pages.

He was educated in the country schools, and lived at home until his marriage to Nancy Louvina Parker August 9, 1898. He then moved to a piece of land he had previously purchased, known as the Prentiss Mill property, and not long afterward moved on the farm now occupied by his brother Charles. In 1903, having sold the Prentiss property, he moved to his father's homestead and remained there three years. He next went to what is known as the old Hamilton farm in Steuben County, owning that place four years. He sold the property in 1908, and since then for eleven years has made his home on the Brown homestead.

Mr. Brown is the father of three children. Philena M. and Dorothy C., are the daughters. The only son, Warren D., died March 1, 1916. He was a young man of unusual promise and his death was an overwhelming blow to his father, whose interest and affections centered in the youth. Politically Mr. Brown is a republican, having cast his first presidential vote for Benjamin Harrison in 1892.

JOSEPH L. SWIHART came to LaGrange County when a boy of eleven years, and since early manhood has been identified with the agricultural activities of the county. For over forty years he has lived in the Brighton community of Greenfield Township, and in that time a large acreage has come under his ownership and has been developed as one of the most productive farms in that locality.

He was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, March







LEANDER T. CRAIN FAMILY  
Three Generations Represented



7, 1849. The record of his grandfather, father and other members of the Swihart family is given more in detail on other pages of this publication. Joseph L. Swihart was eighteen months old when his parents settled in Allen County, Indiana, and ten years later they moved to LaPorte County, thence to St. Joseph County, Michigan, and in 1860 came to LaGrange County. Mr. Swihart finished his education in the public schools of Greenfield Township, and on starting for himself farmed two years south of Brighton. He moved to his present home west of Brighton about 1878. Mr. Swihart owns 200 acres in Greenfield Township and fifty acres in Bloomfield, and has increased the value and attractiveness of his farm by the addition of a number of substantial buildings. In 1872 he married Miss Anna Horner, a native of Ohio, daughter of Eli Horner, who came to Greenfield Township in 1866. To their marriage were born five children: Ora is the wife of Christian Wolf, manager of an elevator at North Liberty, Indiana; Rolland is a farmer in Greenfield Township; Jason is with his father on the farm; Alma is the wife of Roy McDonald, a Greenfield Township farmer; and Bertha, the youngest, is Mrs. Albert Merrifield, living in Illinois.

**LEANDER T. CRAIN.** It would be impossible to find any more representative a class of American citizens than those now engaged in operating the fertile farm lands of Steuben County. Many of these agriculturists not only have been engaged in farming all of their lives, but have inherited their love of the soil from father and grandfather, their work in this line extending back over many generations. Such men, who live close to nature, have deep in their hearts a patriotism, a love for their country, which is not often equalled, and never exceeded by those residing in the more congested sections. One of these good citizens of Steuben County is Leander T. Crain, owner of a fine farm in section 26, Steuben Township, where he has lived since 1901.

Leander T. Crain was born in Franklin Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, May 29, 1845, a son of Ervin J. Crain and grandson of Charles Crain. Charles Crain was born in Vermont and his wife, Fidelia (Case) Crain, was also a native of that state. They came west to Painsville, Ohio, at an early day, and in 1836 moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, locating in Franklin Township. There Charles Crain spent the remainder of his life with the exception of the last two years, during which period he was retired from farming and a resident of Hamilton, Indiana. He and his wife had the following children: Ervin J., Leander T., Ozro, Charles, Ann, Fidelia, Jackson and Martha. After the death of his first wife Charles Crain was married to Eliza Severns, and they had children as follows: Ezra, Oscar, Harvey, Samuel, Elvina and Joseph.

Ervin J. Crain was born at Middleberry, Vermont, in January, 1813, and his wife, Nancy (Gaylord) Crain, was born in Pennsylvania in 1812. He spent the greater part of his mature life in Franklin Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, where he was engaged in farming. His death occurred in October, 1874, as the result of an attack of a vicious bull. He and his wife had the following children: Melissa, Fidelia, Leander T., Horace J., Luther and Ervin.

Leander T. Crain grew up in his native township and attended its schools. Just as he was merging from boyhood, when only seventeen years old, he enlisted, November 14, 1863, for service during the Civil war in Company A, One Hundred and Twenty-

ninth Infantry. He received his honorable discharge August 25, 1865, having continued with the same regiment and company during his period of service. Mr. Crain took part in some of the most hotly contested engagements of the war, among them being those of Resaca, New Hope Church, Kensaw Mountain, Lost Mountain, Atlanta and Jonesboro, all in Georgia, and Johnsonville, Columbia River and Franklin, Tennessee, and was at both battles of Nashville, Tennessee. The regiment then went to Washington. During the winter of 1864-5 he took part in the memorable campaign through North Carolina, being at the engagements of Fort Anderson, Fort Fisher and Goldsboro, and was never wounded during all of his service.

Returning to DeKalb County, Indiana, after his discharge, Mr. Crain spent three years farming in Franklin Township, and then in 1868 went to Montana, where he remained until 1876, during which period he spent two years gold mining and four years ranching. He then returned to Franklin Township and for thirty years was actively engaged in farming, becoming one of the best known men in that section. In 1901 Mr. Crain bought his present farm and became one of the honored residents of Steuben Township and county. One of the pleasant recollections of his life in Montana is a trip he made to the National Park.

Mr. Crain has been twice married, first on March 3, 1876, when he was united with Mary A. Fee, a daughter of John Fee and Mary A. (Houlton) Fee, and she died in 1889, having borne him the following children: Charles K., who died at the age of fourteen months; Ervin J.; Mary, who married Grover C. Brown; and Elsie A., who married Arthur Fisher. In 1892 Mr. Crain was married to Miss Martha George, a daughter of James Carter George, and she died January 6, 1896.

Ervin J. Crain, the eldest living child of Mr. Crain, was at one time captain of Company B, Third Indiana Infantry, and was put on the retired list in 1916.

Leander T. Crain relives his military experiences among his old comrades of the local post of the Grand Army of the Republic, while he maintains social relations with them as well. He belongs with the Odd Fellows. For some time past Mr. Crain has not taken any active part in the farm work, although he is interested in it and everything pertaining to agriculture, to which he has devoted his efforts during a long and honorable life. While not one of the old residents of Steuben County, he has resided here long enough to become imbued with its spirit and takes an active and intelligent interest in those movements calculated to bring about reforms, develop good roads and keep the young people on the farms. He is a firm believer in the future of this locality, and as he is a native of the state naturally feels that Indiana is hard to beat in any way. The incarnation of probity and kindness of heart, his friends have in him a tower of strength in times of trouble. Both as a soldier and private citizen he has proven his worth as a man, and it may be truly said of him that he was always from boyhood sincere and unselfish, patriotic and courageous, and had the great war come a few years sooner his country would have been offered his services as a soldier, and his government did have them as an individual in the local work of conservation and various drives. Such men as he helped to make our country what it is today, preserving the Union from destruction, and they raised up sons and daughters to carry on the good work and pass the torch of truth and understanding to their descendants in turn. No wonder this country has never

been beaten when it is backed by such men as Leander T. Crain and the men who with him wear the uniform of the "old soldier."

**WILLIAM S. COVELL.** The late William S. Covell was during his lifetime one of the prosperous farmers of Steuben County, as well as one of its most representative men, and when he died he left behind him a valuable farm in Scott Township, on which his family still reside, his son Guy attending to its management. William S. Covell was born in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, May 16, 1850, and he died March 22, 1909. He was a son of Lyman G. Covell and a grandson of William Covell, the latter having been born at Danbury, Connecticut, June 13, 1768. He was married June 3, 1791, to Jerusha Hollis, born June 1, 1775, at Lanesboro, Massachusetts. In 1816 they moved to Oneida County, New York, where she died August 19, 1834, he surviving her until July 15, 1850, when he passed away at Macon, Lenawee County, Michigan, while on a visit to his children.

Lyman G. Covell was born at Vienna, Oneida County, New York, August 25, 1810, and after the death of his mother he was taken into the family of Doctor Chatfield, with whom he remained for three years, leaving these friends then to go to Albany, New York, where for a year or so he was connected with a mercantile establishment. On May 13, 1840, he was united in marriage with Maria Hollis in Huron County, Ohio. She was born at Charlotte, Chittenden County, Vermont, September 24, 1815, a daughter of Lyman and Betsy (Palmer) Hollis, who moved to Huron County, Ohio, in 1835, living there until they were claimed by death. On October 10 of the year of his marriage Mr. Covell came to Steuben County, Indiana, and located in section 1, Pleasant Township, where he developed a farm and lived for eighteen years, leaving it in February, 1859, to move to Scott Township, in section 15, where he owned eighty acres of choice farm land. Mr. and Mrs. Covell became the parents of the following children: Elizabeth, Jerusha E., William S., Janette, Abyram and James L., the last three children dying when very young. Members of the Disciples Church, they were pillars of their congregation for many years. They were kind and charitable to those who needed assistance, and their benefactions were many and varied. Mr. Covell was interested along many lines, and in addition to his agricultural activities he was a school teacher during his younger years and worked at the carpenter trade. His fellow citizens elected him trustee of Pleasant Township, and he served as a justice of the peace for seventeen years.

William S. Covell was reared in the atmosphere of a religious home and early learned the distinctions between right and wrong. He was sent to the neighborhood school, and later to that of Angola, and acquired sufficient training to engage in school teaching for ten years in Scott Township, during six of which he was in charge of the Jones school. Leaving the educational field, Mr. Covell commenced to put to practical use the lessons his father had taught him relative to farming, and moved to the old homestead of eighty acres of land in Scott Township. Here he made many improvements, erecting some of the buildings and remodeling others so that the premises are in prime condition.

On October 10, 1875, Mr. Covell was united in marriage with Maria A. Crawford, born in Scott Township, March 31, 1855, a daughter of Edward and Mary E. (Hutchins) Crawford. Mr. and Mrs. Covell became the parents of the following children:

Guy; Fred, who married Ida Foster and has the following children, Royal, Iver, Harry, and Margie; Cary E., who married Ella Deller, has two children, Lucille and Wendell; Pliney, who died in childhood; Jesse, who is mentioned below; and Elsie, who is the youngest. Jesse Covell entered the military service of his country on June 18, 1908, in Company B, Third Indiana Infantry, and was promoted to corporal in 1910 and to be sergeant in 1911. In 1913 he received his commission as second lieutenant, and later in that same year was made first lieutenant. When he received his commission as captain in 1916 he was the youngest officer of that rank in his regiment. Since September, 1917, Captain Covell has been stationed at Camp Shelby. William S. Covell was a Mason. He served for four years as township trustee and for four years as a justice of the peace. A man of high principles, he lived up to what he believed to be right, and never allowed himself to be swerved from these ideals.

**ISAAC C. SCHROCK.** Though he is now accounted one of the largest farmers and land owners of Eden Township, Isaac C. Schrock at the time of his marriage had little to begin on, rented for a time, went in debt for land, and paid out after a number of years of self denial and sacrifice. The Schrock farm is two miles west and three miles north of Topeka.

Mr. Schrock was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, March 4, 1862, a son of Cornelius and Magdalena (Borntrager) Schrock. His parents were both born in Pennsylvania, his father coming to Indiana at the age of twelve and his mother at eight years. The Schrock family settled in Elkhart County and the Borntragers in LaGrange County. After their marriage the parents lived in Elkhart County several years and in 1865 moved to LaGrange County, where the father died. The mother is still living. The Schrocks are members of the Amish Mennonite faith. Cornelius Schrock and wife had thirteen children, and the eight still living are: Peter, of Fulton County, Ohio; Cyrus, of Reno County, Kansas; Joseph, of Holmes County, Ohio; Anna A., wife of J. V. Yoder, of LaGrange County; Isaac C.; Henry, of Texas; Christ, of Elkhart County; and Amos, who lives on the old homestead in LaGrange County.

Isaac C. Schrock grew up on a farm in LaGrange County and attended district schools in winter and worked on the farm during the summer. He worked out at monthly wages for one year, and on February 18, 1883, married Anna Chistner. She was born in Holmes County, Ohio, but was brought to Indiana when an infant.

For two years after his marriage Mr. Schrock was a renter and then went in debt for 120 acres of land, being able to pay only about \$600 down. Mrs. Schrock inherited about \$2,000, but with that exception they have worked out their destiny along, and are now proprietors of 370 acres, a high class farm and one well known for its Percheron horses and other good grades of livestock.

Mr. and Mrs. Schrock have a large family of twelve children, named: Cornelius, Eli, Amos, Susie, Levi, Mary, John, Andrew, Lydia, Amanda, Ammon and Fannie. Seven of these are married. They are all members of the Mennonite Church and Mr. Schrock is a democrat.

**GEORGE W. DELANCEY.** The citizens of Steuben County have twice called George W. DeLancey to the honors and responsibilities of the office of sheriff. Mr. DeLancey is one of the best known men in the county, and has long enjoyed a high standing and success as a farmer and stockman.



He was born in Richland County, Ohio, September 19, 1855, but has lived in Northeast Indiana since early boyhood. His parents were George W. and Sarah (Corzier) DeLancey. His father was born in Richland County in 1824 and his mother in the same section of Ohio in 1825. They married there, and after three years of residence in Crawford County, Ohio, moved to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1868. They settled on a farm in Steuben Township two miles west of Angola, and the father lived out his industrious life in that locality, where he died in 1880. The mother passed away in 1897. The father was a republican and the mother a member of the Methodist Church. In their family were eleven children, three of whom died in infancy. The others were named Mary, Rebecca, Jane, Harriet, John, George W., Charles and Naomi. The only ones now living are Charles and George W.

George W. DeLancey was thirteen years old when brought to Steuben County, and he grew to manhood on the old home farm which he now owns. He was educated in the local schools, and for over forty years has followed farming as his chief business. His home farm comprises 138 acres and is well adapted for the general crops and stock.

Mr. DeLancey has been one of the sterling republicans of Steuben County, and was elected on that ticket to the office of sheriff in 1915, taking up the duties of office January 1, 1916. He was re-elected in 1918. The sheriff is affiliated with Pleasant Lake Lodge of Masons, Angola Chapter, Royal Arch Masons, and is also a member of Angola Lodge, Knights of Pythias. He and his family are members of the Methodist Church.

December 15, 1878, he married Miss Sarah A. Landis, of Steuben Township, daughter of Jacob and Sarah (Apple) Landis. Her father came from Wood County, Ohio, to Steuben County in 1865. Mr. DeLancey's parents are both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. DeLancey have two children and seven grandchildren. The son, Walter, after leaving school took up farming and now owns a place in Pleasant Township, about two miles from Angola. He married Laura Cline, and their four children are Floyd, Martha, Marland and Wando. The daughter, Verle, is a graduate of the Angola High School and is the wife of Paul Horn. Their children are Stephen, Bessie and Lillian.

JAMES W. SCHAEFFER began to take a part in the agricultural activities of LaGrange County in 1872, and out of the generous prosperity he builded through his years of consecutive work and good judgment he has been able to live retired and enjoy the comfort which his declining years deserve. He is a resident of Howe.

Mr. Schaeffer was born in Center County, Pennsylvania, February 17, 1848, a son of Daniel and Harriet C. (Hock) Schaeffer, also natives of Pennsylvania, and a grandson of Peter Schaeffer, who spent all his life in the Keystone state. James W. Schaeffer was fifteen years old when he and his parents started west to find a home in Michigan, and on November 25, 1863, reached White Pigeon. His parents spent the rest of their lives in St. Joseph County, Michigan, where his father farmed for a number of years and later retired to Sturgis. They had a family of eight children, James W., Peter, deceased, Albert, Edwin H., deceased, Daniel B., deceased, David O., John C., deceased, and George W.

James W. Schaeffer had some advantages in school in Pennsylvania and also attended school at White Pigeon, Michigan. He was still a young man when he came to LaGrange County in the spring of 1872, and in 1882 he bought sixty-eight

acres in Lima Township, which became the nucleus of the farm of two hundred seventy-nine acres which he now owns and which represents in improvements and facilities one of the best farms in that locality. Since 1900 he has lived retired at Howe. Mr. Schaeffer was reared in the faith of the German Reformed Church, of which his parents were active members. September 20, 1871, he married Susan S. Sheaffer, whose name, it will be noted, is spelled somewhat differently to his. She was born in Ohio, a daughter of George Sheaffer, who became a well known citizen of LaGrange County. Mrs. Schaeffer died August 19, 1895, the mother of six children: Hattie R., Mertie B., Bertha, Minnie M., Clarence and Mabel. Of these Mertie and Minnie are now deceased. In 1897 Mr. Schaeffer married Miss Hattie J. Smeltzly, a sister of F. G. Smeltzly, of LaGrange County. To this marriage were born three children, James W., Clifford D. and Ernest V., all living.

ALBERT HASKINS, an honored veteran of the Civil war, was born in LaGrange County more than three-quarters of a century ago, and most of his active life has been spent in that county, where he is widely known as a financier and public official.

Mr. Haskins was born in Springfield Township August 14, 1843, a son of Willis and Jane (Jackson) Haskins. His parents were natives of New York, were married in that state, and at once came to LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1838. They made the journey from New York to Indiana by wagon and team. Willis Haskins entered Government land, and was a resident of Springfield Township until his death. On his land he put up the first buildings and cleared the first fields. He and his wife had a family of eight children: Elizabeth, deceased wife of Alanson Harger; Franklin, deceased; Charles; George, deceased; Albert; Mary Jane, who died as the wife of John Sawyer; Edith and Willis, both deceased.

Albert Haskins received his education in the schools of Springfield Township. As a boy he began working out at monthly wages, and before he was of age he moved to the vicinity of Elgin, Illinois. While there he enlisted on May 14, 1863, in Company K of the One Hundred and Forty-First Illinois Infantry, and was in service until the close of the war nearly two years later.

Thirty-five years ago Mr. Haskins engaged in the private loan business, and has continued that service to the community of Springfield Township ever since. His offices are at Mongo, where in 1915 he and others were associated in the organization of the Mongo State Bank. The first year he served as vice president and since has been president of the bank. Mr. Haskins for thirty-four years has been a justice of the peace, and at the expiration of his present term he will have spent forty years in that office. He has done much to adjust community difficulties, and few of his decisions have been appealed or reversed by higher tribunals.

October 19, 1879, Judge Haskins married Miss Amie Huss. She was born in Ohio, a daughter of Elijah Huss, who came to LaGrange County when his daughter Amie was three or four years old. Mr. and Mrs. Haskins have three children: Garfield and Herman, twins, the former a farmer in Greenfield Township, and the latter a lawyer at LaGrange; and Louis, a farmer in Springfield Township.

H. H. PINCHON, a native of Northeast Indiana, has given his mature life to the saw milling and lumber business. He was head sawyer in the Goodwin mills at Fremont for a number of years, afterward operated independently in the woods of Michigan,



and is now proprietor of a prosperous and growing concern in the manufacture of lumber at Fremont.

Mr. Pinchon was born at Wawaka in Noble County, March 7, 1871, son of Anthony and Mary Ann (Deckmann) Pinchon. His mother was born at Philadelphia, a daughter of Charles and Wilmina Deckmann. Her father died near Hudson in Steuben County, Indiana. He was a shoemaker by trade. Charles Deckmann and wife had the following children: John, Jacob, Conrad, Adam, Henry, William, Lena, Wilmina, Mary and Caroline. Two of the sons, Adam and William, were soldiers in the Civil war.

Mr. Pinchon's paternal grandparents were John and Susannah Pinchon, the former a farmer near Wawaka in Noble County. Their children were: John, Harvey, Anthony, Frank and Cassie. The son John died in childhood.

Anthony Pinchon, who was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, in early life distinguished himself as a very skillful axman. It is said that he cleared up over 200 acres of heavy timber, and would take contracts to clear off a tract of land at \$1.25 an acre. He was a very useful man to have in a community, being skilled in mechanical occupations, was a grain thrasher and a wagon maker and wagon repairer. He built wagons by hand, making them with thorough workmanship from tongue to endgate. He spent many years at threshing and wagon making and died in 1884. His first wife was Lydia Lower, and of their children who survived infancy their names were Frank, Jefferson and Susanna. He married for his second wife Mary Ann Deckmann who died April 22, 1919, and H. H. Pinchon is a son of that marriage.

He acquired his early education in the public schools of Noble County, and at the age of nineteen went to work as head sawyer in a lumber plant. For eleven years he was employed in that capacity by J. W. Goodwin at Fremont, and he then bought a small sawmill and operated about two years near Moserville, Michigan. He then bought ninety acres of timber and used his mill to work it up into lumber. In January, 1909, he returned to Indiana and bought the mill at Fremont, and has supplied a large part of the local hardwood lumber to this locality.

In 1895 Mr. Pinchon married Ella DeHuff, daughter of Simon and Mary DeHuff. They have four children: Zona, Inez, Clarence and Wava. The family are members of the Methodist Church.

**THOMAS FIELDS.** A worthy representative of the clear-headed and progressive business men and farmers of LaGrange County, Thomas Fields has lived a life of satisfying experiences and accomplishments and is one of the most highly esteemed residents of the Woodruff section, where he still lives on his farm.

He was born in Johnson Township of LaGrange County, September 15, 1862, a son of Robert and Sarah (Taylor) Fields. His parents were both natives of Lincolnshire, England, and came from there to the United States when young and unmarried and were wedded in LaGrange County, after which they settled on a farm there. Thomas Fields was only two years old when his mother died, and he then went to live and grew up in the home of Joseph Taylor, his uncle, who owned the farm which Thomas Fields has since acquired. He attended the common schools at limited intervals, and was with his uncle up to the age of twenty-one. He then rented the Taylor farm and worked it until he engaged in the general merchandise business at Woodruff. He was a merchant at that vil-

lage for four years and for eight, including that time, was postmaster.

March 12, 1885, Mr. Fields married Anna Young, who was born in Johnson Township April 18, 1865. Mr. Fields and his wife both attended the same schools. For thirty years they have lived on their present farm, where they own 136 acres, and forty acres in Orange Township of Noble County. Mr. Fields has been quite active in republican politics, and his name is associated with a competent service as township trustee of Johnson Township for six years.

Mr. and Mrs. Fields have a family of interesting children: Charles, who is a high school graduate and a graduate of the law department of Valparaiso University, is a fruit grower at Hood River, Oregon; Maude is the wife of Clyde Keck, of Clay Township, LaGrange County; Mary graduated from the common schools and married Bert Bowser and lives in Noble County; Elgie is a high school graduate and wife of Harvey Grossman; Willie, a high school graduate, is still at home and is secretary-treasurer of the Farmers' Shippers' Association at Wolcottville; Raymond is in the medical department of the army at Fort Sheridan, Illinois; and Clara, the youngest, has completed the common school course and is at home.

**D. CARL RANSBURG,** a former trustee of Steuben Township, has had a business career as a merchant that has been distinguished by long and uninterrupted service in practically one store and one firm. As a boy he started clerking for the veteran merchant of Pleasant Lake, Frank H. Chadwick, eventually won a partnership, and for over a quarter of a century has been a member of the firm Chadwick & Ransburg, who do the greater bulk of the general merchandise business in and around Pleasant Lake.

Mr. Ransburg was born at Tiffin in Seneca County, Ohio, March 16, 1862. His father, John T. Ransburg, was born near Frederick, Maryland, March 15, 1835, and married Elizabeth Zimmerman, who was born near Tiffin, Ohio, in 1838. In 1864, when Carl Ransburg was two years old, the family removed to Steuben County, Indiana, settled on a farm in Salem Township. John Ransburg was a man of mechanical skill and of great industry, and in connection with farming operated a saw mill. In 1870 he moved to Pleasant Lake, and there became established as an important factor in business affairs, operating a lumber yard, also a general merchandise store, and selling drugs. After 1875 he sold out the merchandise and drug business and gave all his attention to the operation of his lumber mill. He also operated a threshing outfit, and through this varied enterprise became one of the best known men in his section of the county. More than that he was a helpful factor in promoting religious and spiritual life. He had a splendid voice, and gave that talent to evangelistic work, and was usually present at any important religious gathering in his section of the county. He was the leader in establishing the United Brethren Church at Pleasant Lake. This well known and esteemed citizen died in 1907 and his wife in 1905. They had a large family of children, a brief record of whom is as follows: Effie, who died at the age of eleven months; Harper G., an executive official connected with the Adams Express Company; D. Carl, third in age; Ella B., wife of Cyrus Robertson; Claudia May, wife of John W. McCrum; Frank L., who is connected with the Adams Express Company at San Francisco; Nellie G., who died at the age of twenty-nine, the wife of C. L. Bunting; Mark R., a traveling salesman; Grace E., who died at the age of four years; Paul; and Gertrude E., wife of Charles Gilbert.



H. G. Ransburg entered the employ of the Adams Express Company at Indianapolis, was messenger, cashier and onhand clerk, later was traveling auditor, having a special agency at principal points and was then made superintendent of the Chesapeake Division, with headquarters at Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He has been associated with the company for thirty-seven years.

D. Carl Ransburg received his early education in the schools of Pleasant Lake. In 1877, when fifteen years old, he became a clerk and general utility man in the store of Mr. Chadwick. He grew with the business in ability and efficiency, and in 1890 was admitted to the firm, which then became Chadwick, Ransburg & Company. Mr. Ransburg has therefore devoted the best years of his life to the building up and management of this well known concern. However, he made a splendid record during the six years he served as trustee of Steuben Township, from 1908 to 1914. He is a member of the United Brethren Church.

March 15, 1885, he married Elizabeth H. Brown, daughter of George A. and Ursula (Stocker) Brown. To their marriage were born three children: Don R., Harold B. and J. Raymond. The last named was born in 1896 and died in 1900. Don R. Ransburg was for seven years a telegraph operator with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company and is now engaged in the advertising business. He married Florence Dickey and has one child, Don Byron.

JAMES J. MISHLER. Many of the excellent farmers and upright citizens of LaGrange County, Indiana, came to this section from Pennsylvania, the majority being intelligent and well educated. An example may be cited in James J. Mishler, who is one of Newbury Township's most highly respected and substantial citizens. For thirty-seven years Mr. Mishler has been a deacon in the Mennonite Church.

James J. Mishler was born in Pennsylvania, November 21, 1855. He attended the public schools and also a normal school, where he prepared to be a teacher, and afterward alternated working on a farm and teaching school until 1877, when he came to LaGrange County, Indiana, a section to which other members of the family also came. In 1879 he bought a farm on Seminary Road, five miles west of LaGrange, in Clay Township, eighty acres of good land, and lived there for five years and then took advantage of a fair offer and sold. He then bought eighty acres on the Banaga Road, on which he also lived for five years and sold. In 1889 he came to Newbury Township and bought the first seventy acres of his present farm, adding tracts from time to time until he now owns 128 acres. This land is all in fine condition, and the remodeled buildings are adequate to the necessities of a modern farm business. He carries on general farming and raises stock.

In 1879 Mr. Mishler was united in marriage to Miss Lydia Yoder, who was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Jacob Yoder, who was a pioneer settler in Clay Township. Mr. and Mrs. Mishler had the following children: Albert, Mabel, Oliver, William, Lizzie, Amanda, James and Ola. The mother of these children died December 3, 1896. On February 28, 1899, Mr. Mishler was married to Miss Amanda Miller, a daughter of John Miller, Jr., of Newbury. He died in 1894, aged sixty years. Mr. and Mrs. Mishler have four children, namely: Ira, Claud, Nona and Lucy. All of Mr. Mishler's first family of children now living have married and had children, as follows: Albert married Inez Wampole. They have two children, Elden and Maxine, and they live at Tillamook, Oregon. Oliver

married Pearl Yoder, and they have one child, Frances. He is in the lumber business at Shipshewana. William married Mary Gittens, and they live at Woodburn, Oregon, where he is prominent in school affairs, an educator there for nine years and for two years superintendent of the high school. Lizzie is the wife of Jerry C. Troyer, of Newbury Township, and they have four children: Inez, Dorothy, Francis and Esther. Amanda is the wife of Joseph E. Nelson, rural mail carrier, and they live west of Shipshewana. James married Verna Miller, of Holmes County, Ohio, and they live in Newbury Township and have one child, Mary Ruth. Ola is the wife of Ira E. Yoder, a farmer in Newbury Township, and they have one child, Catherine. Mr. Mishler has great reason to be proud of so fine a body of descendants.

DANIEL M. PLANK, now living in comfortable retirement in Brighton, has been a farmer, thresherman, carpenter and an industrious worker in every duty assigned him, and has earned the respect and confidence of his fellow citizens.

He was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, August 18, 1865, a son of Christian J. and Mary (Mosier) Plank, both natives of Ohio. His grandparents, Christian and Elizabeth Plank, were natives of Pennsylvania, and spent the last ten or fifteen years of their lives with their son Christian in LaGrange County. Grandfather Plank was a flour miller by trade. Mary Mosier was the daughter of a Swiss emigrant, the Mosiers being early farmers in Adams County, Indiana. Christian J. Plank was educated in Wayne County, Ohio, moved to Elkhart County, Indiana, about 1862, and after farming there some three years moved to Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, in 1866. After the death of his wife there he left the farm a year or two before his death. He improved a farm of 193 acres. He was a charter member of the Farmers Rescue Insurance Company and served many years on its board of finance. He and his first wife had children named Amos F., Katherine, Rebecca E., Susan, Mary A., Daniel M., Samuel, Lydia, Elizabeth and Alice. Christian J. Plank married for his second wife Mrs. Fannie (Morrell) Plank, a widow with three children, named Elida, Jephtha and David, and to her second marriage was born one son, Harvey Plank.

Daniel M. Plank received his education in country schools and at Howe, and as a youth manifested special mechanical genius, which led him to take up the threshing business. He operated threshing outfits altogether for twenty-one years and had practically all the various types of grain threshing machinery of that period. He was also a farmer, the first five years living on his own place near Cedar Lake and then for five years on his father's farm. He moved to Brighton in 1900, and for several years followed the business of threshing and the trade of carpenter. For four years he made his home at LaGrange, and during that time was a motorman on the St. Joseph Valley line. Since returning to Brighton he has built a comfortable home, enjoying life somewhat at leisure.

Mr. Plank married on October 2, 1890, Miss Etta Steirnagle, a native of LaGrange County and a daughter of John Steirnagle. They have one daughter, Bertha, now Mrs. Floyd Bolley, of Brighton.

CHARLES YOUNG. Steuben County has some of the most substantial farmers of Northeastern Indiana, who take a pride in the fact that they are descended from the pioneers of this part of the state and that members of their family assisted in developing the country. One of those who belong to this class is Charles Young, of Pleasant Township.

He was born in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, March 3, 1852, a son of Jacob and Nancy (Failing) Young, and grandson of Andrew Young and Thomas Failing. Andrew Young was born in New York, but moved to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1835, locating in Pleasant Township, where he bought eighty acres of land, and on it lived out the remainder of his life. He and his wife had the following children: Edward, Laton, George, Jacob and Daniel. Thomas Failing arrived in Steuben County a year later than Andrew Young, and he located land in Jamestown and Scott townships, and in 1837 brought his family to his new home, they living in Jamestown Township. He was a native of Montgomery County, New York, where he was born March 20, 1796, and he died in Steuben County, Indiana, November 18, 1883. On December 8, 1818, he was married to Catherine Klock, and they had the following children: Ann, Elizabeth, Nancy, Adam and Marietta. Mrs. Failing died October 24, 1879. They became wealthy after locating in Steuben County, and were very highly respected.

Jacob Young was born in Jefferson County, New York, in 1822, and his wife, Nancy Failing, was born in the same county in 1827. After attending the schools of his native county he assisted his father, and later began clearing off land of his own. In 1849 he went with other gold seekers to California, and remained in the West for eighteen months, but did not live many years after his return home, as he died at the age of thirty-three years. His widow survived him many years, dying in 1909, at the age of eighty-two years. They had three children, namely: Ella, who married William Simms; Charles; and Albert, who is now deceased.

Charles Young grew up like any normal farmer's son, being taught to be useful on the farm and sent to the public school of Pleasant Township. After attaining his majority he moved to his present farm and now owns 160 acres in Pleasant Township, four and one-half miles directly north of Angola and 160 acres across the road in Jamestown Township. Here he carries on general farming and stock raising.

In 1890 Mr. Young was united in marriage with Viola Carmoncy, a daughter of Jacob and Abigail (Gochemaur) Carmoncy. Mr. and Mrs. Young had three children: Vera, Charles and Wayne. Vera, married Ford Champion, and they have four children, Cleyon, Reno, Clair and a baby daughter. Mrs. Young died in 1912, deeply mourned by all who had the privilege of her acquaintance, for she was a lovely character, who made friends everywhere. Mr. Young served Pleasant Township as supervisor, and safeguarded its interests efficiently and conscientiously. He is a man of means and deserves an important place in the history of his community.

HENRY ESHELMAN after more than forty-five years of steady management and work as a farmer is living on his attractive and valuable place  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles northeast of Wolcottville in LaGrange County. Years have brought him ample prosperity for all his needs, and he has utilized many opportunities to help his community and participate in movements that reflect the best ideals and spirit of progress.

Mr. Eshelman was born in section 23 of Johnson Township, LaGrange County, April 23, 1851, a son of Joseph and Mary (Erford) Eshelman. His father, a native of Pennsylvania, went to Ohio when a young man and after his marriage lived there eight or nine years. He brought his family to Indiana in the fall of 1850 and settled in section 23 of Johnson Township, living there many years and then moving to the farm where his son Henry resides. He died there. He was a very active member of the Evan-

gelical Church and was affiliated with the republican party, and always willing to do his share in any community undertaking. He became the father of eleven children, only three of whom are still living, Elizabeth, wife of Joseph Royer; Henry; and John F., of LaGrange County.

Henry Eshelman grew up on the farm in section 23, and with the exception of two years spent in Iowa has always lived in LaGrange County. His education was supplied by the district schools. He went to Iowa at the age of twenty-one, and on returning to this state bought eighty acres included in his present farm, and subsequently bought twenty acres more. On February 17, 1875, he married Odella Sigley. She was born in Whitley County, Indiana, but lived in LaGrange County from the time she was six years of age. Mrs. Eshelman, who died January 28, 1917, was the mother of seven children, two of whom are living. Adrian, who is a graduate of the common schools and had one year in high school, lives in Johnson Township. Edith M. is a graduate of the common schools and spent two years in high school, and is a graduate of the Conservatory of Music at Fort Wayne. She is now the wife of Harry E. Lower, of Toledo, Ohio. Mr. Eshelman has five grandchildren.

He has long been identified with the Evangelical Church and in politics is a republican. With great capability he filled the office of trustee of Johnson Township one term. He has served as treasurer and is now a director of the Farmers Telephone Company.

FRANKLIN CARY. It is no small distinction that Franklin Cary has lived to witness the growth and development of Angola for a period of over seventy years, but he has never been merely a witness of action and progress and has participated personally in the work of the community and even today, at the age of eighty-seven, is seen on the streets and in daily attendance upon his business affairs.

Mr. Cary was born at Bucyrus, Crawford County, Ohio, August 29, 1832, son of Abel and Sarah Cary. His mother died in Bucyrus and the father came to Steuben County and settled at Angola in 1840. He was one of the first merchants and lived there until his death at the age of seventy-five. By his first wife he had four children: Marcie, who is now ninety-three years of age; Bartley K., deceased; Franklin; and Nancy, deceased.

Franklin Cary came to Angola in 1845, when thirteen years old, and except for several years spent in California has been a continuous resident. He made three trips to California, going both by the overland and by the water route. His half brother, William Carey, also went to California, and returned by way of Cape Horn. Franklin Cary early learned the trade of blacksmith, and he followed that occupation industriously for a period of half a century. For some years he was also in the well drilling business, and for the past twenty years has been a hardware merchant at Angola. He is owner of a wooden block known as the Cary Block, and has considerable other local property. He here has made a success financially, stands high in the esteem of the people of the county, and has well earned all the respect he enjoys. Mr. Cary is a republican in politics, and is deeply interested in Masonry. He has been affiliated with that order fifty-eight years and is now the oldest and the only surviving charter member of Angola Lodge. He takes much pride in the fact that both his son, Charles, and his grandson, Carl, are also Masons.

In 1857 Mr. Cary married Miss Alvina Mariman. Mrs. Cary died about twenty years ago, after they had been companions together on life's highway



forty years. The only son and child is Charles Cary of Angola. Mr. Cary has four grandchildren and a number of great-grandchildren. Charles Cary married Cinda Gordon. Their four children are: Etta, Nellie, Leta and Carl. Etta is the wife of C. J. McIntyre and is the mother of five children, Donna Marie, Morris, Elizabeth, Charles and Mary. Nellie is unmarried and is a teacher in the public schools of Gary, Indiana. Leta is the widow of Cash Freeland. Carl Cary, the only grandson of Franklin Cary, was in the army for six months as a motor mechanic in the field artillery. He married Irene Salsbury of Orland, and has one son, Gordon.

WILLIAM MILLER for a third of a century has lived and farmed on one place in Lima Township. He has enjoyed the esteem of that community for his industry as a farmer, his public spirit as a citizen, and several times has been honored with public responsibility.

He was born in Ontario County, New York, September 8, 1845, a son of James and Elizabeth (Hutchison) Miller, the former a native of Ontario County, New York, and the latter of England. The paternal grandparents, Thomas and Sarah (Ripper) Miller, spent their lives as New York State farmers. The maternal grandparents came from England, settled in New York State, and at a very early date moved to Fort Wayne, Indiana, and the maternal grandfather died at Hometown in that vicinity. James Miller was born and educated in New York, and during the '50s came to LaGrange County with his family. On coming west he had traveled up Lake Erie by boat. He bought a farm in Lima Township soon after his arrival and made some improvements there, but later moved to English Prairie, where he acquired three hundred sixteen acres, clearing off much of the land and making many improvements to increase its value and productiveness. He built a barn on this farm and lived there until his death. At one time he served as trustee of Greenfield Township, and was an active member of the Presbyterian Church. He and his wife had six children, William, Charles, James, Clara Jane, Mary Elizabeth and George. All are living except Clara Jane.

William Miller grew up on his father's farm on English Prairie, attended the district schools, and lived on the home place until he was twenty-seven years of age. His farming activities have always been productive in the northern part of LaGrange County, and about 1886 he moved to his present place, a little east of Howe, where he has ninety-nine well cultivated acres. He has improved and added to the house, and has all the comforts that go with modern high class farms.

Mr. Miller has served as assessor of Greenfield Township. In 1879 he married Miss Mary Burnside, a native of LaGrange County and a daughter of Alexander Burnside. Their only child is Lillian, widow of Sidney Ganiard, a former state senator.

ELISAH KEEFER has been a business man at Mongo over forty years. Everyone in Springfield Township, and in fact most people of LaGrange County, know or know of him in his character as a reliable merchant and good citizen. For thirty-three years he presided over the local postoffice as postmaster, and in that time he was delegated with the responsibility of establishing the first free delivery service out of Mongo, and he held the office through the Cleveland administrations and until the first election of Wilson to the presidency.

Mr. Keefer came to Indiana when he was about

twenty-two years of age. He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, March 30, 1852, a son of Peter and Caroline (Baer) Keefer. His parents were also natives of Somerset County, where his father spent all his life. Peter Keefer was a Union soldier, serving in Company K of the One Hundred and Seventy-First Pennsylvania Infantry until he was discharged by reason of sickness. From the exposure and hardships of his service he died in August, 1865. He was the father of eight children, the oldest, Simon, dying in infancy. Several of these children still live in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, including the second, Diana, who is Mrs. Theodore Engle. Elisah is third in age. Sarah Ellen died in 1875 as Mrs. Zenas Holliday. Herman is still in Somerset County, Elizabeth died unmarried in 1876, and Alice died in 1863. Aden, the youngest, lost his life by being accidentally shot while hunting. He was living in Pennsylvania.

Elisah Keefer acquired a good education in the public schools of Pennsylvania and also the Myersdale Normal. For one term he taught in his native county and then worked on farms there until 1874. On coming to Indiana he entered the employ of Mr. Peter Garlets, three miles east of Mongo. He was on the Garlets farm until 1882, when he moved to Mongo and bought a half interest in a drug store with Joseph Fair. That store occupied the same building and at the same location as the present Gay meat market. After a partnership of one year Mr. Keefer retired and has since engaged in the general merchandise business and has never had a partnership for forty years, though his son is now actively associated with him in the business. On becoming a general merchant Mr. Keefer moved to a frame building then on the site of the present Mongo hardware store, and in 1886 came to his present location on the corner. He has prospered in business affairs, built a modern home in Mongo in 1919, and also owns sixty acres of farm land in Greenfield Township. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Mongo.

In 1875 Mr. Keefer married Miss Mary A. Garlets. She was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, a daughter of Peter Garlets. Of the Garlets family nothing further need be said here, since complete representation of the honored family is made on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Keefer had three children, Clinton and Grace both dying in infancy, and Alphas M., who is with his father in the store.

JOHN B. ALLMAN. The present generation of people in Steuben County need no introduction to the personality and career of John B. Allman. He is widely known as a former Circuit Court clerk of the county, spent over thirty years as a practical farmer, and in every relationship has measured up to the qualifications of a real man and a public-spirited citizen.

Mr. Allman was born in Williams County, Ohio, November 23, 1856. Several generations of his family have been identified with the westward march of civilization. His great-grandfather, Ebenezer Allman, moved to Stark County, Ohio, in 1810 and was one of the first to develop that section of the Ohio wilderness. His grandfather, James Allman, who was born in Washington County in Southwestern Pennsylvania in 1806, grew up in Stark County, married in 1829 Margaret Anspaugh, and in 1842 moved to Williams County, Ohio, where he in turn became a pioneer. James Allman died in 1846, survived many years by his widow, who was born in 1810. James Allman and wife had seven children, Barnabas, Haman C., John, Jacob, Catherine, Magdeline

and Agnes. The sons made worthy records as soldiers in the Civil war, and Haman died of wounds received in battle.

Barnabas Allman, father of John B., was born in Stark County, Ohio, March 20, 1833, was nine years old when he went to Williams County, and in 1856 he married Ellen Barcalow. She was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania, in 1833, a daughter of John and Martha Barcalow. In April, 1864, Barnabas Allman moved to Steuben County, settling in section 5 of Richland Township, and became a prosperous farmer and land owner in that county. He began on a rented farm half a mile south of Metz, and at the time of his death owned 100 acres. He was a carpenter by trade and he filled the office of justice of the peace for about twenty years in Richland Township. He and his wife were active members of the Methodist Church, and in politics he was a republican. Barnabas Allman died December 26, 1888, and his widow in 1902. Their children were John B.; Edith M., wife of Ford Norris, living at Toledo, Ohio; Haman C.; Martha J., now deceased, whose first husband was Clarence Gilbert and whose second husband was Clair Wisner; James; and Margaret, who married B. Goodale.

John B. Allman from the age of eight years attended district schools in Richland Township, and had his full share of work in the fields as a boy. December 17, 1881, he married Evelyn Barron, daughter of Elmus L. and Roxanna Barron. Her father was born in 1823 and came to Indiana with his parents, Fayette and Arvilla Barron, at an early date. For many years Elmus Barron made his residence at Metz, was a farmer, a gunsmith by trade, and was a noted hunter in the early days. It is said that he had over 500 deer to his credit as a marksman. His wife's parents moved to Steuben County in 1843.

The spring following his marriage Mr. Allman began farming a mile and a half south of Metz, and he was in that one locality giving diligent attention to his business as an agriculturist until October, 1907. At that date he sold his farm and moved to Angola, and served for four years, from January 1, 1908, to January 1, 1912, as clerk of the Circuit Court. On leaving office he returned to Metz, and in March, 1917, bought and moved to his present farm, where he owns 100 acres of well improved land with good buildings in section 8 of Richland Township.

Prior to his service as Clerk of Circuit Court Mr. Allman was for about five years trustee of Richland Township, and has justified every public honor bestowed upon him. He and his wife are active members of the Christian Church at Metz.

They have had four children. Elsie M. is the wife of W. P. Faulhaver, a farmer in Williams County, Ohio. Roxie E. is a graduate of the Angola Tri-State College in the business department, took part of her literary course there, and is now the wife of T. P. Charles and the mother of two children. Flora E. and John B. Heyman B. also graduated from the Angola Tri-State College, took further work in the Indiana State University and Purdue University, and married Ethel Chard. They have a daughter, Martha E. The youngest child of Mr. and Mrs. Allman was Carl, who died young.

Roy B. Ford has built up an extensive business as a general merchant at Stroh, has been interested in a number of business and civic affairs in that community, and is a former postmaster of the village.

Mr. Ford was born in Ingham County, Michigan, September 3, 1874, a son of Oscar D. and Frances

C. (Eaton) Ford. His father was a native of Chautauqua County, New York, but spent his boyhood at Albion, Michigan, where he attended the common schools. He was married in Ingham County, Michigan, where his wife was born, and later he worked his way through Rush Medical College of Chicago, graduating in 1895. For a number of years he practiced medicine at Leslie, Michigan, and in 1888 moved to South Milford, Indiana, where he had professional and business interests until he died. Dr. Ford was a charter member of the Masonic Lodge and its first master, and is also a member of the Royal Arch Chapter and in politics a republican. Of his four children two are living, Dorman E., an employe of the Rock Island Railroad, and Roy B.

Roy B. Ford first attended school at Leslie, Michigan, and is a graduate of the South Milford School. After leaving school he became associated with his father in business at South Milford, and when his father died he took over the store and conducted it until 1900, when he moved his business to Stroh, and is now proprietor of a mercantile service that covers a large part of LaGrange County. He is also a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank of Stroh, and for eight years was postmaster, the postoffice being kept in his store.

August 24, 1899, he married Miss Ella Geiser of LaGrange County. She is a graduate of the Wolcottville High School and for several years before her marriage was a teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Ford have two children, Rudyard G., a student in the Morgan Park Military Academy at Chicago, and Marjorie F., a graduate of the common schools. Mr. Ford is a charter member of Philo Lodge No. 672, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is a member of the Council and Chapter at Kendallville. Politically he is a republican.

WILLIAM E. HECKENLIVELY, a prominent lawyer of the Steuben County bar, was born in that county December 6, 1861, son of Henry and Mary A. (Kirk) Heckenlively, the former a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, where he was born January 20, 1841, while the mother was born in Delaware County, Ohio, December 2, 1840. Henry Heckenlively went to Williams County, Ohio, about 1850 with his parents, George and Elizabeth Heckenlively. The grandfather was a farmer and broom corn raiser and manufacturer of brooms. Henry Heckenlively became a farmer and veterinary surgeon and in 1907 removed to Colorado, where he is still living. The mother died in York Township of Steuben County in 1898. There were four children, William E.; Bell and Emma, both deceased; and Curtis G., of Gary, Indiana.

William E. Heckenlively grew up on the home farm in York Township, acquired his education in the district schools and the Angola High School, and graduated in 1890 from Hillsdale College in Michigan. In the meantime for a number of years he had been teaching school, beginning in 1877, when he was only seventeen years old. He taught in the country districts of Steuben County, later went West and was principal of high schools in Wyoming and Utah for several years, and at one time was superintendent of the Pleasant Lake High School in Steuben County.

He began the study of law in 1889, in the office of Best & Bratton, at Angola, Indiana, and was admitted to the bar in 1895. He practiced alone until 1911, and since then has been a member of the firm of Bratton & Heckenlively. He carries on a very successful business and he also owns a ranch of 480 acres in Colorado. He served three years as prosecuting attorney, is a republican, member of the



Knights of Pythias, and is affiliated with the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Knight Templar of Masonry and the Scottish Rite Consistory at Fort Wayne. He and his family consisting of his wife, son and daughter, are all members of the Congregational Church.

November 27, 1900, he married Mary E. Main, of Wood County, Ohio. Their older child, Joan, born December 2, 1902, is a junior in the Angola High School. Harold M., born March 26, 1905, finished his first year in high school in 1919.

IRA ROYAL APPLEMAN, who for years has been connected with the agricultural industry of Springfield Township, LaGrange County, is a member of an old and prominent American family, long settled in Indiana. Two of Mr. Appleman's sons were officers in the World war.

He was born on the Appleman homestead in Springfield Township June 22, 1860, a son of John H. and Sarah J. (Doe) Appleman. John H. Appleman was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, August 10, 1815, a son of Jacob and Jane (Harris) Appleman. Jacob Appleman was a tailor by trade and was the father of eight sons and five daughters. When John H. was a small boy his father moved to Wayne County, Ohio, where Jacob died soon afterward. About 1827 John H. and his mother went to Richland County, Ohio, and he lived with an uncle, William Pool, until he was twenty-one years of age. On September 20, 1836, John H. Appleman married Miss Mary A. Doe, who was born at Stillwater, New York, May 20, 1818, a daughter of William and Anna (Hilton) Doe, the former a native of Bangor, Maine, and the latter of New York. John H. Appleman by his wife Mary had six children, two of whom reached mature years, Squire H. and John Wesley. Squire married Viola Ryan, a daughter of Robert Ryan, a pioneer of LaGrange County, and he and his wife now live at Angola. John W. married Lottie Gilbert and now lives at LaGrange. October 11, 1849, Mrs. Mary Appleman died, and on January 7, 1851, John H. Appleman married Sarah J. Doe, a half-sister of his first wife and daughter of William and Elizabeth (Amsbaugh) Doe. John H. Appleman by his second marriage also had six children: William E., a resident of Michigan; Albert G., deceased; Ira Royal; Charles M., deceased; Julia E., a resident of LaGrange; and Elmer S., who lives in Honolulu.

John H. Appleman came to Springfield Township, LaGrange County, in 1840. All the money he had, sixty dollars, he paid on a tract of eighty acres of wild land. By persistent energy he made a good farm, and in the height of his prosperity owned seven hundred acres. In 1875 he moved to Clay Township, a mile south of LaGrange, where he had a complete, well improved farm of ninety acres and lived there until his death in 1897. He was a republican, a prominent member of the regulators of LaGrange County, and is well remembered for his good citizenship as well as his business enterprise.

Ira Royal Appleman grew up on his father's homestead and had a public school education. At the age of sixteen he moved to Clay Township, near LaGrange, and while living on his father's farm there attended high school, taking the full four years' course. On October 21, 1886, he married Miss Jennie L. Oliver.

Mrs. Appleman was born at Paw Paw, Michigan, December 1, 1865, a daughter of Robert and Mary Jane (Cone) Oliver, the former a native of Canada and the latter of Fort Oswego, New York, on the banks of Lake Ontario. Mary Jane Cone was

born October 23, 1845, a daughter of John and Lovina (Baen) Cone, the former a native of Oswego County, New York, and the latter of Vermont. John Cone after his marriage settled in Oswego and died there in 1864. His widow afterward removed to Paw Paw, Michigan, and finally came to LaGrange, where she died in September, 1889, at the age of eighty-three. The Cone children were Alpheus, Carlton, Edwin, Chester, Charles Oscar, Edgar, Frances Eugenia, Mary Jane, Lucretia Charlotte, and Sarah. All the sons of the family were soldiers in the Civil war.

Robert Oliver, father of Mrs. Appleman, when a young man went to Michigan and was married February 22, 1865. He died in Michigan leaving two children, Jennie Lovina and Charles, who died in infancy. December 23, 1880, his widow, Mrs. Oliver, became the wife of Henry Bowen Dangler, a native of Ohio. His brother was inventor of the gasoline stove, known as the Dangler stove. The Dangers moved to Goshen, Indiana, two years later to LaGrange, where they resided ten years, and then returned to Goshen, where Mr. Dangler died in 1916, at the age of seventy-nine. Mrs. Appleman was educated in the public schools, attended the LaGrange High School, also the Normal School at LaGrange, and was a teacher for several terms before her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. Appleman with the exception of four years in Clay Township, where he worked his father's farm, have spent all their married lives on their place of eighty acres in Springfield Township. This is a good farm, and Mr. Appleman has always raised much good stock. He is a republican, and he and his wife are Methodists, though she was reared in the Presbyterian Church.

The oldest child of Mr. and Mrs. Appleman is Ira Royal, Jr., born December 30, 1887. He was educated in the Springfield Township schools, including the township high school, is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and the Tri-State College at Angola, received the degree B. A., and has a prominent record as an educator. He was formerly principal of the high schools at Colesburg and Bridgewater, Iowa, also at Mount Ayr, Indiana, was principal at Kadoka, South Dakota, and finally superintendent of schools at White, South Dakota. On June 26, 1918, he enlisted and sailed for France, spending about three months in the University of Glasgow, Scotland, for special training. He was a member of Company C of the 309th Engineer Corps, 84th Division. He received his honorable discharge August 19, 1919. He was for three years a member of the State Militia.

Oliver Kenneth Appleman, the second son, was born March 24, 1890, attended public schools, the Springfield Township High School, and is a graduate of the LaGrange High School. In 1915 he received the degree Bachelor of Pedagogy from the Tri-State College, and is also an educator by training and profession. He was principal at Metz, Indiana, of the Orland High School, and in the meantime had become a member of the Indiana National Guard. From June to December, 1916, he was with the National Guard forces on the Mexican border. August 5, 1917, he began training, was sent to Fort Benjamin Harrison, later to Camp Shelby at Hattiesburg, Mississippi, and from Camp Mills, New York, was sent overseas in October, 1918. He landed at Liverpool, and soon afterward embarked for France. He returned to the United States in December, 1918. He was commissioned second lieutenant and later promoted to first lieutenant, and after his honorable discharge he re-enlisted in January, 1919, at Fort Benjamin Harrison and was sent to Camp Taylor, Kentucky, and

given special training in the School of Fire. He has since been assigned special duty in the army to establish at the Federal prison, Leavenworth, Kansas, a school for men who can neither read nor write.

John Harold, the third of Mr. Appleman's sons, was born April 8, 1894, was a graduate of the Springfield Township High School, and of the Goshen High School in 1914. He died January 25, 1916, just at the entrance to a promising manhood.

Henry Keith Appleman was born August 10, 1897, and since completing the work of the eighth grade schools in his native township has pursued farming and is now renting his father's place. Jennie Irene, the only daughter of the family, was born August 12, 1904, and is now in the first year of the Springfield Township High School.

Mr. Appleman has always taken a prominent part in local politics. For about twenty years he has been a member of the Election Board and also served as township committeeman. For nearly fourteen years he has been a director of the Farmers Rescue Insurance Company of LaGrange County.

**WALTER FAIR.** Representing an old and well known family of LaGrange County, Walter Fair spends his busy days as a farmer in Greenfield Township, and for thirty years was known over a large part of the county as the owner and operator of a threshing outfit, which he ran every season.

Mr. Fair was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, January 11, 1860, but has lived in LaGrange County since early boyhood. His parents were Noah and Jane Ellen (Group) Fair, the former a native of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Ohio. The paternal grandparents were Christopher and Rachel Fair, who moved from Pennsylvania to Ohio in early days. Christopher died in Ohio and his widow afterward came to LaGrange County and lived in Greenfield Township, and died at the home of her son Noah west of Mongo. Noah Fair and family came to Indiana in 1866, buying ninety acres in Bloomfield Township, where he lived until his death in 1914, at the age of eighty-two. His wife passed away in 1876, at the early age of thirty-seven. Their nine children included Walter, Truman, Emma, Catherine, Annie and Lottie and three others that died young, George, Deliah and Sarah.

Walter Fair grew up on the home farm in Bloomfield Township and had a public school education. He was in the threshing business for thirty years, up to 1913. In that period he operated all the different types of threshing machines, including the old horse power outfit down to the modern separator with wind stacker and almost completely automatic. During those years he and his brother Truman also owned in partnership a farm of eighty acres in Bloomfield Township. He still has that property, but for twenty-nine years has lived in Greenfield Township and rented the Allen Green farm of sixty acres. Mr. Fair is a democrat in politics.

November 24, 1889, he married Margaret Funk. She was born in LaGrange County, a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth Funk, who came to Indiana in 1865 from Tuscarawas County, Ohio, and settled in Clay Township. Mrs. Fair's parents are deceased. To their marriage were born six children, named Carl, Grace, Ross, Hazel, Basil and Lissie. The son Carl was in the draft for the World war and went to Camp Taylor at Louisville March 29, 1918. Later he was taken ill and after six months in the hospital was sent home in November, 1918.

**DAVID W. ALDRICH.** A citizen whose influence for good has been proved on numberless occasions, a prosperous and high grade farmer, David W. Aldrich has played a useful and valuable part in the citizenship of Richland Township of Steuben County. While he has lived in that county the greater part of his life, Mr. Aldrich represents the pioneer family of Aldrich in DeKalb County. The very first settler in Troy Township of that county was an Aldrich, and David W. Aldrich is descended from one of the family who came very shortly afterward.

The Aldrichs were sturdy New Englanders. Simeon Aldrich, grandfather of David W., was a native of Vermont and married in that state Emile McClure, also a native there. Following their marriage they penetrated the western wilderness as far as Medina County, Ohio, and a few years later, in 1836, joined the pioneer Aldrich settlement in Troy Township of DeKalb County. Simeon Aldrich had the real spirit of the pioneer, and after many years of quiet routine in Indiana he joined the California Argonauts of 1849, making the trip overland and afterward going West again, taking in Idaho in his tour. Simeon Aldrich and wife had the following children: Emily, John Henry, Timothy, Simeon, Jr., Abigail, Lucy Ann, Lucinda and Jonas.

John Henry Aldrich was born in Medina County, Ohio, in 1834 and died in 1908. He married Olive Wright, a native of New York State, daughter of Alexander and Orpha (Cook) Wright. John Henry Aldrich was an infant when brought to DeKalb County. He began farming as a youth in Troy Township, and in 1868 traded his farm there for one in Richland Township of Steuben County, in section 30. He owned 327 acres in Richland Township and also had 120 acres in Otsego Township. In 1883 he removed to Butler and engaged in the buying and shipping of livestock for about ten years, after which he returned to his Richland Township farm, and the last two years of his life he lived in Hamilton. He was a member of the Methodist Church at Hamilton. His four children were: David W.; Simeon F., who married Louise Hicks and is now deceased; Charles E., who married Etta Dirrim; and Hiram H., who married Bonnie Snook.

David W. Aldrich, who was born in Troy Township of DeKalb County, November 27, 1859, was reared and educated in Steuben County in Otsego and Richland townships, and as a young man entered upon the business of farming at the place where he now resides. In 1883 he married Harriet Hanes, daughter of Charles and Mary Hanes. After a year, in 1884, Mr. Aldrich bought forty acres in Otsego Township, and that was his home for fifteen years. During that time he added thirty-five acres to his farm. In 1900 he returned to the old homestead in section 30 of Richland Township. This farm is located in the center of the old Jackman settlement, which was the first permanent settlement in Richland Township. Mr. Aldrich owns 174½ acres in sections 30 and 31, his home being in the former section. He built a commodious house, in which he and his family reside, and rebuilt the barn.

Not all his time has been given to farming. As a young man he taught seven terms of school, has served one term as township assessor, served four years as trustee of Richmond Township, and at the present time is a justice of the peace. He and four of his sons are affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Aldrich are: Harry, a physician at Fairmont, Indiana, who married Cora Dally; Fred H., who married Mary Shaefer and has three children, named John Wayne, Robert and



Harry; Mary, wife of Irvin Kiess and mother of twin daughters, Irene and Ilene; Simeon F., who married Margaret Rose and has a son, Wayne Erwin; Dean D., who served in Battery B of the One Hundred and Thirty-Seventh Field Artillery during the World War; Olive L., a teacher in the Hamilton High School; Wilmet, a teacher in the home school in Richland Township; and Howard, a student in the Hamilton High School.

**CLYDE PERKINS.** A great deal of business enterprise has been supplied by members of the Perkins family in Milford Township. The present generation is represented by four Perkins brothers, owners of the Stroh Grain Company at Stroh, and individually successful farmers. One of them is Clyde Perkins, whose home is in section 23 of Milford Township.

On this farm he was born July 24, 1876, a son of Samuel and Emma (Mains) Perkins. His father was born in Pennsylvania August 24, 1838, a son of Jacob and Sarah (Phelps) Perkins. Jacob Perkins came to LaGrange County about 1830, settling in Milford township, and was the third permanent resident of that locality. He entered land from the Government, and in a clearing in the midst of the woods built his double log house. He was killed in the Wert sawmill. He was a whig and republican. Samuel Perkins grew up on the home farm, and after his marriage located in Wayne Township of Noble County, but six years later traded his property there for the farm now owned by his son Clyde. He was a republican, and his wife was a member of the Methodist Church. They had five sons, Jada D., a well known farmer and business man of LaGrange County; Miles E., who died when two years of age; Samuel M., a farmer a mile west of Stroh; Clyde; and Roy, who is cashier of the Bank of Stroh.

Clyde Perkins grew up on his father's farm and finished his education in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola. April 5, 1905, he married Grace Skelly. She was born in Steuben County and is a graduate of the common schools. They have four children, Dorothy, Donald, Mildred and Ralph. Mr. Perkins is a republican. For eight and a half terms he taught school in Milford Township, and since then has been applying his efforts successfully to farming and stockraising. He is a breeder of registered Percheron horses, having about seventeen head of horses, with a stallion sired by Carnot. He also handles Shorthorn cattle, his herd being headed by Gloster Lad, a pure Scotch bull. Mr. Perkins is also a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank of Stroh.

**CHARLES FREDERICK SUNTHIMER.** The enthralling story of hardihood and resourcefulness in the finding and maintaining of a home on the American frontiers is now largely of the past, but the pioneering spirit lives yet and is exercised in other directions. It requires something of this spirit for a young man of today to push his business bark into the commercial sea, and it demands a large amount of foresight and good judgment to guide its course. One of the younger business men of Shipshewana, who is successfully dealing with the many problems a large mercantile trade offers, is Charles Frederick Sunthimer, who is sole proprietor of a business.

Charles Frederick Sunthimer was born in Newbury Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, April 14, 1896, and is a son of Joseph E. and Ida M. (Stutzman) Sunthimer. Joseph E. Sunthimer was born in Newbury Township, November 8, 1864, a son of Frederick and Rachel (Miller) Sunthimer. Frederick Sunthimer lost his mother when very

young and his father, Adam Sunthimer, died in Holmes County, Ohio, supposedly a victim of a murderer. Frederick was adopted by a family that brought him to LaGrange County and reared him. He was engaged in agricultural pursuits all his life in Newbury Township, where he married and where he died April 14, 1900. He was the father of six children, namely: Mary, Joseph E., Rachel, Andrew, Amanda and Edward.

Joseph E. Sunthimer grew to manhood in Newbury Township, attended the public schools and later the normal school at LaGrange, after which he taught school for about five years and was very well thought of in that vocation, making friends who later became steady patrons when, in 1891, he established himself in the mercantile business at Shipshewana, after two years in the village of Pashan in Newbury Township. He was a man of sterling integrity and fine business capacity. He suffered twice by fire, losing stock and buildings, after which he put up the present substantial store structure. He owned at the time of death, October 12, 1916, a store at Topeka, Indiana, and one at Milford, and also a farm in the county. He was a republican in his political views, as his father had been late in life, but neither of them ever were willing to accept any political honors.

On July 13, 1884, Joseph E. Sunthimer was married to Ida M. Stutzman, who was born in Elkhart County, Indiana, December 20, 1866, a daughter of Abraham and Elizabeth (Kauffman) Stutzman, both of whom were born in 1841, he in Elkhart, Indiana, and she in Wayne County, Ohio. The paternal grandparents of Mrs. Sunthimer, Michael Stutzman and wife, moved from Pennsylvania to Elkhart and died there. The following children were born to Joseph E. Sunthimer and his wife, Elva B., who attended the high school at Shipshewana, is the wife of Dr. Walter Samuel, of Zanesville, Ohio, and they have two children, James and Paul; Edith M., who is a graduate of the high school, is the wife of Thomas Staley, living in New Mexico, and they have two children, Rachel and Dorothy; Ira, who is a high school graduate, married Mabel Frederick, and they have one child, Barbara Elizabeth; Clara, who was graduated from the Shipshewana High School, is the wife of Carson Wise; Maud, who is also a high school graduate, is the wife of Roy Kauffman; Alta, also a high school graduate, who is the wife of Samuel Hoover, and they have one daughter, Mary Elizabeth; Marie, who was graduated from the Shipshewana High School, is associated with Charles Frederick, next older than herself, and their mother in the ownership of the store; Rachel, who is the wife of Dallas Rogers, is also a high school graduate; and Joseph, Josephine and Leroy, all at home. This is an intellectual family, almost all of them being college or university graduates, some of them being teachers, and gifted with social talents as well.

Charles Frederick Sunthimer was graduated from the Shipshewana High School in 1914 and taught one term of school. After his father's death he took charge of the business and continued until he entered military service in the World war, March 29, 1918. He was sent to Camp Taylor, Kentucky, for training, was promoted to corporal and later transferred to the regimental band and served as a musician until his honorable discharge December 6, 1918, when he returned home and resumed the duties of civil life.

On May 9, 1919, Mr. Sunthimer was united in marriage to Miss Florence Weaver, who was born at Goshen, Indiana, July 6, 1899, and is a daughter of Jesse and Margaret Weaver, highly esteemed residents of Goshen. Mr. Sunthimer was reared in the

Methodist Church, and his paternal grandmother was a daughter of Rev. Joseph Miller, who was a minister in the Amish Church.

JOHN L. MINCH has for many years been a member of the business and agricultural community around Howe. For a number of years he was in the windmill business, both selling and installing windmills. He now owns and occupies a farm in Lima Township, and has the management and direction of a large acreage devoted to general farming and live stock.

Mr. Minch was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, April 8, 1864, a son of Lewis and Catherine (Rephan) Minch, his father a native of Germany and his mother born either in Pennsylvania or Ohio. The paternal grandparents spent all their lives in Germany. The maternal grandparents lived and died in Ohio. Lewis Minch in addition to serving an apprenticeship at the tanner's trade in Germany acquired a good education in academic lines and music. In 1860 he came to this country and followed his trade in Ohio, afterwards moved to Wisconsin and owned a tannery at Spring Green in Sauk County, but subsequently returned to Ohio, and both he and his wife died at Lisbon in that state.

John L. Minch was the only child of his parents. He attended country schools in Stark County, Ohio, also at White Pigeon, Michigan, and for six years he was in the employ of other men in installing windmills around the Village of Howe. He then engaged in the business for himself at Howe, but in 1910 came to his present farm near that village, where he owns forty acres and operates 300 acres.

In 1887 he married Miss Dora Cook, a native of Ohio and a daughter of Milton Cook. They have a family of six children, all of whom are giving good accounts of themselves. Elsie is Mrs. Corwin Dickerson, of Ionia, Michigan; Ethel is a graduate of a business college at South Bend and the wife of Walter Haybarger at Howe; Earl is a teacher at Decatur, Indiana; Eason lives at home; Emanda is a graduate of the Elkhart Business College and is connected with the creamery at LaGrange; Electa is an employee of the post-office at Howe. All of these children are graduates of the Howe High School. Earl also took a course in the Kalamazoo Business College. The family are Presbyterians, and Mr. Minch is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Howe.

ROBERT CHARD, a well known resident of Steuben County, now living at Angola, was born in Otsego Township March 23, 1851.

He is a son of Thomas and Nancy (Robinson) Chard, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. They were early settlers in Steuben County, their first home being on eighty acres in Otsego Township. Thomas Chard died in 1873 and his wife in 1892. He was a democrat, and they were members of the Methodist Church. Their children were Robert, Mary, Nancy, William and Ella.

Robert Chard grew up on the home farm in Otsego Township and after the death of his father took charge of its management. Later he bought 120 acres in the same Township, sold that and bought 200 acres in Scott Township, where his son Emmet now lives, and after many years of productive effort he retired in 1909 and owns one of the beautiful homes of Angola. He is a republican and served in the office of trustee of Scott Township. He and his wife are Methodists.

In 1879 he married Dorcas Thompson. She was

born in Richland County, Ohio, June 11, 1857, a daughter of Samuel and Eliza (Young) Thompson. Her parents settled in Scott Township April 16, 1879, their first home being eighty acres, and later they bought a farm in Otsego Township. They sold that and returned to Scott Township and acquired eighty acres near the first place of their settlement. Mrs. Chard's father died in 1881. There were five children in the Thompson family, named Margaret, H. Franklin, John, Dorcas and Thomas Benton.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Chard had four children: Leo Clarence, who died at the age of eleven months; Emmet B., on the homestead farm; Carl C., who died when two years old; and Ethel, who is the wife of Heyman B. Allman and has a daughter, Martha Ellen.

OTTO H. SWANTUSCH, M. D., who in a brief time has acquired a large following as a physician and surgeon at Angola, has accepted all the opportunities afforded the progressive young doctor to make the most of his profession and his service to the world. He has had a varied experience in different localities and came to Angola well qualified for mature and skillful work.

He was born at Mankato, Minnesota, December 5, 1883, a son of Fred and Augusta (Henning) Swantusch. His father was born in Germany and his mother in Alsace-Lorraine. They were married in Germany, and on coming to America located in Cleveland, Ohio, in 1872 and in 1880 went to Minnesota. In 1890 the family located at Garrett, Indiana, where Fred Swantusch lived until his death in 1917. His wife died there in 1897. Though many of his years were given to farming, he was a cabinet maker by trade and for many years was employed in that capacity in the shops of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and the last two years of his life he was a pensioner of the Railroad Company. He was a republican in politics and a member of the Lutheran Church. He and his wife had twelve children, Doctor Swantusch being the youngest. The others still living are: Frank, of Butler, Indiana, an electrician; Henry, a machinist and electrician at Three Rivers, Michigan; Emma, of Richmond, Indiana; Lena, wife of Rev. Otto Schumm, of Brownstown, Indiana. There is also a half brother, Fred Brandt, living at Cleveland, Ohio.

Doctor Swantusch received his early education in the public schools of Minnesota, graduated from the high school at Garrett, Indiana, and took his medical course in the Fort Wayne College of Medicine, the medical department of Indiana University. He graduated in 1905, and had an internship in the St. Joseph Hospital at Fort Wayne, and locum tenens at Ravenna, Michigan. He practiced at Metz in Steuben County four years, and then for three months was in partnership with Doctor Shoemaker at Butler, Indiana. Returning to Metz at the end of that time, Doctor Swantusch enlisted June 26, 1917, in the Medical Reserve Corps of the National Army, receiving a commission as first lieutenant. He was on duty at Fort Benjamin Harrison until receiving his honorable discharge May 1, 1918. Doctor Swantusch took up his duties as a regular practitioner at Angola on November 26, 1917. He is a member of the County, State and Northern Tri-State societies and the American Medical Association, is a republican, and is affiliated with the Elks, the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Masons. He was reared in the faith of the Lutheran Church.

August 3, 1905, Doctor Swantusch married Miss Mabel Berry, of Fort Wayne.





*O. H. Swantusch M. D*





WILLARD C. DEWIRE, though a native of Kansas, has been identified with the farming interests of Richland Township in Steuben County since a young man, and in association with his son carries on a very extensive and prosperous business in feeding and shipping livestock. Mr. Dewire makes his home at Edon, Ohio, his son living on the farm, and together they co-operate in a business that has grown up year by year under the constant supervision of Mr. Dewire.

He was born in Allen County, Kansas, June 5, 1869, son of Monterville D. and Lizzie (Harris) Dewire. His parents were both born in Washington County, Pennsylvania. Monterville was only nine years old when his father died. Lizzie Harris was well educated and was an instructor in a girls' seminary at California, Pennsylvania. Monterville Dewire before going into the army spelled his name Dwyer. On the army rolls it was written Dewire and the family has continued that orthography ever since. Monterville Dewire was a member of Company A of the One Hundred and Tenth Pennsylvania Infantry, and was with every engagement of his regiment and was in the war three years and seven months. Later he moved to Missouri, spent one year in that state, and for sixteen years lived as a farmer in Allen County, Kansas. On returning East he located in Williams County, Ohio, living at Edon four years. In 1886 he bought a 160-acre farm in section 29 of Richland Township, Steuben County, added twenty acres to that, but about 1911 returned to Edon, where he is still living. His wife died in 1901. They were the parents of five children: Milton, a physician and a graduate of Rush Medical College of Chicago, now practicing at Sharon, Wisconsin; Willard C.; Elgy, a farmer in Williams County, Ohio; Lula, wife of Harvey Omstead, of Otsego Township, Steuben County; and Lela, wife of Leo Morley.

Willard C. Dewire acquired his early education in the schools of Allen County, Kansas, and was about seventeen years old when his father located in Steuben County. Soon afterward he began farming in Richland Township, and in 1895 bought seventy acres included in his present landed possessions. He increased his holdings until he has 180 acres in sections 32 and 33, while he and his son Montie own another farm of 173 acres. They use this land for general farming purposes, and pasture and feed a large amount of livestock every year. The son took first premium on a carload of fat lambs at the Buffalo Fat Stock Show, and their long experience and study enable them to make the most out of any given condition affecting the growing and fattening of stock for the market. Their building improvements on the farm are of the very best.

In 1913 Mr. Dewire moved to Edon, leaving his son on the farm. Mr. Dewire married Myrtie Robinett, daughter of Thomas Robinett, and member of a well-known family of Steuben County, elsewhere noted. Their only child is their son Montie, who married Ethel Ingram and has two children, Myra and Marie. Mr. Dewire is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, being a charter member of Edon Lodge No. 644. His son has a technical as well as practical training for his business as a farmer and stock feeder, having taken two short courses in agriculture and stock husbandry at the Wisconsin State University and one short course at Purdue University.

CHARLES E. HARTZLER is proprietor of the Pine View Dairy Farm in Eden Township, located a half mile west of Topeka. He is a practical dairyman, thorough and efficient in the management of his

herd of choice cattle and an all around good business man.

Mr. Hartzler was born in Eden Township of LaGrange County, July 9, 1870, a son of D. W. and Anna (Greenawalt) Hartzler, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Fairfield County, Ohio. They were married in Indiana and then located on a farm in Eden Township, where they lived until advanced years and spent their last days in Topeka. They were members of the Mennonite Church, and D. W. Hartzler was active head of the Sunday school for many years. He died in January, 1918, having survived his wife only a few weeks. She passed away December 26, 1917. They had seven children: Elizabeth, unmarried; Ephraim E., and William W., both of Clear Spring Township; Celestia B., unmarried; Charles E.; Alice I., widow of N. M. Lantz; and E. Blanche, wife of Charles Miller.

Charles E. Hartzler lived at home and attended the district schools to the age of twenty-one. The Pine View Dairy Farm, of which he is proprietor, comprises eighty-four acres of good land, and he also has other business relations. He is LaGrange County agent for the Hinman Milking Machine, is a director of the Farmers State Bank of Topeka and is director for Eden Township of the Farmers Mutual Insurance Company of LaGrange County. He and his family are members of the Mennonite Church.

In 1897 he married Salina Hartzler, a native of Noble County, Indiana, and they are the parents of three children: Lillian, who is a graduate of the Topeka High School and of Goshen College, normal department, and has taught for one year; Lucile, a graduate of high school and of the Fort Wayne Business College; and Lois.

JOHN WILLIAM LAWRENCE. An old and honored family of DeKalb County bears the name of Lawrence, and for many years it has belonged to Richland Township, in the development of which it has borne a useful part. A representative member of this old family is John William Lawrence, who was born on the old Lawrence homestead in Richland Township, September 13, 1856.

The earliest American record of this branch of the Lawrence family leads back to John R. Lawrence, of English extraction, who lived in the village, now the city, of Germantown, Pennsylvania. Six of his sixteen children, George, David, John, Emily, Hannah and Mary, came to DeKalb County, Indiana. They found here the Symonds family, who had previously lived in New York and Ohio, and had been the seventh family to locate in Auburn, a hamlet then so small that Perry Symonds is said to have asked its location when standing in its midst. David Lawrence, of the above family, married Mary C. Symonds, a daughter of James and Mary (Camp) Symonds, November 30, 1848, and two days later they settled on the old homestead farm in Richland Township. Their first round log house has disappeared, but the second and third houses built by David Lawrence are standing today. Mr. Lawrence acquired the wild land by contracting to work one year for it, but the prevailing ague that caused much sickness in malarial districts in those early days attacked him and he was obliged to work six months longer in order to complete his contract. He helped build the first and only water-power sawmill at Auburn, on Cedar Creek, and helped cut out the road from Auburn to the northwest. He utilized the strength of oxen in farming and hauled his surplus farm products to Fort Wayne. Three children were born to David Lawrence and his wife, namely: one who died in infancy; John William; and Emily

E., who is the wife of J. S. Graham. Mary Edna Graham, married John L. Harding, and they are the tenants on the old homestead farm. The Harding children are: Ralph G., Roy L., Mark E. and Philip W. Ralph G. married Pearl Roland, and they have two children, Edna Eunice and Roland G., these two children being in the fifth generation. Roy L. Harding, who was one of the members of the early medical units to go to France in the World war, has given a good account of himself. Mark Harding married Irene Parker, also of an old DeKalb County family. William L. Graham married Vesta Texer, and their children are William, Robert, Kenneth and John. They had a son, Richard, who met an accidental death. Maud Graham is the wife of Junius R. Latson, and they have two children: Wilma and Margaret. Mary Charlotte Graham is the wife of Fred Krichbaum, and they have three children: Dorothy, Elizabeth and Mary Fredericka.

On December 17, 1885, John William Lawrence was united in marriage to Alfaretta Sheffer, who was born October 28, 1866, in Jackson Township, DeKalb County, one of a family of seven children born to John and Martha (McClellan) Sheffer, the others being: Emma A.; James W., who married Cora Chaney, has two children, Heber W. and Martha Naomi; Mary Monellie, who is the wife of J. W. Garnette, and they have four children, Allie, Lloyd, Lucile and Kathleen; Nye C., who married Irma Huff; and Milton and Curtis, who died in childhood. The Sheffer family is of German descent and had lived in Pennsylvania and Ohio before coming to Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have no children of their own but Miss Bernice Harding stands in that relation to them in affection. They have always lived in the brick veneer frame house built by the father of Mr. Lawrence in 1884. It is equipped with modern conveniences of every kind and is not only a home of comfort but one of beauty also.

The mother of Mr. Lawrence was a charter member of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Auburn and Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have their membership there. Mr. Lawrence is not active in politics but formerly his father was elected a trustee of the township on the republican ticket. While they have never desired to change their place of residence, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence have recognized the fact that there are many other parts of the country worth seeing and together they have traveled quite extensively as sightseers. The family military record is one worth preserving in connection with other family history. The Lawrences were represented in the Revolutionary war as well as the War of 1812, and in the Civil war these uncles of Mr. Lawrence took part: John Lawrence and John, Rudolph, James, Albertus and Charles Symonds. The uncles of Mrs. Lawrence who were soldiers in the Civil war were William Sheffer and John, Harvey and Alexander McClellan. In the World war the name of Roy L. Harding appears as one of its heroes. For a peaceful, law-abiding family from generation to generation this is a sufficient record of loyalty and patriotism.

PRICE BROTHERS is the business title of two very enterprising farmers and land owners of LaGrange County, Harry W. and Fred E. Price. They have been associated in farming and related business enterprises for a quarter of a century, and for a number of years have been regarded as the most extensive sheep feeders and raisers in the entire county.

Their parents were Arthur M. and Emily (Weir) Price. Arthur M. Price was born in Preble County,

Ohio, in 1839, son of Francis M. Price. Francis Price came from Ohio about 1844 and entered land north of LaGrange, eventually acquiring about five hundred acres. He and his wife lived in this county until their death. Arthur M. Price was a small child when brought to LaGrange County, grew up and received his education in the common schools and in the LaGrange County Institute at Ontario, and for several years farmed the old homestead. In 1867 he went out to Missouri and bought a section of prairie land, which he broke and cultivated for nearly ten years. In 1876 he went to Michigan and rented a farm for one year, and then returned to LaGrange County, where he continued as a renter until 1882. In 1892 he bought the farm of John G. Wade, consisting of eighty acres, and before his death two years later had about two hundred acres under his ownership. His widow survived him until 1906. He was a republican in politics.

Harry W. and Fred E. Price were the only children of their parents. Harry W. was born in Morgan County, Missouri, November 6, 1869, began his education in the public schools in that state and in 1876 went to Michigan with his parents and since 1877 has lived in LaGrange County. He and his brother Fred inherited the old homestead of two hundred acres and their operations have justified increased purchases until they now have in joint ownership eight hundred forty-six acres. Since 1894 they have been sheep feeders, and their operations in that line are conducted on a large scale. Mr. Harry Price is a republican and for two years was a county drainage commissioner. In 1896 he married Miss Grace Case, who was born in Milford Township, a daughter of Billings B. and Eliza (Myers) Case. Mrs. Price died in 1904, the mother of three children, Arthur, Henry M. and Grace, the last two twins.

Fred Price, junior member of the firm, was born in Morgan County, Missouri, July 20, 1871, and is a graduate of the LaGrange High School. For two years he taught school and since then has been in business with his brother. He is a republican and is a director of the LaGrange State Bank and a member of the Masonic Lodge at LaGrange.

HAMILTON GARLETS. The Garlets family has figured conspicuously in the history of several localities in Northeast Indiana. One of the family, Hamilton Garlets, is a successful farmer and land owner in Springfield Township of LaGrange County.

He has lived in this county for over forty years. He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, November 21, 1857, a son of Jacob and Sarah (Miller) Garlets, also natives of Somerset County. Hamilton's mother died when he was about three years of age. Her parents were Peter D. and Maria (Harding) Miller, and her grandfather was David Miller, all of whom were Somerset County farmers.

Jacob Garlets came to LaGrange County about 1868 and located on the farm where Charles Garlets now lives in Greenfield Township. After moving to this county he married for his second wife Miss Lucy Bennett, of Springfield, Ohio. She died in 1905, and while he owned farm lands he spent most of his career as a carpenter. He had three children by his first wife, Jesse, Hamilton and Ananias, and one by his second marriage, Bessie Elizabeth.

Hamilton Garlets remained in Pennsylvania until he was about nineteen years of age, receiving his education in Somerset County. He came to LaGrange County in 1876, and has since been busily engaged in farming. He has lived on his present place of forty acres in Springfield Township a num-



ber of years, and also owns forty acres of timber lands in another locality and eight and a half acres near Mongo.

Mr. Garlets had two sons and two sons-in-law who were American soldiers during the World war. He married Miss Emma Fair, a daughter of Noah Fair, on April 8, 1881. Six children were born to them. Clayton, at home; Dessie, wife of Frank M. Engle; Clyde; Harry; Herbert A.; and Eva, wife of Alvin Weiss. The son Harry was with the Forty-Seventh Infantry in the Fourth Division, and took part in three major offensives in France, the Enmar, Soisson and Meuse-Argonne drives. He was wounded in the first drive. After the signing of the armistice he became a student in the great American army university at Beaume, France. The son Clyde also saw overseas service with the Seventieth Coast Artillery. Mr. Garlets' son-in-law, Frank Engle, was with the Field Artillery Replacement Band, detached from the Second Division.

**CHARLES E. BAKER.** One of the prosperous farmers of Steuben County, Indiana, was born on the farm he now owns and occupies in Otsego Township, May 6, 1865. His parents, John and Catherine (Sanxter) Baker, were early settlers of Steuben County. John Baker was born in Loudoun County, Virginia, January 21, 1831, his wife was born in England, March 3, 1844. In 1850 John Baker came to Steuben County with his parents, Samuel and Sarah (Shriver) Baker, who bought 160 acres of land in section 25, Otsego Township. Later they added to their holdings until they had 640 acres, which they divided among their seven children prior to their death. Samuel Baker passed away April 11, 1884, aged eighty-three years, having been born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, June 11, 1801, and his wife died in 1887.

John Baker lived in Pennsylvania and Wayne County, Ohio, prior to coming to Steuben County, Indiana, and there he attended school. In early life he was a teacher in Otsego and Richland townships, but later on settled on the eighty acres of land given him by his father, adding to it forty acres of section 23 of that township. He built a house on the north forty acres in 1887, and on December 25th of that year moved into it, and there he died March 4, 1905, his widow surviving him until April 23, 1907. In politics he was a democrat. He and his wife were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was recording steward for many years and also a member of the Official Board of the church, taking an active part in all of its good work. He and his wife had the following children: Charles E., Mary P. and Cora Rebecca. Prior to his marriage with Catherine Sanxter, John Baker was married, March 4, 1855, to Salinda E. Keyes, a sister of William H. Keyes, mentioned elsewhere in this work, and by his first marriage he had the following children: Samuel E., who died in infancy; Sarah E., who married G. W. Goudy, and is deceased; and W. H., who died in infancy. The first Mrs. Baker died June 11, 1863.

Charles E. Baker grew up in a happy home, and was early taught the dignity of labor and the usefulness of the life of a farmer. He went to the rural schools and took a three years' course at the Angola High School, and then for the subsequent four years followed in his father's footsteps and was an educator. He then assumed charge of the homestead, replacing the old residence in 1910 with the present modern and convenient one, and is now engaged in general farming and stock raising, having had a very gratifying success in his work. In politics a democrat, he has been very active in local

affairs. When he was twenty-one years old he was made a member of the Odd Fellows at Metz, Indiana, that being in 1886, and later he connected himself with Hamilton Lodge No. 648, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, of which he is now the only living charter member, serving it for the past six years as financial secretary. He also belongs to Otsego Lodge No. 701, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of Hamilton, and Hamilton Lodge No. 228, Knights of Pythias.

On April 11, 1888, Mr. Baker was united in marriage with Emma A. Chard, born in Otsego Township, September 8, 1864, a daughter of Charles and Anna (Dotts) Chard, he born in Otsego Township, March 26, 1838, and she in Hancock County, Ohio, March 16, 1842. Charles Chard was a son of Levi and Lydia (Harriman) Chard, farming people of Otsego Township, he born May 7, 1814, a son of W. and Susan Chard, natives of England. W. Chard died at Sandusky, Ohio, in 1823, and his wife passed away in Steuben County, Indiana, at the residence of Mrs. Betsy Shaeffer, at a later date. Levi Chard was reared in Ohio, where he was married, and in the fall of 1837 came to Jackson Township, Steuben County, Indiana, living on land now occupied by J. Croy, but later bought forty acres of land in Otsego Township. Still later he went to Illinois, but returned to Otsego Township, and he died at the home of his son, Enoch Chard, of Angola, who now lives in Michigan. Mr. and Mrs. Baker became the parents of two children: Virgil C. and Ora L. Virgil C. Baker was born August 2, 1891, and attended the public schools of Otsego Township. He was married to Artie Beard, a daughter of Henry and Ida (Norigan) Beard, of DeKalb County, Indiana, and they have three children, Mildred, Keith and Ruth. Ora L. Baker was born October 11, 1897, and attended the public schools of Otsego Township, the Hamilton High School, from which he was graduated, and the Tri-State Normal School of Angola, and is now engaged in farming. He married Aldah Fee, a daughter of Frank and Setta (Gilbert) Fee, a sketch of whom appears elsewhere in this work. Mr. and Mrs. O. L. Baker have one child, Florabel. Virgil C. and Ora L. Baker are members of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows of Hamilton.

**JOHN F. MUSSER**, who is now living in comfortable retirement on his village farm at Metz, has well earned the material position he enjoys and also the homage and respect of his country and community. He was member of a family that contributed in a remarkable manner to the Union cause during the Civil war. He and three of his brothers were soldiers and two of them gave up their lives in the struggle.

Mr. Musser was born in Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, November 9, 1840, a son of Henry and Mary (Lepord) Musser. His parents moved to Steuben County in 1853, and settled on eighty acres of land in Richland Township. Their first home was a log cabin, and Henry Musser had made some progress with clearing up the land and making a farm before he died in 1860. He lost his wife in 1858. Of their five sons, all but the youngest, David, who is still living in York Township, served as Union soldiers. The oldest was William, who enlisted in Company H of the One Hundred and Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry in 1863, and was in service until the close. The second in the family is John F. Edwin enlisted in 1861 in Company A of the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry, and died at Henderson, Kentucky, in 1862. Samuel enlisted in Company A of the One Hundred and Twenty-

Ninth Indiana in 1863, and died a few weeks later at Chattanooga. The father of these children was a vigorous republican and member of the Lutheran Church.

John F. Musser was thirteen years old when his parents came to Steuben County, and he finished his education in the public schools of Richland Township. He was the second of the four brothers to get into active service during the war. November 15, 1862, he enlisted in Company B of the One Hundredth Indiana Infantry, and was with the Union armies until after the close of the war. The last important event in the service was the Grand Review at Washington on May 22, 1865. Altogether he was in twenty-seven battles, including Vicksburg, Jackson, Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, the continuous fighting of 100 days in the advance from Chattanooga to Atlanta constituting the Atlanta campaign, and afterward in Sherman's march to the sea and through the Carolinas. He was wounded at Missionary Ridge. After his discharge in June, 1865, Mr. Musser returned to Steuben County and took up the trade of mason, which he followed actively for thirty-five years. He has lived on his place at Metz since 1870. He has seventeen acres adjoining the village, improved with a good home, and there is enough land to afford him a comfortable living.

Mr. Musser has always been a stalwart republican and is a liberal in religious views. For twenty-one years he was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is still a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Metz and the Grand Army of the Republic. He and his wife are members of the Pythian Sisters. In 1880 he was elected a justice of the peace, and filled that office four years, and for four years was township assessor of York Township.

On September 28, 1869, Mr. Musser married Miss Harriet Snyder. She was born in Stark County, Ohio, September 2, 1845, a daughter of Henry and Elizabeth (Snyder) Snyder. Her parents were natives of Schuylkill, Pennsylvania, and came to Steuben County about 1858, settling in Richland Township. In the fall of that year her father broke the ground and put in a crop of wheat, and the family lived in a log house until a better dwelling could be provided. Henry Snyder died in 1867, at the age of fifty-two, and his widow survived until 1899, to the age of eighty-two. In the Snyder family were the following children: Joel, who was a Civil war veteran and is now deceased; Louisa; Henry, also a Union soldier; Harriet; Emanuel; Mary; Sarah, deceased; John; George Washington, deceased; and Abraham Lincoln.

Mr. and Mrs. Musser are the parents of three children, Cora Ellen, Lee Henry, mentioned on other pages, and Ray Hubert. The daughter, born September 2, 1871, is the wife of John Tyson, a railroad engineer living at Detroit. Ray Hubert, who was born June 17, 1883, married Lola Fireoved, who was born in Williams County, Ohio, September 3, 1885, a daughter of William and Louisa (Rerish) Fireoved. Ray H. Musser and wife had one child, Carl, who died in infancy.

FRED MILLER OWNS and looks after a good farm in Jackson Township of DeKalb County. Farming is an occupation of his later years. He always had a fondness for country life, but during the greater part of his active career followed a mechanical trade. His home is in section 36 of Jackson Township.

Mr. Miller was born at Kendallville, Indiana, November 7, 1866, a son of John and Minnie (Keihl) Miller. His parents were natives of Germany, were

married in that country, and on coming to the United States made their first destination Chicago. Not long afterward they left that city and walked all the way to Kendallville. They lived there the rest of their days. The father was a drayman for many years.

Fred Miller was seven years old when his father died and after that he lived with his mother and had little opportunity to attend school. At the age of sixteen he began learning the boilermaker's trade, and for many years was in the railroad shops at Garrett, and worked steadily at his trade for thirty years. In 1912 he invested his savings and earnings in his farm in Jackson Township, and has lived there and enjoyed a contented life and considerable prosperity since the fall of 1912. He is a democrat in politics and he and his wife are members of the Reformed Church.

May 24, 1888, Mr. Miller married Ella Steffen. She was born in Keyser Township, near Garrett, June 5, 1867, and her parents were also natives of Germany. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have six living children: Louis, who was in the army with the Expeditionary Forces in France; John, a boilermaker living in Garrett; Charles, who also was in the army; Frank; Fred E. and Elzena.

PLINY E. HUDSON OWNS one of the fine farms in Lima Township, LaGrange County, and is a citizen who has made the interests of his community his own, and his neighbors and friends all over LaGrange County respect him for his ability, his good judgment and his thorough public spirit.

His family connections have proved themselves examples of the very best American traditions, not only in peace but in war. Mr. Hudson was born at East Palmyra, New York, January 31, 1852, a son of Isaac and Sarah Ann (Alling) Hudson, who were also natives of New York State. His paternal great-grandfather was John Hudson. John Hudson and a brother-in-law were Continental soldiers in the struggle for independence, spent the winter of desolation and hardship at Valley Forge, and were afterward made prisoners by the village. After they were liberated John Hudson died while on his way home. The paternal grandparents of Pliny E. Hudson were Colonel Samuel and Mary (Emmons) Hudson, also natives of New York State. Colonel Samuel Hudson served with that rank and title as a soldier in the War of 1812. He was also at one time sheriff of Columbia County, New York. His wife's grandfather was Woodruff Emmons, whose father came to America about 1718. A member of the Emmons family was Carolas Emmons, who served in the Revolutionary army with the rank of major general.

Isaac Hudson, father of Pliny, was appointed quartermaster lieutenant in the 39th Regiment of New York Militia. His brother Pliny E., for whom the LaGrange County citizen was named, had held the office of quartermaster lieutenant in the same regiment in 1840, his brother Isaac being then quartermaster sergeant. Pliny E. Hudson, the elder, received his commission from William H. Seward, then governor of New York and afterward secretary of war under Lincoln. Mr. Hudson of LaGrange County has the original commissions granted to his uncle and his father.

Another uncle of Mr. Hudson, Samuel Hudson, came to LaGrange County about 1845 and acquired and developed a fine farm of two hundred forty acres in Lima Township. He sold that property in 1876. From 1852 to 1858 he was county commissioner and served one term as a member of the State Legislature, being elected in 1860.

Isaac Hudson arrived in LaGrange County and



settled on the farm a little east of Howe in Lima Township, where his son Pliny now lives, on May 15, 1853. He bought this land from Mr. West, paying twenty dollars an acre, the price including both stock and tools. He bought two hundred acres, but did not long enjoy or use the property, since death overtook him nine months later, on March 4, 1854. His widow survived him over sixty years, passing away November 15, 1915. She was the mother of three children, the youngest, Isaac, dying at the age of seventeen. Pliny E. was the second, and his sister, Sarah J., became the wife of Joseph Scott, who at one time was county treasurer of LaGrange County.

Pliny E. Hudson was only an infant when brought to LaGrange County. He has always lived on the old homestead and he finished his education in the Collegiate Institute at Ontario. He now owns two hundred eighty acres, has remodeled the buildings, and in every sense has kept up with the march of improvements in agriculture. He helped organize the Home Elevator Company and has since been a member of its board of directors. He was also one of the founders of the local cemetery association and is a life director. A fact of local history that should be mentioned is that the committee which organized the LaGrange Collegiate Institute at Ontario met on the farm, now owned by Pliny E. Hudson. Mr. Hudson served seven years and seven months as township trustee of Lima, and for six years was a member of the Board of County Commissioners. He was one of the founders and a member of the building committee of the Lima Creamery, and was one of its directors for several years.

December 26, 1884, he married Miss Gertrude Walker, who was born in Eden Township of LaGrange County, but she and her husband were reared on adjoining farms in Lima Township. She is a daughter of William H. Walker. They have two children, Anna A. and William W. Anna is the wife of Frank Rice and has a son, William K. William W. Hudson served with the rank of captain in the 39th Ammunition Train with the 84th Division in France, and is now working for the American Agricultural Chemical Company.

William H. Walker, father of Mrs. Hudson, was born at Logan in Hocking County, Ohio, August 2, 1827, son of Thomas and Elizabeth (Harman) Walker, both natives of Yorkshire, England. They were married after coming to Ohio, and moved from Ohio to Elkhart County, Indiana, in 1835 and four years later settled in Eden Township of LaGrange County, where they made their home until moving to Lima Township in 1862. Thomas Walker was a blacksmith before coming to Indiana. William H. Walker was one of a family of nine children. After his father's death he took charge of the home farm, but in 1862 moved to Lima Township. He married Miss Sarah S. Coldren on June 1, 1851. Sarah Coldren is an historic personage in LaGrange County, being distinguished as the first white girl born there. Her birth occurred in Lima Township May 4, 1832. Her parents were Nehemiah and Sibel (Newton) Coldren. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania, grew up in Delaware County, Ohio, and came to LaGrange County as early as 1828, when all that country was a wilderness. In 1830, at White Pigeon, Michigan, he was married, and after that he made his home in Lima Township until 1833, when he moved to Eden Township. Nehemiah Coldren is remembered as the first sheriff of LaGrange County, and he held the office of county commissioner six years. William H. Walker owned and developed a farm of two hundred ten acres. He was a republican in

politics. He and his wife had seven children, named Augusta S., Gertrude L., Charles J., William C., Edward, Florence and Willie.

**HARVEY C. PLANK.** The early practical experience and training of Mr. Plank as a farmer undoubtedly helped his qualifications for dealing in agricultural implements. He is also a general merchant at Brighton in Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, a community in which he has spent practically all his life. He has helped forward many local enterprises, and the confidence he enjoys from his fellow citizens is well indicated by the fact that he is the present township trustee.

He was born in Greenfield Township May 30, 1874, a son of Christian J. and Fannie (Morrell) Plank, both natives of Wayne County, Ohio. His paternal grandparents were Christian and Elizabeth (Kurtz) Plank, who were born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, and in 1872 came to Indiana and spent their last days in Greenfield Township. Christian J. Plank was born September 13, 1833, and on January 3, 1856, married for his first wife in Adams County, Indiana, Miss Catherine Musser. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, daughter of Abraham and Catherine Musser, natives of Germany, who spent their last days in Adams County, Indiana. Christian J. Plank moved to Greenfield Township in November, 1859, later spent one year in Michigan, and for four years was a farmer and operator of a threshing outfit in Elkhart County, Indiana. He finally returned to Greenfield Township, and owned and developed a farm of 155 acres on Pretty Prairie. He and his first wife had nine children, Amos F., Catherine A., Rebecca E., Susan, Mary A., Daniel, Samuel, Lydia A. and Elizabeth. Christian J. Plank married Fannie Morrell in Noble County, Indiana, February 2, 1873. She was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, and her parents, David and Catherine Morrell, were natives of Pennsylvania, and her father died in Noble County, Indiana.

Harvey C. Plank was the only child of his father's second marriage. He had a public school education, attended Normal School at Smithville, Ohio, and in early manhood spent four years operating his father's farm in Greenfield Township. About 1900 he engaged in the farm implement business at Brighton, and gave his entire attention to this enterprise until November 1, 1918. At that date he bought out the general store of Grubaugh & Gilham at Brighton, and since then has managed both enterprises with a high degree of profit and genuine service to his patronage.

Mr. Plank also helped organize in 1900 the Pretty Prairie Telephone Company, was for a number of years its president and secretary, and is still a director. He served as township assessor four years, and has been in the office of township trustee since January 1, 1919. He has interested himself in political affairs, was identified with the progressive movement in the republican party and is now a regular republican. He is affiliated with the Brethren Church, the Knights of Pythias at Howe and the Gleaners at Brighton.

In 1897 Mr. Plank married Miss Clara Hogmire, of Bloomfield in LaGrange County, daughter of Samuel Hogmire. They have one daughter, Fannie Belle.

**ISAAC LUCE.** One of the best farms in York Township in Steuben County has been continuously under the ownership and management of one family for half a century. Its present proprietor, Isaac Luce, was brought to that environment when a boy, and has achieved his success and dignity in life in that one locality. He was born in Columbiana

County, Ohio, June 6, 1858, a son of Isaac and Liza Ann (Fasdic) Luce. His father was born in Canada in 1800, lived in Ohio for some years and in 1868 came to sections 12 and 13 of York Township. He took the land largely in a primitive condition, cleared away the timber and brush, and made his home there until his death in 1866.

Isaac Luce from the age of ten years attended the public schools of York Township and when a young man went to work under his father. In 1882 he married Aurie Housman, daughter of Jonas Housman. He brought his bride to the old homestead and has operated it continuously now for over thirty-five years. The farm comprises 120 acres, devoted to general farming and the raising of good livestock.

Mr. Luce's first wife died in 1900, the mother of one daughter, Blanche, who is a graduate of the Commercial College at Jackson, Michigan. He married for his second wife, Clara Bratton, daughter of Richard Bratton. She died February 19, 1918, leaving one daughter, Mary Bell. Mr. Luce and his two daughters live together on the old farm.

OTHO D. EASTERDAY. Throughout his career in Green Township of Noble County Otho D. Easterday has exhibited those qualities which entitle him to the respect and confidence of his fellowmen, and therefore while he has prospered in a material way he has also gained that friendship and regard which are indubitable assets of life. His home is a well improved farm in section 6 of Greene Township.

Mr. Easterday was born in Albion Township of Noble County, May 4, 1856. His parents were George W. and Nancy E. (Smith) Easterday. His father was born in Holmes County, Ohio, March 29, 1828, and died in Noble County, Indiana, March 28, 1911, when eighty-three years of age. The mother was born July 25, 1828, in Morrow County, Ohio, and died in Noble County, May 10, 1894, having also reached advanced years. They were married in Morrow County September 28, 1851, and in August of the following year they came to Noble County, Indiana, making the way by pioneer conveyances and an ox team. George Easterday had already bought eighty acres in Albion Township, and he lived there about ten years. In 1862 he moved to Greene Township, and spent his last days on the old farm. He and his wife joined the Lutheran Church soon after coming to Noble County, and for many years he served the church as a deacon. He was a republican in politics. Of the eight children two died young and five sons are still living: Otho D.; William D., of Greene Township; Jeremiah M., of North Manchester, Indiana; Adair M., of Beech Grove, Indiana; and Drury, of Eaton, Ohio. A daughter, Edna E., was born November 13, 1860, and died unmarried March 15, 1917.

Otho D. Easterday was six years old when his parents moved to Greene Township, and as he grew to manhood he attended the district schools and acquired those habits of industry which have proved invaluable to him in his life career. On August 26, 1877, having attained the age of twenty-one, he married Miss Flora Frank, of Albion Township. She was born in Wayne County, Indiana, April 23, 1857, and was ten years old when her parents came to Noble Township and settled on the same farm where Otho D. Easterday was born. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Easterday lived on the home farm for a year and subsequently moved to their present home, where Mr. Easterday owns forty acres and also thirteen acres in Jefferson Township. He has always been a good business man and his judgment was availed to settle his father's estate and also the estates of his father-in-law.

Mr. and Mrs. Easterday had the following family of children: Luella G., born August 12, 1878, was educated in the high school and is now a resident of Fort Wayne; Clarence P., born January 31, 1881, died in infancy; Orlen G., born February 4, 1883; two children that died unnamed; Ralph, born October 20, 1889, is now the practical manager of his father's farm; Claude M., born May 23, 1892, is a graduate of the common schools and lives at Fort Wayne; George S., born November 25, 1895; Fannie E., born March 7, 1898, a graduate of high school is a teacher in Greene Township; and Wilma A., born June 20, 1900, a graduate of the common schools. The family are members of the Evangelical Church and Mr. Easterday has been one of the deacons in his church for twenty years, and always active in its affairs. He is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America and is a republican. He is a member of the Township Advisory Board.

JOHN KOONTZ. One of the many energetic and actively progressive men engaged in cultivating the rich and fertile soil of Noble County, John Koontz is one of the older living native sons of the county and has lived here and witnessed the development of the surrounding country for nearly three-quarters of a century. He still lives on his farm three miles west of Avilla in Allen Township.

Mr. Koontz was born in Jefferson Township of Noble County, September 17, 1842, a son of Jacob and Mary (Stoudenour) Koontz, both of whom were natives of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, where they grew up and married. They first settled in Mansfield, Ohio, and two years later moved to Noble County and settled in Jefferson Township on September 9, 1842, just a few days before the birth of their son John. Jacob Koontz was a blacksmith by trade, and had a shop which he conducted in connection with his farming interests. Their farm consisted of 110 acres. Both he and his wife were active members of the Lutheran Church, and in politics he voted as a democrat. He and his wife had six children, two of whom are still living, Sarah and John. Sarah was born in 1851 and is unmarried.

John Koontz as a boy attended the local district schools and later learned the carpenter's trade, which he followed for ten years. He married Margaret A. Smith, also a native of Jefferson Township.

After their marriage they lived on Mrs. Koontz' mother's farm for some years. Later he traded his property for his present place of 160 acres in Allen Township. Mr. Koontz is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Avilla, and is a democrat and has taken an active part in his community. Besides general farming for years he has been a breeder of Short-horn cattle.

His only son, Frank R. Koontz, was born August 22, 1880, in Jefferson Township, and at the age of five years came to the present home of his parents. He attended the district schools and worked on his father's farm until he took its active management.

September 4, 1900, he married Mabel Fisher, who was born in Allen Township and was educated in the district schools. Her parents were Moses D. and Elnore (Moree) Fisher, the former a native of Coshocton County and the latter of Richland County, Ohio. Moses Fisher came to Noble County at the age of seven, and his wife was also a child when her parents located there. They were married in Noble County and Moses Fisher died in 1913. His widow is still living. Of their nine children eight are alive: Eva, wife of Wilmer Walters; William B., of Avilla; Edith E., wife of Charles Brumbaugh; Mable and May, twins, the latter the wife



of Frank Weaver; Maude B., wife of Ervin Brumbaugh; Frank L., of Allen Township; and Bessie, wife of Carl Huffman.

Frank Koontz is a democrat in politics. He is a skillful musician, having made a thorough study of music and particularly of the violin, and has won a reputation as a teacher.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Koontz have one son, Norman J., born November 12, 1902, now in the third year of the high school at Avilla.

STEVEN THOMPSON COOPER is one of the oldest business men of Howe. Nearly fifty years ago he bought a stock of merchandise in the old village of Lima, and has ever since busied himself with the management and expansion of his business and the task of affording a completely adequate merchandise service to the community.

Mr. Cooper has had a varied and interesting career of experience, and before coming to LaGrange County had fought as a soldier in the Civil war and had been a cotton planter in the South. He was born at Chester, Morris County, New Jersey, May 2, 1843, a son of David and Sarah R. (Dayton) Cooper, both natives of Morris County. His great-grandfather, Henry Cooper, Sr., was in the commissary department of the Continental army during the Revolutionary war. In the maternal line Mr. Cooper is indirectly descended from Colonel Elias Dayton, who was on General Washington's staff, and for his services in the Revolution received a grant of land in Ohio where the City of Dayton now stands, named in his honor. David Cooper was born in 1799. In 1856 he came west to Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, but remained there only two months, and then went to Ogle County, Illinois, where he became a farmer. His wife, Sarah Dayton, had died in New Jersey, and when he came west he was accompanied by his second wife, Sabina Everitt. David Cooper was always interested in politics, first as a whig and later as a staunch republican. While in New Jersey he was twice elected a member of the Legislature. It is recalled that during one severe winter he hauled wood on a bob sled from his farm in New Jersey to New York City, a distance of thirty-five miles, crossing the Hudson River on the ice during the winter of the great fire in New York. He had first come west in 1835, in company with Colonel Aaron Thompson and George Thompson, making the journey as far west as Ann Arbor, Michigan, on horseback and returning to New Jersey in the same way. David Cooper was always a farmer. He and his first wife had seven children, Mary, Elizabeth, who became the wife of Robert Thompson, Henry, Steven, William, Aaron and Sarah. Of these only Mary and Steven are now living. There was one daughter, Martha, by his second marriage.

Steven Thompson Cooper was about thirteen years old when he made his first acquaintance with LaGrange County, and while there he worked on the John Van de Venter farm. He then joined his father in Illinois, and received most of his education in the schools of that state. At Rochelle, Illinois, August 10, 1862, he enlisted for service in the Civil war, at first with Company H of the 92nd Illinois Infantry, but later the regiment was assigned to the mounted infantry. His service was for a period of three years, until August 11, 1865. During Sherman's march to the sea, on December 7, 1864, near Waynesboro, Georgia, he was captured, and was held in one of the most notorious prison camps of the South, at Florence, South Carolina. During the severe winter weather he and his comrades had to dig holes in the ground

for shelter. On March 5, 1865, he was exchanged at Richmond, and before getting back to the ranks the war was over. Following the war he spent a short time in Mississippi and Arkansas, where he was associated with Col. Joseph R. Webster of LaGrange County and J. Railsback in cotton planting. Colonel Webster, it may be recalled, was a captain in the 88th Indiana Infantry and later became lieutenant colonel of the 44th Regiment of colored troops during the Civil war. After the war he became a successful attorney and at one time was attorney general for Nebraska.

The years 1868-69 Mr. Cooper spent in Illinois, where his chief employment was breaking virgin prairie sod with four yoke of oxen. On May 1, 1870, he bought out the business at Howe and began his long service as a local merchant. At first his stock of goods comprised drugs and groceries, and he now handles drugs, groceries and seeds. It has always been an individual business and has always been conducted in the same building. Mr. Cooper also helped organize and has since been president of the Northern Indiana Sand & Gravel Company at Wolcottville. He is a member of the Presbyterian Church and of the LaGrange G. A. R.

In January, 1876, he married Miss Mary C. Williams, now deceased. She was a daughter of S. P. Williams, of Howe. To their marriage were born three children: Isabell, Emily D. and Marion. Emily is deceased.

CHARLES E. GREENAWALT has made for himself an influential place in the community of Springfield Township, LaGrange County, is a prosperous farmer, a minister of the Gospel, and otherwise well known and well liked by his friends and neighbors.

He was born near Topeka, LaGrange County, January 28, 1880, a son of Samuel and Catherine (Plank) Greenawalt. Several members of this family have been mentioned elsewhere in this publication. Mr. Greenawalt was five years old when his parents moved to Springfield Township, and as a boy there he attended public schools and the Mongo High School. He also was a student in the Tri-State College at Angola and for seven years was a teacher, four years in the common schools and three years as principal of the Springfield Township High School. From teaching he engaged in farming, and for several years rented the land he now owns from his wife's father. Later he bought forty acres of this place, and as his wife inherited forty acres, and he now has a well proportioned farm of eighty acres, yielding a good living for himself and family. Mr. Greenawalt is a republican and is a member of the Advisory Board of Springfield Township. He is a stockholder in the Mongo State Bank.

Both he and his wife are active members of the Church of God and he is an ordained minister of that denomination. On April 19, 1903, he married Miss Cora Eatinger. She was born in Milford Township January 29, 1879, a daughter of George W. and Sarah (Forst) Eatinger, both natives of Ohio and both born in the year 1849. Her father was a native of Holmes County and was a small child when his parents came to LaGrange County, where he spent his boyhood days in Johnson Township. George Eatinger bought his first land in Milford Township, and out of his enterprise as a farmer accumulated more than 300 acres. He is now living retired at Decatur, Michigan, his wife having died in 1913. He is a republican, and with his wife was an active member of the Church of God. They had four children: Mrs. Cora Greenawalt, Charles, Jacob and Maggie.

Mr. and Mrs. Greenawalt have a family of five

children, named: Cletus Dale, Lawrence J., Agnes Ruth, Roger Norris and Gertrude Lucile.

**EUGENE S. ALDRICH.** There is no finer character in Steuben County, Indiana, than Eugene S. Aldrich, who in every walk of life has proven his worth and gained an enviable reputation as a man of integrity and sincerity. He was born at Warsaw, Wyoming County, New York, in 1842, a son of Col. Simeon C. Aldrich, one of the early settlers of Steuben County. Colonel Aldrich was born at Rockingham, Vermont, October 14, 1816, and came to Steuben County, in 1844. A tailor by trade, he opened a shop at Angola, but soon after the discovery of gold in California he crossed the plains to that state and was gone from home for two years. Upon his return to Angola he embarked in a mercantile business and conducted it and served as sheriff of Steuben County for one term. Returning from a second trip to California, Colonel Aldrich found his state in an unheaval of patriotism over the outbreak of the Civil war, and he, with Captain Parks of Auburn, DeKalb County, were instrumental in raising Company K of the Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry, of which he was elected first lieutenant. Soon afterward he was promoted to the rank of captain, and in November, 1862, he was made lieutenant colonel, commanding the regiment at the battle of Chickamauga, where he distinguished himself for his courage and efficiency. After this engagement he was made provost marshal of Chattanooga, holding that position until the regiment reenlisted, when he accompanied the veterans home. He returned with them to Chattanooga and continued in command until August, 1863, when he was granted a leave of absence on account of ill health. A few days after reaching home he was suddenly taken worse and died August 14, 1863. He was commissioned colonel July 27th, but owing to the reduced number of the regiment was not mustered in as such.

Colonel Aldrich was twice married, first on December 23, 1838, when he was united to Polly A. Jackson, who was born in Livingston County, New York, September 16, 1816, died January 29, 1852, leaving three children, Eugene S., Helen Y. and Addison Umphrey. A daughter, Emma L., died in infancy. Helen Y. was married to Charles Tyler and died January 10, 1879. Addison died November 12, 1863. On June 23, 1852, Colonel Aldrich was married to Melissa Knapp, and their children were as follows: Nellie, who lives at Toledo, Ohio; Lulu, who is the wife of William Feizel, of Hillsdale, Michigan; and Charles C., who is in Mexico. The second Mrs. Aldrich spent her last years at Hillsdale, Michigan, where she died.

Eugene S. Aldrich, like his father, was a soldier during the war between the states, enlisting in Company K, Forty-fourth Indiana Infantry, his father's regiment, and served for three years. Although he enlisted as a private, upon the organization he was made third deputy sergeant, receiving his promotion to the rank of second lieutenant November 27, 1862, and to that of first lieutenant April 17, 1863. He participated in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Missionary Ridge and many others of less importance. With the exception of three years spent in Ohio Mr. Aldrich has made Pleasant Lake his home since his return from the war.

The first wife of Mr. Aldrich, Lucy Knapp, a daughter of Lansing Knapp, died April 14, 1869, leaving one son, Simeon A., who died October 25, 1871. Subsequently Mr. Aldrich was married to

Addie C. Carver, born in Sandusky County, Ohio, in 1841. They had one daughter, Josie, born June 17, 1872, who was married in 1896 to Arthur Miller, a son of Hampton Miller. Mr. and Mrs. Miller have one son, Eugene H., who was born May 4, 1903. Mr. Aldrich owns a valuable farm of 100 acres on the south side of Pleasant Lake, which is now operated by his son-in-law, Mr. Miller. During his active years Mr. Aldrich was prominent in agricultural circles, and devoted himself to improving his farm and educating his daughter. His life has been one of probity and usefulness and his friends have always found his a strong hand and heart on which to lean in times of trouble. Sympathetic and generous, few have ever appealed to him in vain, but he has preferred to assist a man in helping himself than to merely donate money, believing that the former method inculcates self respect, while the latter in many instances only encourages shiftlessness. Public life has never made a strong appeal to him, but he has given his support to men and principles which in his judgment will work out for the betterment of the majority and aid in the development of his county and state.

**FRANK K. FEE.** The first white family to make permanent settlement in Otsego Township of Steuben County was headed by John Fee. His son, the late Frank K. Fee, spent his life on the old homestead in that township, and was a man of energy corresponding to that of his pioneer father, and left a large and valuable farm to his wife and children.

John Fee was born in Southern Ohio, October 13, 1810, a son of William Fee. When he was nineteen years old John Fee went with the rest of the family to Williams County, Ohio. In that county on April 9, 1833, John Fee married Mary Ann Houlton. She was born near Chillicothe, Highland County, Ohio, May 4, 1811, a daughter of Samuel and Rebecca (Kilgore) Houlton. Samuel Houlton was born May 12, 1764, and his wife on August 22, 1772. Mrs. John Fee's father was one of the earliest settlers at Chillicothe, Ohio, and her brothers, Samuel and John Houlton, were conspicuous in the pioneer life of Williams County, Ohio, and Northeast Indiana. The Houlton brothers are recorded in history as the first settlers of DeKalb County.

John Fee and wife moved to Otsego Township of Steuben County in 1833, and located 120 acres in section 32. John Fee possessed a superabundant energy and vitality, and was completely at home in the frontier district, having room to do all the work that his ambition impelled him to. His homestead farm in Otsego Township comprised 420 acres in one body, but at the time of his death he owned 2,600 acres. He spent his last days in Otsego Township, where he died April 2, 1873. His widow survived until January 6, 1887. John Fee built as his first home a log cabin, and as his own land was covered with heavy timber he cultivated his first crops on a rented tract on Jackson Prairie. He was a republican in politics. He donated the ground for one of the early Methodist churches, the site now being owned by the United Brethren denomination. He also gave ground for a cemetery. He and his wife had nine children, two of whom died in infancy. Those to grow up were: Calvin; Clarinda, wife of A. L. Nickols; Margaret, wife of A. J. Carpenter, of DeKalb County; John; Ann, wife of L. T. Crain; William; and Frank.

Frank K. Fee was born on the old homestead in Otsego Township, July 6, 1854. He acquired a good education in the public schools and eventually suc-





*Eugene S. Aldrich*





ceeded to the ownership of the old homestead and its 420 acres gave him ample scope in which to carry out his varied projects of farming and stock raising. He was never in politics, contenting himself to vote the republican ticket.

July 24, 1877, he married Miss Setta Gilbert. She was born in Otsego Township October 3, 1856, a daughter of Joseph and Martha (Forder) Gilbert. Her father was born near Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, August 2, 1825, a son of John and Mary Gilbert, and grew up in Portage County, Ohio, and in the fall of 1851 came to Steuben County and bought 160 acres in the woods of Otsego Township. He built a small log cabin, which was the first home of the Gilbert family in Steuben County, and later, as his means increased, erected a large residence and many fine buildings. He married in 1850, Martha Ann Forder, who died in 1859. She was the mother of three children: Alonzo, of Otsego Township; Mrs. Setta Fee; and Flora, who died March 16, 1913, at the age of fifty-five. Joseph Gilbert married for his second wife Emily Case. She died in 1884, and her three children are still living, named Alton, Victor and Verna. Joseph Gilbert died March 4, 1904.

Mrs. Fee is the mother of six sons and three daughters, and has a large number of grandchildren about her. Her oldest child, Myrta, was educated in the public schools and the Tri-State Normal, was a teacher and is now the wife of Jay Learned, of Hamilton, Indiana, and has two children, named Oliver and Gertrude. Shirley Dale Fee is a well-known business man of Metz, elsewhere noted in this publication. Flora was educated in the high school at Hamilton and lives at home with her mother. John had a high school education and is a traveling salesman out of Dayton, Ohio. By his marriage to Jennie Dirrim he has two children, Wayne and Cleland. Asa graduated from the Hamilton High School, was a farmer, and died October 28, 1914. By his marriage to Inez Mortorff he had three children, Emmet, deceased, Paul and Ned. Clarence, who attended the common and high schools, married Blanche Mortorff, a sister of his brother Asa's wife, and had three sons, Wier, Clifford and Donald. Earl, who also had the advantages of the Hamilton High School, is a farmer, married Hazel Ireland, and has two children, Mary Louise and Margaret Ellen. Lloyd, who completed his education in the high school at Hamilton, is a farmer on the old homestead and breeder of purebred Hereford cattle and Percheron horses. Aldah completed her education in the high school at Hamilton and married Ora Baker, and they live on part of the Fee homestead. Mr. and Mrs. Baker have one daughter, Florabel.

AMOS ADAMS was for many years a successful farmer in York Township of Steuben County, and head of a family which has played a worthy part in the development of Northeast Indiana. Though his own life was comparatively brief, he achieved success and esteem and left an honored name.

He was born in Delaware County, Ohio, July 12, 1853, a son of Rulif Fisher and Ruth (Piper) Adams. His parents were married in Delaware County and in 1863 moved to Steuben County, settling in York Township, on the land where Amos Adams spent most of his life. They owned 150 acres, and much of it was cleared during the lifetime of the senior Adams, who died there in September, 1879, at the age of forty-nine. His widow survived until 1901, to the age of seventy-one. They had three children, Amos, Sarah Ellen and W. Henry.

Amos Adams was ten years old when brought to Steuben County, and he grew up on the farm and

finished his education in the local schools. In early manhood he acquired sixty-five acres of the old place, and at one time had 108 acres, constituting a farm of many excellent improvements. In the midst of his work and success there he died in 1910, at the age of fifty-seven.

In 1878 he married Amanda Vanscoit, who was born near Findlay in Hancock County, Ohio, February 13, 1855, a daughter of Samuel H. and Sarah (Houck) Vanscoit. Her father was a native of Ohio and her mother of Maryland, and they moved to Steuben County in 1865 and settled on 120 acres in York Township. Later they sold this land and went east to Virginia, but after ten years returned to Indiana and spent their last years in York Township, where her father died in January, 1901, at the age of eighty-seven, and her mother in 1907, aged eighty-two. In the Vanscoit family were the following children: Joanna, deceased, Amanda, Charlotte, John, Kittie C., Ella and Stella.

Mr. and Mrs. Adams were the parents of five children: Perry, born April 5, 1879, died at the age of four years and six days; Ruth, born January 20, 1882, died October 16, 1882; James, who was born February 22, 1884, had a public school education, lived for three years in Ohio, and is now working for his mother the home farm in York Township. He is unmarried and a democrat in politics. Arza, born June 1, 1886, had a public school education and died in York Township, November 9, 1915. He married Hulda Weiss, and she survived him with three children, Ruth, Russell and Paul. Ralph, born February 5, 1889, married Lisle Richardson, of Scott Township, and has two children, Herman and Loueze.

In 1912 Mrs. Adams became the wife of Mr. Andrew S. Campbell. He was born in Pennsylvania, November 19, 1852, and is a carpenter by trade, a business he followed for many years. In 1864 he went to Scioto County, Ohio, and for many years lived in the west, having varied experiences in the Black Hills country in and around Denver and Phoenix, Arizona, and was also at New Orleans. He married for his first wife Phoebe S. Foster and had four children, all now deceased, their names being Albert, Della, Hurley and William. The mother of these died in 1884 and Mr. Campbell for his second wife married Matilda Lunsford. Their six children were Walter, Vahn, Harry, Bertha, Stella and Elsie, all of whom are living except Walter.

MONTE L. GREEN has been an important figure in the financial life of DeKalb County for a number of years, and is president of the Garrett Savings, Loan & Trust Company, Garrett, Indiana.

His early life was spent in a number of different localities. He was born in Missouri, January 26, 1870, son of Jesse H. and Louisa D. (Beach) Green. His parents were natives of Indiana, the father born at Moore's Hill and the mother in Henry County, near Lewisville. After their marriage they lived in Spencer, Owen County, Indiana, and at various other localities, moving to Kenton County, Kentucky, opposite Cincinnati, Ohio, in 1890. Jesse Green was for over thirty years a postal clerk in the United States Rural Mail Service on various lines and finally on the Cincinnati Southern Railroad. When retiring from active service he lived in Bellevue, Campbell County, Kentucky, opposite Cincinnati, Ohio, where he is still living past eighty-one years of age. The mother died there April 23, 1905. Of their two children, Glenn Arden and Monte Lee, the latter is the only one now living. Jesse H. Green is an honored member of the Grand Army of the Republic by virtue of his service in the Civil war. April 15, 1861, he enlisted in the navy at New York City, and after leaving that branch of the

service he enlisted in the Twenty-Fifth Indiana Battery of Light Artillery, and was with his command until the close of the war.

Monte L. Green acquired his education in the public schools, is a graduate of the Indianapolis High School, and had a complete business course in the Cincinnati Business College. For about twenty years he was engaged in the carriage business and other similar lines of activity and in 1907 moved to Auburn, where he was associated with W. H. McIntire. Later he bought stock in the Auburn Savings, Loan & Trust Company, and was its vice president until early in 1913.

Mr. Green, with associates, organized the Savings, Loan & Trust Company of Garrett in 1908. This institution, formerly capitalized at \$25,000 and now \$40,000, has been one of the bulwarks of DeKalb County finance for the past ten years. Mr. Green is an able financier, and his entire business and civic record has been admirable. He served as president of the Commercial Club while at Auburn, has been much interested in the welfare of local schools in various communities, having been president of the School Board in Ludlow, Kentucky, is past master of the Masonic Lodge and a member of the Royal Arch Chapter, Council and Commandery, also the thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Masons, and the Mystic Shrine at Fort Wayne. He and his wife are both active in the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Green has been elder in the church for years and prominent in the Fort Wayne Presbytery.

Mr. Green married for his first wife Josephine Pohlman, who died January 11, 1906, the mother of two sons, Arden D. and Lyman Dale. For his present wife Mr. Green married Helen Samme Ralston. They have one daughter, Alzein Louise. Mrs. Green was born at Auburn, a daughter of A. J. and Hadessa (George) Ralston. Her mother is still living. A. J. Ralston, who died January 12, 1919, was widely known in DeKalb County, having served as deputy sheriff and deputy treasurer of the county and in various other public offices. Mrs. Green is a graduate of the Auburn High School and has been identified with clubs and civic work for years. During the war she was county chairman of all the loan drives, food conservation and the woman member of the Council of Defense. She was one of the leaders among the women of DeKalb County in auxiliary war activities.

DANIEL ELY, one of the well circumstanced farmers of Bloomfield Township, has always regarded it as his peculiar good fortune that his lot was early cast in LaGrange County. He came here when about eleven years of age and had already been making his own way in the world for a year or so. He accompanied a party of eight other persons, and has a vivid memory of the trip, which began at Ashland, Ohio. The first stage of the journey was Mansfield, a distance of twelve miles. The travelers had horses and wagons, but on account of the deep mud they did not arrive at Mansfield until an entire day had been consumed. At Mansfield the wagons, horses and goods were put in a railroad car and all shipped to Fort Wayne. Thence they came to Mongo by way of the old Plank Road, then a toll road. Among the other members of the party recalled by Mr. Ely were Pet Long and George Price.

Mr. Ely was born in Crawford Township of Coshocton County, Ohio, March 30, 1851. His parents, Frederick and Barbara (Switzer) Ely, were both natives of Germany, and his grandparents on both sides spent all their lives in the Fatherland. Frederick Ely had been married and had lost one wife in Germany. By that union he had a daughter,

Margaret. Later he married Barbara Switzer, and in 1835 he and his wife and his first child, Margaret, came to America, landing in Baltimore. With a one-horse wagon he made the journey across the mountains to Coshocton County, Ohio, settling in the midst of the woods. It was necessary to cut a road three miles from the main highway to get into his land. He acquired eighty acres there, cleared some of it and had considerable progress toward improvement when death overtook him when he was still comparatively young. His wife also died in Ohio, and they are buried in a cemetery at New Bedford. Both were members of the Lutheran Church. Their children were Frederick, Lewis, John, Leah, Rachel, Henry, George, Michael, Mary and Daniel. The only ones now living are Leah, Henry and Daniel.

Daniel Ely, owing to the fact that he had to get out and work and make his own way from the age of nine, had limited opportunities to gain an education, though he attended schools some both in Ohio and in Indiana. He came to LaGrange County in 1862, and at first worked for his board, later was paid nominal wages, and he began his independent career as a farm renter. In the fall of 1878 he bought sixty acres in Bloomfield Township, and on that land he has lived now for forty years with the exception of two years when he was in the meat business at Lima or Howe. When he acquired the land only about twenty-five acres had been cleared, and he has since cleared twenty-five acres more, and now has a farm of a hundred acres, well adapted for general farming purposes. The improvements when he bought the land consisted of only a few poor buildings, and he now has ample buildings and all facilities for his work and for comfortable living. He has also taken an interested part in local affairs and has served as township supervisor.

In June, 1876, Mr. Ely married Miss Rebecca McKinzie. She was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, a daughter of Jesse and Leah (Hoffmyer) McKinzie. Her mother was a native of Maryland and her father of Pennsylvania. Her father died at Springfield, Illinois, while en route to the West. Her mother afterward went to Canada, and in 1865 came to LaGrange County and subsequently became the wife of Levi Dague. They moved to Michigan, but eventually returned to LaGrange County, where Mr. Dague died in 1909, while Mrs. Ely's mother passed away in 1914, at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ely.

Mr. and Mrs. Ely have the following children: Charles S., at home on the old farm; Lula, Mrs. Lyle Shank, of Angola, where her husband is now in his second term as county superintendent of schools of Steuben County; William H., at home, and Laura Edna, a teacher, also at home. Mr. Ely and his sons own about 440 acres of land.

JOSEPH T. McELROY for many years has been one of the leading farmers and enterprising citizens of Clear Lake Township in Steuben County. He is the son of an old soldier and the family have lived here for over a half a century.

Mr. McElroy was born at New London, Huron County, Ohio, February 9, 1860, a son of Robert and Alzina (Brooks) McElroy. His mother was a native of Huron County and a daughter of Minchell Brooks, who became one of the pioneers of Clear Lake Township, locating on the land where Joseph McElroy lives today. Alzina was one of a family of eleven children.

Robert McElroy was born in Canada East March 13, 1833, a son of Robert and Mary Ann (Hamilton) McElroy, natives of Ireland. Robert McElroy at the age of thirteen was left an orphan and had to



make his own way in the world. In 1859 he married Alzina Brooks in Huron County, Ohio. In 1862 he left his family to go into the army, serving with the Twelfth Ohio Battery. He was in many of the great battles of the war, including Fredericksburg, Chattanooga, Lookout Mountain, Missionary Ridge and Resaca. His term of service lacked only a few days of being three years. He was twice wounded and injured while in the army. For many years he was a member of the Grand Army Post at Fremont, and a staunch republican in politics.

While he was in the army Minchell Brooks came to Clear Lake Township of Steuben County, accompanied by his daughter, Mrs. McElroy, and her children. Robert McElroy rejoined his family here, and spent the rest of his life in section 33, where he owned a large farm of 195 acres. He and his wife had ten children: Joseph, Jane, Flora, Bessie, Catherine, Eliza, Hattie, Minchell, Ulysses and John.

Joseph T. McElroy was about three years old when brought to Steuben County, and he acquired his education in the township schools of Clear Lake and York. He remained at home with his parents working on the farm until twenty-four, and at that time was married and then joined farming with work at the masonry trade. Mr. McElroy owns a farm of 120 acres, and during his ownership he has set up all the buildings and most of the fences, and has greatly increased its value and productiveness. Mr. McElroy married Ida Sunday. They have three children: Ralph, Rush and Louisa.

GUY E. MILLER. One of the prosperous young farmers of Steuben County, whose family is one of the old established ones in Northeastern Indiana, is Guy E. Miller, whose grandfather was numbered among the pioneers of this locality. Guy E. Miller was born on his present farm in Pleasant Township, December 13, 1880, a son of Marquis and Imogene (Yager) Miller, and grandson of Oliver Miller.

Oliver Miller was a cabinet maker by trade, and he also owned and operated a water power mill at Gage Lake. During those early days the cabinet makers were depended upon for coffins in which to bury the dead of the settlements, and Oliver made many of them. In those times the coffins were made of hard woods, and some of them were beautifully carved, for it was not until a later date that the present kind of caskets were put into general use. Oliver Miller lived at Gage Lake until his death, having settled there upon his arrival in Steuben County. He married a Miss Kemp, and they had the following children: Ivan, Marquis, Jem and two daughters are deceased.

Marquis Miller was born near Gage Lake, Jackson Township, Steuben County, in 1855. His wife, Imogene Yager, was born in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, and died in 1886. After attending the local schools Marquis Miller became a student of the Angola High School, and he also attended Hillsdale College. For eight terms after completing his education Mr. Miller taught school in Steuben County. After his marriage, however, he commenced farming on the place now owned by his son, Guy E., and lived here the remainder of his useful life, his death occurring as the result of an accident, when he was run over by a wheat binder, he dying ten minutes later. He and his wife had two children, namely: Guy E. and Mary E. The daughter, married Henry Voight, an engineer on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad. After the death of his first wife Marquis Miller was married to Mrs. Ellen Walter, widow of Calvin Walter.

Guy E. Miller grew up on his father's farm and attended the district schools of his native township

and the Tri-State College at Angola. In 1905 he was married to Annetta Wells, a daughter of Edgar Wells, and they have three children, namely: Marshall A., Hope E. and Russell E. At the time of his marriage Mr. Miller rented the homestead of 160 acres, and here he has since carried on general farming and stock raising. When his father died in July, 1917, he inherited the farm. He is a member of the United Brethren Church, in which both his parents were very active workers. They were extremely religious people and exerted a strong influence for good in their community. Guy E. Miller has devoted his life to farming, understands the business in all its details and takes a pride in living on the property which has been in his family for so many years. Both he and his wife are very popular in their neighborhood, and their many friends enjoy visiting at their pleasant rural home in Pleasant Township.

ANDREW ROBERT BADGER has been well satisfied to spend all the years of his life in Steuben County. Prosperity has rewarded his labors and persevering efforts, and for many years he has enjoyed the good will and esteem of his home community. He has reared and provided for a family, and all these things are achievements worthy of a man's best ambition.

Mr. Badger was born on the old Badger homestead in Scott Township, September 26, 1852, a son of John C. and Sarah (Camp) Badger. His parents were both born in Morrow County, Ohio, were married in that state and came to Steuben County in 1850, settling in Scott Township. Their first home was on forty acres covered with heavy timber, and under the trees John Badger put up a rude log cabin. Later he bought another forty acres and eventually sold both tracts and bought eighty acres in York Township. He also acquired sixteen acres known as the old Headley farm. His last days were spent on the forty acres in Scott Township where he had first settled. He cleared up a large amount of land in Steuben County that is now cultivated to grain and other crops. He was a republican and a member of the Christian Church. To his marriage were born seven children: Melvin, Charles B., Andrew Robert, Joseph, Ada and John and one that died in childhood. Joseph and Ada are also deceased.

Andrew Robert Badger grew up in Scott Township, attended public school there and finished his education with two terms in the Angola High School. Since his school days were ended he has been a busy worker, and for several years as a young man was a carpenter. He now owns eighty acres in York Township, fifty-three acres in Scott Township and has done well with all departments of his farming and has specialized somewhat in pure bred Duroc Jersey hogs and Shropshire sheep.

Mr. Badger is a republican and a member of the Christian Church. In 1878 he married Mrs. Alice Henney, of Steuben County. Of the six children born to their union four died in infancy. Their only living son, Roy, born in 1885, was educated in the public schools and is a miller by trade and now proprietor of the Berlin Mills. He married Emma Wilson and has one daughter, Lois. Lura Badger is the wife of Ford Kleckner and has two children, Robert and Alice.

EMANUEL ULM is one of the oldest native born residents of Spencer Township, DeKalb County. He was born in that locality more than seventy years ago. He participated in some of the pioneer events in that section of the country and at the age of fourteen was delegated as an employe of Uncle

Sam to carry the mail from Spencerville to Butler three times a week. He began his independent career with only a common school education and with no capital except his own good will and energy, and has made himself one of the prosperous and influential citizens. During the late war Mr. Ulm was a subscriber to Liberty Bonds to the extent of \$1,600.

Mr. Ulm, whose farm is a mile and a half north of Spencerville, was born in the same locality, December 22, 1847. Some of the interesting pioneer incidents of old Concord Township, now Spencer Township, revolve around his father, Nelson Ulm, who came to the county in 1834. Nelson Ulm was born in Knox County, Ohio, lost his father when he was six years of age and was then bound out. He came to DeKalb County at the age of sixteen with Daniel Rhodes, another pioneer settler, and lived with and worked for Mr. Rhodes until he was twenty-one. Nelson Ulm and the Rhodes family arrived in 1834, and Nelson Ulm located on the present site of Spencerville. In the fall of that year he drove from Fort Wayne the first hogs and cows ever brought to Spencerville, and during the following winter he took two bushels of corn on a hand sled to mill at Fort Wayne. Out of one of his experiences in the woods of this section he gave the name Buck Creek to one of the streams of DeKalb County. He married Elvira Lockwood, a native of Vermont. He was a democrat, and both were members of the Methodist Church. In the Ulm family were ten children, the two now living being Emanuel and Harlow, the latter of St. Joe, Indiana.

Emanuel Ulm attended common schools to the age of fourteen and after that worked for his living. He made his first purchase of land when he bought twenty acres, and his present farm comprises ninety-five acres. He is a general farmer, and out of the land he has earned his prosperity. He is a stockholder in the bank at Spencerville and his good business judgment has caused him to be called upon to settle several estates. He is a democrat in politics.

April 15, 1872, Mr. Ulm married Mary A. Gill. She was born in Stark County, Ohio, and was educated in the common schools. They had two sons. The older, John E., is a farmer in Spencer Township. Walter E., who died at the age of twenty-six, was a graduate of high school, attended college at Valparaiso and was a teacher.

FRANK B. CLINE is proprietor of a prosperous and well ordered farm in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County, which has been his home over a quarter of a century. However, he has lived in this township of LaGrange County practically all his life and his people came here in pioneer times.

He was born in Bloomfield Township June 27, 1864, a son of William A. and Mary Eliza (Spears) Cline. His mother was a native of Springfield Township, LaGrange County, while his father was born in Ohio, a son of William and Ellen (Gibney) Cline. Ellen Gibney was born either in Ireland or in this country soon after her parents came from Ireland. William Cline, who was probably born in Pennsylvania, came with his wife to LaGrange County at an early day. The maternal grandfather of Frank B. Cline was Thomas Spears, who came from Ohio about 1835 and entered eighty acres of heavily timbered government land just north of Brushy Prairie. He died there in 1850, and his widow subsequently became the wife of Mr. Sears, grandfather of Charles Sears, a well-known LaGrange County farmer. She owned the farm on which the Village of Helmer now stands, and spent her last years there.

William A. Cline was reared in Ohio and came to

LaGrange County with his parents about the time he reached his majority. After his marriage he moved to a farm in Bloomfield Township and lived there until his death. He and his wife had five children: Milton, who died in infancy; Mary J., wife of Orval Anderson, occupying the old Cline homestead; Frank B.; Nellie, Mrs. Charles Hill, and Mrs. Rachel L. Smith.

Frank B. Cline received his educational advantages in his native county, including one year in the Howe High School. Since then he has been a farmer and about twenty-six years ago removed to his present farm, where he has developed the land and put up all the substantial buildings. For the last four years he has given particular attention to the breeding of Jersey cattle. Mr. Cline is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

February 3, 1887, he married Miss Carrie Hackett. She was born in Wisconsin but her father, Minor Hackett, lived for a number of years in LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Cline have two children: Fred S. and Vera Lucile. Fred, associated with his father on the farm, married in the fall of 1911, Miss Troy B. Marks, a daughter of Charles B. Marks of LaGrange County. They have two children: Lloyd M. and Gladys Merle. Vera Lucile is the wife of William Hostettler, in the garage business at Topeka, Indiana.

ALBERT G. GRUBB, M. D. For a quarter of a century Doctor Grubb practiced medicine and carried on various responsibilities in the business and civic affairs of the community of Mongo. He has the distinction of being the oldest volunteer from LaGrange County in the late World war. He entered the Medical Corps and rose to the rank of captain. Since his discharge he has been located at LaGrange.

Doctor Grubb was born in Hancock County, Ohio, January 15, 1862, a son of William B. and Nancy (Warner) Grubb. His father was born in Hancock County in 1833 and his mother in Wood County, Ohio, in 1835. They were married in Hancock County and in the fall of 1865 came to LaGrange County, Indiana, and settled in the Village of Van Buren. William B. Grubb was also a physician and surgeon, and his services joined with those of his son give a continuous record of the Grubb family in this profession in LaGrange County for more than half a century. He practiced medicine at Van Buren until a few years before his death, and then moved to Montagne, Michigan, where he died August 14, 1901. His wife died near the Village of Van Buren in 1879. He married for his second wife Ada Dalton, daughter of James Dalton, of Van Buren Township. By this marriage there is one son, Earl Grubb, a farmer in Springfield Township. Dr. Albert G. Grubb was the only one of his mother's children to survive infancy. The elder Doctor Grubb was a democrat in politics.

Albert G. Grubb received his education in the schools of Van Buren Township, and by attending the LaGrange County Normal was prepared for his early career as a teacher. He taught in Van Buren Township, in St. Joseph County, Michigan, and also during a residence of four years in Kansas. Doctor Grubb soon after his marriage moved out to Kansas. He engaged in the mercantile business in partnership with T. J. Thurston, a former resident of LaGrange County, a native of Van Buren Township and a soldier of the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry in the Civil war. Mr. Thurston is now seventy-six years of age and resides at Seattle, Washington. Doctor Grubb also published a newspaper at Alton, Kansas, the *Western Empire*. He sold this paper



and disposed of his other interests in the Sunflower State in 1889 and then entered the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Chicago. At his graduation in 1892 he received the gold medal for the highest general average in his classes through the entire course. In later years he did much post-graduate and clinical work, attending the New York Post-Graduate School, the Bellevue Hospital, and doing clinical work at Mayo Brothers in Rochester, Minnesota, and at Chicago. He is a member of the County, State and American Medical Associations. After graduating Doctor Grubb located at Mongo, and was a busy practitioner there until 1917. Early in the war he joined the Medical Reserve Corps, was commissioned a first lieutenant, and on August 7, 1917, reported for duty at Fort Douglas, Utah. He was assigned to the Forty-Third Regiment, and was with that regiment until the 15th of October, when he was ordered to Garfield, Utah, and made head medical supervisor of ten camps, five in Utah and five in Idaho. January 3, 1918, he was commissioned captain, and was ordered back to Fort Douglas, Utah, where he continued on duty until receiving his honorable discharge on account of disability February 22, 1918. Doctor Grubb on September 9, 1918, located at LaGrange, and here has resumed his private practice.

While at Mongo Doctor Grubb was one of the directors and vice president of the Mongo State Bank and was a member of the committee when the new bank building was erected. He donated ground for the Mongo Knights of Pythias hall and also platted an addition to the village, all of the lots in which have been sold. He also built a private hospital there, and he still owns the old Henry Rank dwelling, which has been remodeled by him. Doctor Grubb is interested in farm lands in Springfield Township. Politically he is a republican. Some years ago he was appointed trustee to fill an unexpired term, and was a trustee when the high school building was erected at Mongo. He resigned the office before the close of his term.

In 1884 he married Miss Martha E. Meteer, a daughter of James and Elizabeth Meteer, of Van Buren Township. To their marriage were born six children, the oldest, Cecil, dying at the age of three years. Sylvia is a graduate of the Howe High School, attended the State Normal School in Michigan, and is a graduate of the Bush Temple Conservatory of Music in Chicago. She taught music in Springfield Township in the schools of Mongo and Brighton, and is now the wife of Charles Paul. They live in Elkhart, Indiana, and have three children, Elizabeth, Charles and Robert, the last two being twins. Fern Grubb is a graduate of the Mongo High School and of Saint Luke's Training School for Nurses at Chicago. She took the state examination at Indianapolis and is now a registered nurse in the state. She is the wife of Dr. Dale C. Weir, of Mongo, and the mother of one daughter Mary Jean. Carlisle, the fourth in the family, is a graduate of the Mongo High School and the wife of Fred Deal, a son of Louis E. Deal. Mr. and Mrs. Deal live on a farm near Plato in Bloomfield Township, and have two children, Albert Louis and Marion. Mildred Grubb, a graduate of the Mongo High School, is the wife of Louie Londick, formerly of Three Rivers, Michigan, and now a merchant at Fennville in that state. Doctor Grubb's youngest child is Millicent, who is a graduate of the Mongo High School and the LaGrange High School and is still at home.

C. L. SHATENBERGER has been a resident in the Fremont community of Steuben County for over twenty years, has been a farmer and still owns a

large and well improved farm in that locality, and is concerned with many of the leading business interests of the city of Fremont.

Mr. Shatenberger was born in Rollersville, Ohio, March 15, 1867. His grandparents were Peter and Margaret Shatenberger. Peter Shatenberger, a native of Alsace-Lorraine, came to America when a young man after his marriage, and at first located in New York City. His two children were named Margaret and Peter. Peter Shatenberger, Jr., was born in New York State, July 15, 1836, and was a farmer and carpenter at Rollersville, Ohio, and spent practically all his life in that state. Much of his time was devoted to the carpenter trade. He died April 1, 1892. He married Susannah Sheesley, born at Rollersville, Ohio, June 8, 1848, daughter of John Sheesley. She and her husband were reared Lutherans and later became affiliated with the Methodist Church. Their children were two in number, William Henry and C. L. Shatenberger.

C. L. Shatenberger attended the public schools of Ohio in Sandusky County, had experience as a young man with work on a farm, and on December 24, 1889, married Sarah Boor. The first two years after their marriage they spent in Sandusky County, Ohio, on a farm, but in 1892 Mr. Shatenberger engaged in the general merchandise business at Rollersville. He was in business there and prospered for four years, but in 1896 sold out and about six months later came to Fremont Township of Steuben County. In the spring of 1897 he moved to Fremont to take charge of a dry goods business, and continued that work two years. He then returned to a farm in the same township and was actively identified with agricultural pursuits for seven years. Since then he has made his home at Fremont, but still owns and gives his supervision to a fine farm of 280 acres. Mr. Shatenberger's other interests are represented by stock in the First State Bank, the local flour mill, the Cider and Jelly Mill, and he is president of the Hammel Milling Company of Fremont. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Church, and he is affiliated with the Knights of the Maccabees.

Mrs. Shatenberger is a daughter of William C. and Sarah B. (Stockhouse) Boor. Her father was born August 25, 1833, and her mother March 24, 1840. William C. Boor was a native of Bedford County, Pennsylvania, and moved from there to Sandusky County, Ohio, and in 1893 located at Fremont, Indiana, where he was interested in farming and the dry goods business. In Ohio he had owned oil property and operated oil wells. He died at Fremont, October 17, 1902, and his wife passed away in Ohio October 21, 1888. Mrs. Shatenberger's grandparents were William and Sarah (Cessna) Boor.

PETER SNOWBERGER. While for nearly forty years Mr. Snowberger has been quietly engaged in farming and other community activities in Steuben Township, his life on the whole has presented a great variety, beginning with a boyhood service in the Union army, following which he made a number of different ventures in different places. He has always been a man of independent spirit, and willing to work out his problems and destiny with the resources and means at hand.

He was born in Ashland County, Ohio, February 12, 1848, a son of David and Evaline (Haughey) Snowberger. His father was born in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, in 1820, and his mother in Jefferson County, Ohio, in 1822. They were married in Ohio February 21, 1845, and four years later, in October, 1849, arrived in Steuben County, settling on land in Steuben Township which David had entered from the Government the preceding year. On

his eighty acres he cleared a space and erected a log house, and eventually had much of the land in cultivation. His wife died there June 12, 1888, and he spent his last days with his son Peter and passed away March 7, 1900. His children were Robert, Peter, Henry D., Timothy, Alva, besides two that died in infancy and a daughter, Alice, who died at the age of three years. David Snowberger was a democrat until the war and then became a loyal republican, and all his sons followed his example in politics. For some time he and his wife were members of the Church of God and later were Dunkards.

Peter Snowberger grew up on the home farm in Steuben Township, attended the public schools and for one term was in school at Angola under Professor Carlin. He was not yet eighteen years old when he enlisted in March, 1865, in Company D of the 155th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He was with his regiment until mustered out and given his honorable discharge in August of the same year. Upon his release from military duty he returned to Steuben County, and did some work in contracting and also for his father until he reached his majority. Then near Pleasant Lake he and his brother Robert bought fifty acres, included in the present Willis Dale farm. Later he sold his interest to his brother and then became associated with John Crampton, operating a threshing outfit. They threshed many fields of grain in Steuben County fifty years ago. Next, joining with his brother Henry he bought forty acres in DeKalb County, increased the area of their holdings by another forty acres, and again sold out to his brother. Mr. Snowberger then left Indiana and went to Kansas, where he bought 160 acres in Sumner County. He had all the experiences of a Kansas pioneer and for ten years owned a farm there but sold it in 1880. He began with a small tract of land in Steuben Township which now has become a well proportioned farm of 143¾ acres. Much of it has been cleared under his ownership and it has been improved with excellent buildings and is a fine place both for crops and for livestock. Mr. Snowberger is a republican, and for some time was affiliated with the progressive wing of that party. For two terms he was township supervisor. He is a member of the Grand Army Post. December 6, 1874, he married Miss Martha Jane Teeters. She was born in Steuben Township, February 1, 1856, a daughter of Samuel and Mary Ann (Kogan) Teeters, who were early day settlers in Steuben County, first locating near Hudson in Salem Township and afterward moving to Steuben Township, where her father died February 18, 1879, at the age of fifty-two. Her mother died at seventy. Mr. and Mrs. Snowberger had four children: Frank, who died at the age of three and a half years; Edward, who is unmarried and still at home; Blanche, also at home; and Bessie, who is the wife of Jesse McClughen, living at Helmer, and they have one child, Maxine.

Mrs. Snowberger's father was a stock buyer and also operated a cheese factory and a chair factory north of Hudson. He was a prosperous business man and at one time owned 420 acres in Steuben County. Mrs. Snowberger's mother was a member of the United Brethren Church, while she is affiliated with the Christian denomination. Mr. Snowberger is a member of Ashley Lodge No. 614, Free and Accepted Masons, and Ashley Chapter Royal Arch Masons.

**ELZA SHULL.** The Shull family came to DeKalb County in pioneer times and have been identified with its farming and civic interests for over seventy years. Elza Shull, who owns and directs the operations of a large farm in Jackson Township, was born at Auburn, October 31, 1886.

His parents were Henry C. and Rosa A. (Cramer) Shull. His father was born in Keyser Township, DeKalb County, July 28, 1846, and died in November, 1908. His wife was born in Ohio, January 13, 1846, and died in August, 1914. They were married September 5, 1869, and lived in Auburn for several years. Henry C. Shull was a teacher and later a prosperous dairy farmer. He was in the dairy business and supplied pure milk for nineteen years. He owned about 200 acres of land and his last years were spent in looking after his property. He was also proprietor of a wagon and buggy works at Auburn. He was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. In their family were seven children, five of whom are still living: Carrie, wife of Isaiah Wert; Alice, wife of George Leyda, of Grand Rapids, Michigan; Harry M., who is a farmer in Union Township of DeKalb County and is present trustee of that township, being the second republican ever chosen to that office; Elza; and Earl, of Auburn.

Elza Shull grew up in Auburn, attended the public schools and the high school, and on September 10, 1910, married Ida Hess. She was born in Kansas but was living in Butler Township at the time of her marriage. They have one daughter, Helen, born May 22, 1915.

Mr. Shull is a member of the Ancient Order of Gleaners and is a republican in politics. He farms eighty acres of land and is a member of the Shippers Association.

**PIUS ALTON LONG.** One of the complete and adequate farms of LaGrange County is the Pleasant Hill Farm in Bloomfield Township, the proprietor of which is Pius Alton Long, member of a family of prominent standing in the county since pioneer times, and a citizen who has kept his business affairs progressing and is now in the high tide of his career as a stockman and farmer.

Mr. Long was born in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County June 25, 1873, a son of David J. and Mary Ann (Moshier) Long. The Moshier family came from Berne, Switzerland. The paternal grandparents, David and Sarah (Baer) Long, were natives of Pennsylvania, moved from there to Ohio, where David J. Long was born, as was also his wife, Mary Ann Moshier. The grandparents on coming to LaGrange County settled on a farm near Brighton, where they spent the rest of their days. David J. Long was one of nine children and was a small boy when brought to LaGrange County. He finished his education in the LaGrange Collegiate Institute at Ontario, and then became a farmer in Greenfield Township. Later he moved to Bloomfield Township, and his success enabled him to accumulate 640 acres. He was both a farmer and stock buyer for many years. He died on the farm where his son Pius A. now lives, and his widow survived him about four years and passed away at LaGrange. He was a republican in politics and was honored with several township offices. He and his wife had four children: Pius A., William, Maude and Daniel. The last three were born in Bloomfield Township. William is a resident of Sturgis, Maude is the wife of George Choler, of LaGrange, and Daniel is also a resident of LaGrange.

Pius Alton Long attended the Pleasant Hill School, also the LaGrange High School, and has been on the old farm ever since his parents moved there. He owns 255 acres and has many improvements. He keeps good grade stock, and has done much to improve the working power of the community by maintaining a stable headed by a Belgian stallion and a full-blood Jack. He is a republican in politics and served two terms as assessor of







*D. J. Morris.*



Bloomfield Township and one year as deputy assessor. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife are members of the Gleaners. His father was a Dunkard in religion, while the mother was a Lutheran.

June 27, 1909, Mr. Long married Miss Io Bernice Adams, a native of Branch County, Michigan, daughter of Giles Adams. The five children of Mr. and Mrs. Long are named Madola Maude, Giles David, Mildred Orva, Clarence Amos and Marjorie Ellen.

HON. CYRUS CLINE, who ably represented the Twelfth Indiana District in Congress from 1909 to 1917, the Sixty-First to the Sixty-Fourth Congresses, inclusive, has been a member of the Angola bar for over thirty-five years.

He was born in Richland County, Ohio, July 12, 1856, a son of Michael and Barbara (Orewiler) Cline. His parents, who were natives of Ohio, moved to Steuben County in 1857 and settled on a farm five miles northeast of Angola. In 1873 the family moved to Angola, where the father died February 28, 1878, at the age of forty-nine. Mr. Cline's mother passed away August 5, 1918, aged eighty-eight. Michael Cline was a democrat up to 1860 and after that a republican. He filled the office of county commissioner in Steuben County and at the time of his death was township trustee of Pleasant Township. He and his wife were members of the Christian Church. Their family consisted of Cyrus; Melissa, wife of O. F. Rakestraw; Esther, widow of John Zabst; Alvina, wife of Amos Cory; Elizabeth, wife of Ezra L. Dodge; Nancy, wife of David Wood; Virgil, an Angola photographer; and Grace, wife of J. L. Machin.

Cyrus Cline was educated in Steuben County, taking his high school work at Angola. After a year or so of teaching he entered Hillsdale College, Michigan, in 1873, and was graduated with his Bachelor of Science degree in 1876 and two years later received his Master of Arts degree. Mr. Cline served as county superintendent of schools of Steuben County from 1877 to 1883. In the meantime he studied law, was admitted to the bar in 1884, and has since been engaged in a general law practice at Angola. He was elected a member of the Sixty-First Congress in November, 1908, and his service of eight years involved a critical and vital period in our national history.

Mr. Cline was one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Angola in 1903, and served as its president for seven years. He is still one of its directors and is also a director of the First State Bank of Pleasant Lake, which he also helped organize. He is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and in 1906 was illustrious grand master of the Grand Council. He attends and supports the Congregational Church.

October 6, 1880, he married Jennie Gibson, a native of Vermont. She was born in 1858. They have one daughter, Carrie, who is a graduate of the Tri-State College and the University of Chicago, and has been an instructor in the Angola High School.

DAVID J. NORRIS, a resident of LaGrange County since 1876, is a highly respected and widely known old citizen, a prosperous land owner and in the past has figured influentially and prominently in the official affairs of both Clay Township and the county.

Mr. Norris was born in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, February 1, 1847, a son of Thomas and Nancy (Snyder) Norris. He represents some of the old families of Pennsylvania. His mother, a native of Clearfield County, was a daughter of Louis

and Susanna Snyder. Louis Snyder was born in Germany, a son of Louis, Sr., who was a member of the German nobility and brought his family to America in colonial times and took part in the war for independence. This Revolutionary veteran lived to be 117 years old and was active until the end. His wife attained the age of 107. Louis Snyder was a large land owner in Clearfield County, Pennsylvania. David Norris' grandparents were Joseph and Elizabeth (Enyeart) Norris, the former a native of Maryland and the latter of Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania. Joseph Norris was a slave owner and planter in Maryland, but on moving to Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, took his slaves with him and gave them their freedom. Thomas Norris was a Huntingdon County farmer, a successful business man, and spent all his life on the place where he was born. His children were: Luden, who served in the Fifty-third Pennsylvania Infantry during the Civil war, David J., Eliza, Samuel, Rachel, Susan, Jane, Louis, Reuben, Joseph, Ella and Martin.

David J. Norris grew up in a country and district where his family had so many associations, attended the common schools and began his career as a farmer in his native county. On coming to LaGrange County in 1876 he settled in Clay Township, has lived there more than forty years, and has acquired a valuable farming property, comprising 240 acres, with a model group of buildings.

Mr. Norris married Mary A. Heffner, a daughter of Jacob and Susanna (Grubb) Heffner. Her father was a Union soldier during the Civil war and was killed in the Battle of the Wilderness. Mr. and Mrs. Norris have five children, named Hiram, Flora, Thomas T., Rollen and Ruth. The last named has been a teacher for the past four years.

For nine years Mr. Norris was honored with the responsibilities of the office of trustee of Clay Township. He also served three years as a commissioner of the county. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge, the Royal Arch Chapter at LaGrange and the Knight Templar Commandery at Kendallville.

FRANKLIN WADE CRAMPTON, like all the members of the Crampton family in Steuben County, has shown great capability in business affairs, particularly as a farmer. He owns one of the good farms of Steuben Township, near Pleasant Lake, and is also a business man of Angola.

The farm which he now owns was his birthplace. He was born April 18, 1891, son of Herbert and Amy (Bartlett) Crampton. His father was born in England in 1847 and his mother was born in 1860. The grandfather, William Crampton, who was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1817, married Mary Ohtfield. He came to America alone in 1849 and afterward sent back for his family. He did not have enough money to pay for forty acres of wild land, but his good management and hard work eventually brought him one of the best farms in the county.

Herbert Crampton was three years old when he came to Steuben County, and he grew up in the township of that name, attending public schools. His first land purchase was eighty acres now owned by H. J. Crampton, a son of Ford Crampton. Herbert and his brother William also owned a farm in DeKalb County. Later he bought 168 acres comprised in the homestead jointly owned by Franklin W. and his sister. Here he lived and prospered until his death in 1911. His wife died in 1909. Herbert Crampton was a republican and he and his wife were Baptists. They had four children: Ford, deceased; Mabel; Franklin Wade; and Ruth, who died in infancy.

Franklin Wade Crampton attended the district

schools and the Pleasant Lake High School. He is one of the younger farmers and at the same time is one of the most progressive citizens of Steuben Township. He owns seventy-three acres of the old homestead, his sister, Mrs. Mabel Wolf, owning the rest. He also has another place of eighty acres in the same township, and is using the land profitably for general farming purposes. Mr. Crampton in 1914 built a shop at Butler to do vulcanizing work, and has built up a very successful business in that line. He is an independent republican in politics and with his family worships in the Baptist faith.

April 19, 1909, he married Miss Barbara Brooks. She was born in Steuben County, October 21, 1890, a daughter of Elroy and Ella (Robinett) Brooks, of Angola. Mr. and Mrs. Crampton have three children: Myrick, born August 9, 1910; Ned, born March 17, 1913; and Amy Maxine, born November 23, 1914.

GEORGE T. PARSELL. It has been the good fortune of George T. Parsell to have his home associations centered around one spot from birth until the present time. The farm he owns today in Jackson Township of Steuben County was where he was born May 22, 1867. Mr. Parsell has the reputation of being one of the leading farmers of Steuben County, and when only seventeen years old he began buying and dealing in livestock, and in that business his name has become well known throughout Northeastern Indiana.

He is a son of Thomas B. and Caroline (Klink) Parsell, and some further history regarding these old and well known Steuben County families is found on other pages. Mr. Parsell grew up on the homestead and attended local schools and the Angola High School. He acquired 120 acres of the home farm in 1893, and in 1908 he bought eighty-seven acres adjoining and in 1913 acquired another eighty acres. Thus his management as a farmer and stock man extends to 287 acres, improved with excellent buildings, and is a first class crop and stock farm. During past years he has been an extensive feeder of sheep, cattle and hogs.

Mr. Parsell is a republican in politics, but without official record, and for thirty-three years has been identified with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is a member of the Lodge at Salem Center and for twenty years has been affiliated with the encampment.

May 24, 1891, he married Miss Estella M. Davis. She was born in Salem Township, October 15, 1868, a daughter of Edwin and Theresa (Dreher) Davis. Her father, who was born in 1828 and died in 1871, was a son of Abram and Nancy (Conklin) Davis, among the earliest settlers of Steuben County. Abram Davis spent his last years in Missouri. Theresa Dreher was a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Roeader) Dreher, the former born in Pennsylvania in 1804 and the latter in New Jersey. The Dreher family moved to Ohio, where Elizabeth Dreher died, and about 1860 Daniel came on to Steuben County and lived there until his death in 1895, at the age of ninety-one. He and his wife had a family of thirteen children. Mrs. Parsell's mother died in 1916, at the age of seventy-eight. Edwin Davis grew up in Salem Township, was married in that county, and had five children, named Melvina, Alfretta, Estella M., William and Edwin. Of these Mrs. Parsell is the only survivor.

Mr. and Mrs. Parsell had four children: Ruth E. is the wife of J. LeRoy Boggs, of Pittsburg, and has a daughter, Ruth Elizabeth. Winifred is the wife of Roscoe Warring, a son of Charles W. Warring, of Steuben County. They have a son, Ralph

Augustin, and a daughter, Helen. The third child, Z. A., died at the age of twenty-two months, and the youngest is Georgia Pauline, still at home with her parents.

WILLIAM B. LAWHEAD is a farmer in Butler Township, DeKalb County, has many well cultivated acres under his ownership and management, and is one of the solid and substantial citizens of that community. His home farm is in section 24 of Butler Township.

Mr. Lawhead, whose family has been identified with DeKalb County for eighty years, was born in Jackson Township April 24, 1871, a son of James G. and Wealthy (Nelson) Lawhead. His great-grandparents were James and Martha Lawhead, who came to DeKalb County in 1839 from Wayne County, Ohio. James Lawhead died in 1854 and his wife in 1880. Their son Benjamin Lawhead, grandfather of William B., was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, April 1, 1820, went with his parents to Wayne County, Ohio, in 1834, and was still a young man when he arrived in DeKalb County. In 1843 he married Mary Jane Essig, who was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1821. Benjamin Lawhead bought a farm in section 17 of Jackson Township in 1851. James G. Lawhead was also a native of Jackson Township, and he married Wealthy Nelson in 1870. She died April 25, 1877, leaving two children, William B. and Queen Victoria, the latter becoming the wife of Eli Amstutz and dying in 1917. In 1879 James G. Lawhead married Eliza Walter, and they had five children: Gertrude, deceased; Walter, who died in infancy; Frank, an attorney in Detroit, Michigan; Kirby, a farmer of Jackson Township; and Dr. Nixon Lawhead, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Mrs. Lawhead, the mother of these five children, is living in Auburn, Indiana.

William B. Lawhead was six years old when his mother died and he grew up on the home farm in Jackson Township, acquired a common school education and remained with his father to the age of twenty-one. In April, 1894, he married Sarah McKinley, who was born in DeKalb County. They have three children: James G., who is a graduate of the Garrett High School and was with the American forces in France in 1918-19; Archie R., who is at home; and Orpha D., a graduate of the high school and for one year was a teacher.

The operations of Mr. Lawhead as a general farmer are conducted on his home place of 101 acres in Butler Township and forty acres in Jackson Township.

WALTER B. TINGLEY is one of the later comers to LaGrange County, where he has acquired a good farm and has shown a great deal of progressive enterprise in improving his own property and identifying himself with the welfare of his community in Greenfield Township.

Mr. Tingley was born in Mercer County, Ohio, October 15, 1876, a son of John B. and Martha (Baltzell) Tingley. His father died in 1901 and his mother in 1898. He spent his active life as a farmer in Mercer County, Ohio, and was a democrat in politics.

Walter B. Tingley, one of nine children, five of whom are still living, grew up on the home farm in Mercer County, and had a public school education, spending one year in the Rockford High School. Later he bought the old home place, and kept it until he sold to his brother-in-law, and on February 1, 1911, bought a farm of 145 acres in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County. In 1917 he sold forty-five acres of this, but still has a place sufficient







*Orville Stevens.*



for his work and enterprise. He has improved the farm in many ways, and is a breeder of pure-bred Shropshire sheep. He is a democrat and member of the Methodist Church.

In 1898 Mr. Tingley married Miss Bessie Bevington, of Van Wert, Ohio. They have six children, named Mildred, Leona, Pauline, Carl, Catherine and Madge. Two of the daughters have become successful teachers. Mildred is a graduate of the high school at Howe, attended the Tri-State College at Angola and spent one year in the Indiana State University. She is an instructor in the Howe High School. Leona is also a graduate of the Howe High School, spent one year in the Indiana State University, and is a teacher at Ontario.

JOHN A. CROXTON, prominent and widely known all over Steuben County as a banker, stock dealer and man of varied enterprise, was born at Angola September 11, 1874.

The Croxtons are an old and prominent family of this part of Indiana. His parents were William G. and Sarah (Carter) Croxtton. William G. Croxtton, who was born in Ohio in 1834, came to Steuben County in early days, and was a lawyer by profession. At one time he practiced in partnership with Joseph Woodhull. He and Orville Carver organized the Steuben County State Bank in 1889, and Mr. Croxtton was its president until his death in 1903. He also acquired a large amount of land in the county. He was an Odd Fellow and liberal in his religious views. He married after coming to Steuben County. He had three sons: Mark, who died at the age of five years; Paul A., who died in 1905, at the age of thirty-six; and John A.

John A. Croxtton, who was five years old when his mother died, grew up at Angola, attended the high school and the Tri-State College, and at the age of eighteen began buying livestock. He was in that business continuously for twenty-five years. In the Spanish-American war he went with the Second Illinois Infantry in the capacity of a teamster to Cuba. He was a farmer and livestock man, and still owns a large place adjoining the Fair Grounds. His father was one of the organizers of the Steuben County Agricultural Association. Mr. Croxtton left the farm in 1902 and was engaged in the livestock business until 1918, since which date he has given much of his time to the buying of wool and hay. He is now president of the Steuben County State Bank, having succeeded his brother Paul in that office in 1905.

Mr. Croxtton is a Knight Templar Mason and Shriner and a democrat in politics. He married Jennie A. Anderson in 1900. She was born in Steuben County, a daughter of John and Mary Anderson. Mr. Croxtton is the father of five children, Mark E., Marion C., William Paul, Jack A. and Emily Ruth.

ORVILLE GOODALE STEVENS, a native of Steuben County, has been a partner in the Goodale Abstract Company of Angola since 1914.

He was born at Metz, October 29, 1883, son of Abraham and Florence Amelia Stevens. His father was born in Philadelphia, August 2, 1840, and his mother was born in Metz, Indiana, August 4, 1848. Orville Goodale Stevens finished his education in the Tri-State Normal College and completed his civil engineering course in the College of Engineering there in 1908. The following six years until 1914 he followed his profession, and was engaged in heavy construction and contracting in Portland, Oregon.

Mr. Stevens since 1916 has been president of the Board of Children's Guardians. He is treasurer of the Angola School Board, having filled that position since August, 1917.

FREMONT FOLCK. There are many advantages of living in one neighborhood continuously, and those who have centered their interests upon a community are more attached to it than if they had moved from one place to another, severing connections and uprooting ties of friendship and business co-operation. The fertility of the soil of Steuben County, its desirable location with reference to transportation facilities, combined with the character of its people, seem to form a combination difficult of resistance, and the majority of its citizens have lived here the greater portion of their lives, and many of them are native sons of the county. One of these men who is recognized as a useful and competent aid in the development and preservation of the agricultural prominence of this section is Fremont Folck, a prosperous farmer of Scott Township.

Fremont Folck was born on his present farm in section 11, Scott Township, Steuben County, Indiana, February 13, 1863, a son of John K. Folck and grandson of Abram and Hannah Folck. John K. Folck was born in Pennsylvania, April 30, 1823, and when he was four years of age his parents brought him West as far as Knox County, Ohio, from whence removal was made a little later to Morrow County, Ohio, and there John K. Folck was reared. In 1841 he left Morrow County and made an experimental trip to Steuben County, Indiana, traveling alone and on foot. Not being satisfied, he returned home, but in 1845 went back, and, selecting a tract of land, remained on it long enough to girdle the trees for future clearing. In 1847 he moved to Steuben County with his family and settled on land which is now a portion of section 11, Scott Township. His farm comprised 160 acres of land, and the brick schoolhouse of District No. 1 is on the southwest corner of the original entry.

In 1843 John K. Folck was married first to Margaret Valentine in Morrow County, Ohio, who was a native of Seneca County, Ohio, and she died in 1859, aged thirty-six years, leaving five daughters, all of whom married, they being as follows: Mrs. Sarah L. Weiss, Mrs. Hattie E. Myers, Mrs. Ann E. Dygert, Mrs. Mary A. Henry and Mrs. J. C. Fulmer. In 1860 John K. Folck was married to Mrs. Martha Rathburn, a daughter of Samuel Nichols, and they had one son, Fremont Folck. The second Mrs. Folck died in 1863, aged thirty-five years. The third marriage of John K. Folck occurred in 1870, when he was united with Mrs. Louise Headley, widow of Daniel Headley, an early settler of Steuben County. Mrs. Folck was always prominent in local affairs, and was very active in promoting the development of Scott Township in every respect. He served as assessor of the township for two terms, and was appraiser for one term under the old system. Prior to the organization of the republican party he was a strong abolitionist, but with the birth of the new party he accepted its principles and voted its ticket the remainder of his life, he being spared until 1907. When he came to Scott Township his land was covered with timber, and he cleared this off with his own hands and made his farm one of the best in the township. While not a member of any church, as he was very liberal in his religious views, he took part in forwarding all good work, and was a man of high moral rectitude. It was his boast that he never used either tobacco or intoxicants in any form, and to this in part he attributed his long life and mental and physical activity. He was a man who possessed the broader sense of responsibility which made him feel it incumbent upon him to so order his life as to set an example for those weaker than he, and few men were held in such high respect by all who had the honor of his acquaintance.

Fremont Folck attended the schools of Scott Township and learned farming under his father's efficient direction. After attaining to his majority he began farming the homestead, and has conducted it on his own account for thirty-six years. All of the modern improvements on the farm have been made by him, and it is now an exceedingly valuable property. In 1906 he built a large barn on modern principles, and his other buildings are equally suitable for the purposes for which they are used. He carries on general farming and stock raising, specializing on breeding blooded O. I. S. Chester-White hogs and Shropshire sheep.

On April 5, 1887, Mr. Folck was united in marriage with Rebecca Kuffman, a daughter of John and Mary Kuffman, and they have the following children: Dorsey, who married Mildred Gundrahin, Ford and John K. Mr. Folck is a charter member of Fremont Lodge, Knights of Pythias. Like his father he has rendered efficient service as a public official, having been assessor of Scott Township for four years and commissioner of Steuben County from 1905 to 1911. Mr. Folck has devoted himself to mastering one line of business, and his success proves that it is desirable to have a definite aim in life and press forward toward that goal.

ORVILLE GOODALE, one of the most prominent and widely known citizens of Steuben Township, was born in York Township of that county, March 11, 1846, a son of Burdett B. and Mary Ann (Macartney) Goodale. His father was born near Wethersfield, Connecticut, in 1817, and his mother in 1821 at New York City. The paternal grandfather was Joseph Goodale, who moved from Connecticut to the Western Reserve of Ohio and in 1843 settled in Steuben County in Richland Township. His children were Burdett, Dewitt, Gera, Juliette, Emily and John, all now deceased.

Burdett Goodale was educated in Ohio and first came to Steuben County about 1837, but did not make permanent settlement until 1842, when he located on a farm in York Township. He was a carpenter as well as a farmer and also a local minister of the Christian Church. In politics he was a whig and free soiler, and his death occurred in June, 1855, before the organization of the republican party. He and his wife had the following children: Albert, who became a Union soldier in 1861 and was killed at the battle of Chickamauga; Charles W., a physician who served in the Civil war and spent his last years in Steuben County; Orville; and Florence Amelia, wife of Abraham Stevens.

Orville Goodale acquired his early education in the public schools of York Township, attended Hillsdale College of Michigan, and was also a student at Angola, and for about twelve years taught, being connected with the select and public schools at Metz. He completed his education in Hiram College of Ohio. In the intervals of teaching he spent his summers in farming. In 1878, at the age of thirty-two, he was elected clerk of courts of Steuben County and reelected in 1882, filling that office for eight years. During his official term he also looked after his farming interests. In 1893 he bought a half interest in an abstract office which had been established by his uncle, Francis Macartney. It was continued as the Goodale Abstract Office, and Mr. Goodale was associated in partnership with his nephew, Burdett B. Goodale, for four years, this nephew having bought the interests of Francis Macartney. Mr. Goodale later sold his interests to his niece, Miss Callie Brandeberry. Mr. Goodale now owns a farm of sixty acres near Lake James, where he spends his summers, and has a good town home in Angola.

He is an independent republican in politics, served as a member of the City Council of Angola six years, and for a long time was secretary of the Steuben County Agricultural Association. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church.

October 3, 1867, he married Miss Mary Fast, who was born in Steuben County in 1850, a daughter of Christian and Henrietta (Soule) Fast. Her people were pioneer settlers of Steuben County. Mr. and Mrs. Goodale have four children: Winifred, a graduate in literature and music from the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, is the wife of Rev. B. S. Ferrall, a prominent minister of the Christian Church, who has had one pastorate at Buffalo, New York, for eighteen years. Mr. and Mrs. Ferrall have a daughter, Mary, who is married and has a daughter, Ellen. Albert W. Goodale, a physician at Orland, Indiana, married Eva Morse. Mamie is the widow of Byron Allison, deceased, and has a daughter, Byrona. Ralph H., the youngest child, is professor of English at Hiram College, Ohio. He married Hazel Litchfield and has a son, Edmund Elliott.

ALBERT W. GOODALE, M. D. A busy and successful physician who has made an enviable reputation professionally and as a good citizen at Orland, Dr. Goodale is a native of Steuben County, a son of Orville Goodale. Further reference to this well known family is made in preceding sketch.

Dr. Goodale was born in Pleasant Township, a half mile north of Crooked Lake, and when about five years old the family moved to Angola, where he acquired his literary education. He was in the public schools and high school, also the Tri-State Normal College, graduating in 1896, and he took his medical degree from the University of Buffalo in 1907. He spent one year as interne in a hospital at Detroit and did his first professional work in Salem Center. He was there one year and on January 1, 1910, began his practice at Orland. He is a member of the County, State and American Medical Associations and in politics is a republican.

November 9, 1899, he married Miss Morse, a daughter of Frank and Nellie (Nordly) Morse, of Angola. They have an adopted daughter, Hannah Winifred, now five years old. Dr. Goodale is affiliated with Orland Lodge No. 225, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Orland Chapter of the Royal Arch.

DAVID T. OBER is a member of an old and well known family of DeKalb County, and he owns seventy-five acres in section 17 of Butler Township, most of which has been owned by and under the management of the Ober family for half a century.

Mr. Ober was born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, June 10, 1864, a son of Levi S. and Elizabeth (Teeter) Ober. His parents came from Bedford County, Pennsylvania, to Indiana in 1866 and spent the rest of their lives in section 17 of Butler Township. Both parents were members of the Church of the Brethren or Dunkard. The record of this family, including that of the eight children of Levi Ober and wife, is given in more detail on other pages.

David T. Ober was about two years old when brought to DeKalb County, and he grew up on the home farm and acquired an education in the district schools. He remained at home with his parents until he was past thirty-three years of age, and in that time he bore a large part of the responsibility in managing the fields and crops of his father. On July 4, 1897, he married Miss Sadie Pepple. She was born in Swan Township, Noble County, Indiana, November 29, 1875. She had a high school



education and for several years was a successful teacher. Mr. and Mrs. Ober have three children: Manford, born in February, 1900, who is a graduate of the common schools; Jesse E., born July 29, 1903, now in the second year of the Garrett High School; and Mary E., born August 16, 1905, who has completed the grade school work.

Mr. Ober and family are members of the Church of the Brethren and he is one of its trustees and deacons. Politically he is a republican. Aside from his interests as a farmer he is a stockholder in the Garrett elevator and the Fort Wayne Tire and Rubber Company.

**FLEMING BARR.** One of the oldest families established in LaGrange County is that of Barr, and one of its present representatives is Mr. Fleming Barr, of Greenfield Township.

Mr. Barr, whose activities for many long years have identified him with farming, was born on his father's homestead in Greenfield Township, near Scripture School House, August 26, 1852. He is a son of John and Matilda (Elya) Barr. His paternal grandparents, Amos and Vereba (Bloxtan) Barr, in 1829 came to LaGrange County, Indiana, and after spending the winter at White Pigeon, Michigan, located in Greenfield Township and entered land now contained in the Hopkins farm. Amos Barr acquired a large amount of land and at his death owned 160 acres in Salem Township of Steuben County, besides his homestead property. His children were Naomi, Jane, Mary, Elizabeth, Nancy, Amos, Rhoda, John and Margaret.

John Barr was born in Ohio in 1826, and was three years old when brought to Indiana. He grew up on the old homestead and married Matilda Elya, who was born at Batavia, New York, December 25, 1825, a daughter of David and Elizabeth (Green) Elya. The Elya family came to Springfield Township of LaGrange County in 1847. David Elya at that time bought forty acres, later another forty acres, and he spent his last years in Springfield Township. His children were Mary Matilda and Julia, twins; Nancy and Bruce. John Barr received a good education, attending the LaGrange County Collegiate Institute. He inherited a part of the homestead and traded land with his sister, Mrs. Mary Ewing, who later became the wife of Fleming Hopkins. At the time of his death in 1883 John Barr owned 220 acres. He had lived retired for several years, for about one year at Sturgis, Michigan, and then in LaGrange. His death, however, occurred on the old farm. His widow spent her last years with her daughter Libbie Anderson at Sturgis, Michigan, where she died in 1914. The father was a republican in politics and a member of the Masonic Order. His children were three in number: Julia Ann, wife of Charles Miller, of Greenfield Township; Fleming, and Libbie, wife of Milton Anderson.

Fleming Barr grew up on the home farm, attended the public schools and the Orland Academy, and for eight winters was a teacher. Since early manhood he has been engaged in farming and in 1879 he bought forty acres and also owned forty acres of the old homestead. His present place comprises 100 acres, and he has remodeled the house and placed many other improvements. He is a republican and served as trustee of Greenfield Township six years and for five years filled the office of assessor. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Mongo. He was also road supervisor nine years.

On September 1, 1878, he married Miss Ella Freleigh. She was born in Springfield Township, near Mongo, January 5, 1859, a daughter of John Franklin and Susan Ann (Shepardson) Freleigh. Her

mother was a daughter of Otis and Susan (Gibbs) Shepardson. John Franklin Freleigh was born in Ontario County, New York, in 1829, and in 1836 went with his parents to Sandusky County, Ohio, and in 1845 settled in Scott Township of Steuben County, Indiana. Later he located in LaGrange County, where he married. He died December 5, 1890, and his widow December 8, 1900. They were the parents of five children: Eva Jane, Ida May, Ella, Arthur Pliney and Frank Leander.

Mr. and Mrs. Barr were the parents of five children. Lillie May, the oldest, was born April 1, 1879, and is the wife of Milo H. Weaver. Her daughter, Irma Mildred, is the wife of Jeremiah Allen Wilber. Estella, the second of the family, was born November 19, 1880, and died September 8, 1881. Alma Veda was born April 16, 1882, and was first married to Samuel Lint, by whom she had one child, Cleola Margaret, and after the death of her first husband she became the wife of Archie Roberts on September 2, 1916, and by that marriage has a daughter, Eileen. John, born July 24, 1883, died June 7, 1884. The youngest of the family is Frank Arthur Barr, who was born April 21, 1885, is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and the Tri-State College, and for two years was principal of the Brighton High School. He began teaching at the age of eighteen and has also been a farmer. He owns a place of forty acres. He married Hulda Wilber. Their children are Ralph Wilber, Leona May, Mildred Margaret, who died in infancy, and Harold.

**EPHRAIM C. LANTZ** is at once one of the busiest men and also one of those with the largest number of active business interests in the Topeka community. While he lives on his farm a half mile south of that village in Eden Township, he spends much of his time in Topeka, where he is president of the leading bank and an extensive dealer in livestock.

Mr. Lantz was born in Elkhart Township of Noble County September 17, 1869, a son of Noah and Lydia E. (Yoder) Lantz. His father was born in Fairfield County and his mother in Wayne County, Ohio. The father came with his parents to Noble County, Indiana, when twelve years of age, the family locating in Elkhart Township, where the parents spent their last years. Lydia Yoder came to LaGrange County about 1868 with her husband after she was married in Wayne County, Ohio. They lived in Eden Township twelve years and then moved to Perry Township of Noble County. Noah Lantz died in Elkhart Township of Noble County, and his widow spent her last years in Topeka. They were members of the Mennonite Church. Of their eight children one died in infancy and five are still living: Ephraim C.; Anna, wife of Sherman Reave; Alva, of Topeka; Delta, unmarried and living at Topeka; Edith, wife of Ernest Yoder, a farmer in Eden Township.

Ephraim C. Lantz grew up on a farm and had a common school education. When he was twenty-one years of age he rented his father's place for several years. On November 6, 1902, he married Elizabeth Plank. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, October 3, 1868, and met and married her husband while visiting in Indiana. For twelve years after his marriage Mr. Lantz was a tenant farmer, and has made his enviable prosperity from humble beginnings. He finally bought forty acres, and later eighty acres where he now lives, and is also owner of 100 acres in Elkhart Township, Noble County, and has 400 acres in Oklahoma. Mr. Lantz is proprietor of a feed store at Topeka, and buys and feeds hogs, marketing five or six carloads every year.

He and his wife have three daughters; Fern, a

graduate of the Topeka High School, was well educated in music and drawing and is now teacher of those arts in the Topeka schools; Ruby, a graduate of high school and the wife of Alvin Kempf, of Topeka; and Catherine, who was born in 1909. The family are members of the Mennonite Church in Maple Grove, and Mr. Lantz is a republican.

He was one of the active organizers of the Farmers State Bank at Topeka in 1917, and has been its first and only president. The other officers are: John W. Priest, vice president; Dane D. Secrist, cashier; and the directors are Mr. Lantz, John W. Priest, Dean McIntire, Myron F. Walters, Charles Hartzler, Leon Rose, Abe Mier and Isaac Rose, all well known and substantial citizens of LaGrange county.

EUGENE KELLEY has lived for more than three-quarters of a century, has had a life of great variety and altogether one of success in its many relations, was a soldier in many battles during the Civil war and has had the patriotic satisfaction of seeing several of his sons fighting for their country in recent years.

Mr. Kelley, who is now living retired at Steubenville, where he has served as postmaster for a number of years, was born in Medina County, Ohio, November 2, 1843. He was eighteen months old when his father, Stephen Kelley, lost his life by drowning. His mother's maiden name was May Pixley. She died in LaGrange, Indiana, in 1864. Eugene Kelley had an older sister Elizabeth. His mother married for her second husband William Johnson, and by that union had six children: Albert Nelson, Willard, George, Emma, Adeline and Bird. Adeline was accidentally killed at Williamsport, Indiana.

Eugene Kelley first came to Steuben County when five years of age, while his mother was visiting. At that time Angola only had one store. He has been a permanent resident of the county since 1859. He lived with his mother to the age of fourteen, then went to work on a farm, and later found some employment at Pleasant Lake. From Pleasant Lake early in 1861 he went to Chicago and enlisted in Company G of the Forty-Second Illinois Infantry. He was with that regiment in all its active service, including twenty-five battles, and he participated in all of them except one. He was wounded at Marietta, Georgia, July 4, 1864. Captured, he spent a period of imprisonment in Libby prison and in other southern places of confinement.

After the war Mr. Kelley returned to Steuben County and there took up the trade of painter, which he followed for a number of years. Since 1897 his home has been in Steubenville, where he owns a good residence. He has filled the office of postmaster for the past eighteen years. He is a staunch republican in his political affiliation and is a member of the Grand Army Post.

In 1867 Mr. Kelley married Laura Hough, of Steuben County. They were afterward divorced and she died in 1912. She was the mother of two children, one of whom is Harry Kelley, in the coal business at Angola. In 1888 Mr. Kelley married Nora Swager, of Steuben County. They have four children: Volney, who for ten years has been a resident of France and is now a captain in the French army; James, of Steubenville; and Eugene and Kathleen, both at home with their father. James and Eugene both have army records, the former having served three years in the Fourteenth Cavalry of the regular army. During that time he was on the Mexican border service and in the Philippines, also visited in China and Japan, and received his honorable discharge after his term of service

expired. Eugene was in the Coast Artillery for about one year.

OLIVER WALTERS, a native of Steuben County, has busied himself since early manhood with farming, and is owner of one of the well improved and valuable places in Salem Township.

He was born in Scott Township, May 29, 1876, son of William and Mary (Smiley) Walters. His mother was born in Steuben County, a daughter of George Smiley, one of the early settlers of Pleasant Township, where he and his wife both died. George Smiley and wife had a large family of children, including Martha, Phoebe, Lillie, Alonzo, Gilbert, William, George, Jesse and Charles. William Walters was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, where his father died, the mother subsequently spending her days in Scott Township of Steuben County. William Walters grew up in Scott Township, and owing to the death of his father had to look after the rest of the family from early years. He began as a renter, bought forty acres in Steuben Township, later went west, and finally acquired a farm of eighty acres in Michigan. He died while visiting in Steuben County in 1911, at the age of sixty-four. His widow is still living at the age of sixty-nine. William Walters was one of three sons, Andrew, William and Solomon. He and his wife had nine children, all of whom are living, named Charles, Frank, George, Albert, Nettie, Oliver, Arlie, Roy and Robert.

Oliver Walters attended the public schools in Pleasant and Jackson townships. He has been working his way steadily to independence since early manhood. The first land he owned was about thirty-six acres in Jackson Township. He sold that and in 1908 came to Steuben Township, where he bought eighty acres. He has remodeled the buildings, and takes a just pride in the efficient management of what is one of the best farms of the township. Mr. Walters is a republican in politics.

April 2, 1898, he married Miss Abbie Simmons. She was born in Jackson Township, January 19, 1876, a daughter of Henry and Nancy (Parker) Simmons. Mr. and Mrs. Walters have one son, Henry, born July 14, 1899. He lives on the farm with his parents.

FRANCIS M. MERICA. No one man has done more for the public schools of DeKalb County and performs a more vital service to the people in general than Francis M. Merica, superintendent of the county schools. Mr. Merica is a veteran educator, has been in school work more than thirty years, and has a high standing among school men over Indiana.

He was born at Millerstown in Champaign County, Ohio, February 28, 1862, but has spent the greater part of his life in Northeast Indiana. His parents, William and Catherine (Snyder) Merica, came to Indiana in 1865, locating three miles south of Garrett in DeKalb County. William Merica was born near Millerstown, Ohio, July 15, 1840, while his wife was born September 10, 1842, and both were reared in Champaign County. He was a farmer and the family had limited means. Both parents were members of the Methodist Protestant Church, and William Merica was quite active in democratic politics, serving as a member of the County Council of DeKalb County when the courthouse and county infirmary were built. He was also assessor of Butler Township. William Merica died September 8, 1915, and his wife February 13, 1918. They had three children: Thomas, who died at Fort Wayne, May 22, 1911, had been a teacher in early life and later was a traveling salesman for







EDWARD HUFF



the International Harvester Company; Francis M.; and Charles, who was a graduate of DePauw University with the degrees B. A., M. A. and Ph. D., was a Methodist minister, at one time was president of Iowa College and later president of the University of Wyoming, and died at Kendallville, Indiana, July 24, 1918.

Francis M. Merica was educated in Butler Township and graduated from the Methodist College at Fort Wayne with the Bachelor of Science degree in 1887. He also attended Upland University in 1889, and by later post-graduate work in the University of Chicago received the degree Ph. B. Before completing his education Mr. Merica taught for two years as principal of a high school, for eight years was superintendent of the same school, and after graduating from the University of Chicago was elected superintendent of the schools of LaGrange. He remained at that post three years, for four years was superintendent of schools at Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, and then came to Garrett, where for ten years he was superintendent of the public school system. He was elected county superintendent of schools for DeKalb County in 1917, and has held that office since August of that year.

Mr. Merica was a charter member of the board which organized the Carnegie Library at Garrett and is its present secretary. Out of his long service as a teacher he has made some accumulations toward independence and is a property owner at Garrett, having four dwelling houses there. He is one of the trustees of the Methodist Church at Garrett, is a past master of Garrett City Lodge No. 537, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, is affiliated with Garrett Chapter No. 129, Royal Arch Masons, of which he is past high priest, and is a past grand of Lodge No. 602 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and past chief patriarch of Encampment No. 169. His wife is an active member of Harmony Chapter No. 67 of the Eastern Star, is a past matron and has served as secretary of the chapter for over fifteen years.

Mr. Merica married Arilla Jones, of Garrett. She died November 3, 1908, mother of one daughter, Marion, who is a graduate of the Western College for Women at Oxford, Ohio, and is the wife of Don E. Van Fleet, an electrical contractor at Garrett. June 25, 1912, Mr. Merica married Georgia Van Fleet. She was born at Deposit in Broome County, New York, and came to Indiana when thirteen years of age. Mrs. Merica is widely known as a former teacher in DeKalb County, having done twenty-six years of work in the different schools of the county. She finished her education in the Tri-State College at Angola.

**WILLIAM A. CLINE.** Any account of the older families of LaGrange County takes into consideration members of the Cline family, now making up a widespread relationship, many of whom are industrious and important factors in various communities, but particularly in Bloomfield Township.

The late William A. Cline came to LaGrange County when a young man. He was born in Richland County, Ohio, August 8, 1830, and he died at his old home in Bloomfield Township June 7, 1907. His parents were William and Ellen (Gibney) Cline. William Cline was born in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, in 1794, and was married in Richland County, Ohio, where he bought and improved a farm of 237 acres. On coming to Indiana in 1854 he bought 320 acres in Bloomfield Township, and lived there until his death on October 2, 1871. His wife was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, July 22, 1799, and died August 26, 1881.

William A. Cline became a farmer in Bloomfield

Township. On January 14, 1856, he married Mary E. Spears, and the same year he bought eighty acres in Bloomfield Township, and in the course of time had one of the best farms in that township, owning more than 300 acres. Mrs. Cline, who died May 31, 1917, was a daughter of Tunis and Mary J. (Scoville) Spears. She was born in Springfield Township, LaGrange County, January 17, 1840. Tunis Spears was born in Pennsylvania in 1810 and his wife in Connecticut in 1820. William A. Cline was identified with the republican party in politics.

The oldest of the children of William A. Cline and wife was Milton, who was born June 17, 1859, and died August 21, 1860. The second was Mary J., who was born on the old homestead in 1861 and on September 20, 1888, became the wife of Orville Anderson. Mr. Anderson was born in Greenfield Township August 20, 1862, a son of Elijah and Nancy (Martin) Anderson, of the same township. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Anderson lived on the old Cline farm about thirty years, and he died there March 2, 1919. In the Anderson family were three children: Leon W., who was born September 7, 1889, was educated in the common schools and the high school, and is running the farm of his mother; Bernice E., who was born February 1, 1892, is the wife of Dr. P. W. Horner and lives at New Paris, Indiana, and has a daughter, Dorothy May, born November 15, 1915; and Troas L. Anderson was born May 8, 1894, and died April 11, 1910.

Frank B. Cline, who was born June 27, 1864, attended the Howe High School; and married Carrie Hackett. He is a farmer in Bloomfield Township. They have two children, Fred B. and Vera Lucile. Fred B. married Troy Marks and has two children, Lloyd and Gladys.

Nellie E. Cline, born February 16, 1868, was well educated, attending Normal school at LaGrange, and taught for about nine years before her marriage to Charles Hill, of Bloomfield Township. They have a son, Ledger C. Hill, still at home.

Rachel L. Cline was born April 27, 1870, and after receiving her education taught music for several years. On October 29, 1891, she became the wife of Joseph R. Smith. He was a son of James Smith, and was born in Greenfield Township in 1870, and was educated in the public schools of Brighton. Mr. Smith is a farmer. He and his wife had seven children: Drusus, born September 9, 1894, married May Johnson, and they have three young children, Charles, Orville J. and Albert; Orval B., born July 3, 1896; Kenneth E., born June 3, 1899; Gaylord G., born June 26, 1902, died February 15, 1903; Annabelle, born January 23, 1904; Owen W., born October 3, 1906; and Mary Helen, born December 13, 1910.

**EDWARD HUFF,** who for many years was a resident and prominent property owner in Van Buren Township, was prominently connected with families both in LaGrange County and over the line in Southern Michigan.

He was born on White Pigeon Prairie in Michigan, July 10, 1851, son of Alexander and Elizabeth (Sixbey) Huff. Alexander Huff was born in Schoharie County, New York, in 1816 and was twelve years old when his father died. When a young man he moved to Southern Michigan, married in that state, and lived at Constantine, later at Adrian, and finally on a farm near Klinger Lake, where he and his wife both died, he in 1892 and his wife in 1887. He was a cooper by trade, but for many years was a farmer. Their children were Charles; Edward, deceased; Ida; Lemuel; Christiana, deceased; Henrietta; and Almeda. Alexander Huff was a republi-

can and a member of the Presbyterian Church. His wife was a daughter of Nicholas and Christiana Sixbey, who came from Schoharie County, New York, and were early settlers near Constantine, Michigan. The Sixbeyes owned much land in Southern Michigan. Nicholas Sixbey died near Vistula, Indiana, in 1875, and his wife died in December of the same year. In the Sixbey family were the following children: Elizabeth, Margaret, John, David, Charlotte, Henrietta, Nicholas, Catherine, Ephraim and Augusta.

Edward Huff was educated in public schools, attended the Raisin Valley Seminary near Adrian, Michigan, and had to his credit a successful record as a teacher. After his marriage he lived for one year in Indiana and for nineteen years made his home in Michigan. In 1900 he located in Van Buren Township, and was a resident of Scott until his death on March 6, 1917. His widow is still living in the home at Scott. Mr. Huff owned 209 acres in Van Buren Township and also had 200 acres in Michigan. He was a republican and with his wife was active in the Methodist Church.

November 24, 1880, Mr. Huff married Lucila Dalton. She was born in Van Buren Township of LaGrange County March 29, 1853, a daughter of John and Anna (Hayner) Dalton. Her parents were natives of New York, born July 6, 1810, and August 22, 1812, respectively. On coming West they settled on White Pigeon Prairie, Michigan, but soon afterward came to Van Buren Township in LaGrange County, where Mrs. Huff's father acquired and owned 650 acres of land, constituting one farm but lying partly in Michigan and partly in LaGrange County. Her father also owned the grist mill at Scott. The Daltons were Methodists. Mrs. Huff was one of the following children: Frances Augusta, born January 27, 1847; Catherine, born July 1, 1849; and Lucila, born March 29, 1853. Mr. Dalton died March 20, 1888, and his wife October 27, 1900.

Mrs. Huff is the mother of one son, Harry Dalton Huff, who was born October 10, 1881. He had a good public school education, studied medicine at the University of Michigan, but has followed farming during his active career and is working land owned by his mother. September 7, 1905, Harry D. Huff married Miss Jessie Whistler. They have two children, Lucile Elizabeth, born December 30, 1907, and Stanley, born March 10, 1913.

Durward Duff, a nephew of the late Edward Huff, being a son of George and Henrietta (Huff) Duff, was a soldier in the great war and his record should be briefly noted. For about four years he was in the Home Guard Regiment in Chicago. He went to Houston, Texas, September 8, 1917, and was a private, afterward being promoted to corporal in the One Hundred and Twenty-Second Artillery, Thirty-Third Division. He went overseas to France May 28, 1918, and was in service during the critical summer of that year. He returned to New York City May 27, 1919, and was honorably discharged June 7, 1919.

**HUGH M. WIDNEY.** The name Widney was spoken in the wilderness of Southern DeKalb County more than eighty years ago, and the family has always been one of the most substantial and influential in Concord and neighboring townships. One of the younger generation is Hugh M. Widney, a widely known authority on fruit growing and horticulture, who is proprietor of the Spring Brook Fruit Farm and the Rivera Farm, comprising 200 acres in Concord and Spencer Townships.

He was born in Concord Township March 24, 1866, a son of Oliver H. and Emily F. (Maxwell) Widney. His father was also a native of Concord

Township, while the mother was born in Ohio. Oliver Widney and wife were married in 1864, and he died at Auburn, while his wife passed away at St. Joe. They had two children, Hugh M. and Lenore.

Hugh M. Widney grew up on the old farm in Concord Township and had a common school education. On December 31, 1885, he married Hattie A. Davis, daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth Davis, of Newville Township, DeKalb County. Mrs. Widney in former years was a teacher of music. Two children were born to them, Blanchard V., who is a graduate of the Tri-State College at Angola with the Bachelor of Science degree, has spent three years in Purdue University and is now county agricultural agent for Noble County, Indiana. He married, August 19, 1913, Flossie Copp, daughter of Abner and Alice Copp, of St. Joe. The younger child, Dorris Davis Widney, was born August 16, 1903, in St. Joe, and died in the Johns Hopkins Hospital at Baltimore, Maryland, January 29, 1919, in her sixteenth year.

The family are members of the Methodist Protestant Church. Mr. Widney is affiliated with Concord Lodge No. 556, Free and Accepted Masons, and with St. Joe Lodge No. 400 of the Knights of Pythias, being a past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias. Politically he is a republican.

Mr. Widney has been busily engaged with his horticultural specialty for thirty years, and has a highly developed and valuable fruit farm of thirty acres in Concord Township. His wide experience and expert knowledge has made his services valuable to the state at large. He has been on the staff of lecturers under the auspices of Purdue University for county and township institutes, and has traveled all over the state.

**JOHN CHESTER BURCH,** a progressive farmer in Otsego Township, is in the third generation of the Burch family, which performed some of the land clearing and other pioneer labors in Steuben County. It is a family of long standing and the highest integrity of character.

John Chester Burch was born on the old homestead in Otsego Township, January 5, 1870, a son of Halbert and Mary (Rhinehart) Burch. His grandfather, Chester Burch was born in Vermont in 1810, was reared to manhood and married in Ohio, and in 1837 came to Steuben County, Indiana, settling in section 15 of Otsego Township. Chester Burch died January 26, 1879. His son Halbert was one of seven children and was killed in a runaway accident in November, 1872, when John Chester was only two years old.

John Chester Burch grew up on the home farm under the care of his widowed mother, attended public schools, and for a number of years has successfully pursued farming and stock raising on 53½ acres of the old homestead. He is a republican in politics.

In 1892 he married Miss Bernice Lybarger. She was born in Starke County, Indiana, September 5, 1874, a daughter of Alonzo D. and Mary (Barnes) Lybarger. Her parents were both natives of Knox County, Ohio, where her father was born April 19, 1842, and her mother August 3, 1847. After their marriage they came to Kosciusko County, Indiana, later went back to Knox County, and in 1880 settled in Steuben County, where her father was a renter for a time but in 1896 bought a farm in Otsego Township. Her parents are still living in Steuben County, in Scott Township.

Mr. and Mrs. Burch have five children: Vera, who attended the district schools and the high



school at Hamilton and is the wife of Glenn Sewell; Wayne, a student in the Metz High School; Gael, who has finished the grammar school work; and Ford and Vanita, who are the youngest children.

**JOHN BENJAMIN HAYWARD.** There is hardly a locality in Steuben County where the name Hayward is not known and respected. One of the members of the family who did most to make the name generally known in that county is John Benjamin Hayward, former sheriff. Mr. Hayward lives in Salem Township, and his grandfather was one of the earliest pioneers of LaGrange County.

John Benjamin Hayward was born in Milford Township of Steuben County, November 28, 1861, a son of William and Louisa (Chaffee) Hayward. Grandfather Isaac Hayward came to LaGrange County and settled in Milford Township, south of Stroh, in 1844. He owned the land where the village of Stroh now stands. He acquired 320 acres, and after the death of his wife he sold this farm to his son, William. His death occurred about 1878, when ninety-three years of age. He was a native of England, married in that country, and six of his children were born there. When he came to America he was five weeks and five days on the ocean. In this country six other children were born. William Hayward was the youngest of this large family, was born in Ohio, June 30, 1840, and was four years old when brought to LaGrange County. He became one of the most successful farmers and stock men in this section of Northeast Indiana. He began with 320 acres and increased this to 520 acres, and later bought another 120 acres, giving him a complete section. He was an extensive cattle dealer and a sheep feeder. He was the man who originated the important improvement known as the Turkey Creek Ditch, by which hundreds of acres of fertile land were reclaimed for tillage. He also built an elevator at Helmer and one of the main store buildings there. For five years he successfully operated the elevator. He sold that business, and after the village of Stroh started he built an elevator there and platted twenty acres of his land into village lots, erecting several dwelling houses on them. He was living at Stroh at the time of his death in 1906. His wife was born in 1841 and died in 1872. They had the following children: Walter, John Benjamin, Dora Louise, Estella, who died at the age of twelve years, Cora, Ollie and Ida. William Hayward married for his second wife Caroline Drayer. She was the mother of four children, Mary, William C., Arthur and Frank. Frank died when four years old.

John Benjamin Hayward from the age of four grew up on the homestead, attended local schools, and in 1885 established a home of his own by his marriage to Clara May Butler. She is a daughter of James and Elnora (Wright) Butler. His grandfather, Jesse Butler, was an early settler of Steuben County. Mrs. Hayward was born on the same farm as her father.

After his marriage Mr. Hayward bought forty acres known as the Daniel Rouse farm in Milford Township of LaGrange County. He sold it to James Gettings and bought the eighty acres in Salem Township of Steuben County where he is still living. In 1902 he bought eighty acres adjoining on the north side of the road. His first eighty was acquired in 1891. Mr. Hayward was elected sheriff of Steuben County in 1902. He held that office for four years, and at his second election had the largest majority given any candidate in the county. After retiring from the office of sheriff Mr. Hayward remained in Angola for six years in order to educate his children, and during that time

represented the firm of Shaughnessy & Company at Angola in the sale of buggies.

Mr. Hayward is an active republican, as was his father before him. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in Salem Center, being a charter member, and he joined the Knights of Pythias at Salem but is now a member of Angola Lodge. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

To their marriage were born seven children: Lloyd who died at the age of ten months; Elsie, wife of Paul Crundwell and the mother of one daughter, Mary Jane; Imo, who married Harry Lambert and has two children, Margaret and Ralph; Berdina, James, Edgar and Robert, the four younger children still at home.

**JOHN J. TROYER.** One of the representative families of LaGrange County bears the name of Troyer, a name that has been identified with Indiana history since pioneer days. Seventy-five years have passed since the Troyer family left their old home surroundings in Holmes County, Ohio, and journeyed westward as homeseekers. They paused in Elkhart County, Indiana, later moved on into Howard County, and still later became firmly established in LaGrange County. A worthy member of this sturdy old family is found in John J. Troyer, who owns one of the best improved farms in Clay Township, and is a man of high standing in township and county.

John J. Troyer was born in Howard County, Indiana, in his father's pioneer log cabin, January 6, 1870. His parents were Jeremiah and Mary (Troyer) Troyer, both of whom were natives of Holmes County, Ohio, where he was born November 28, 1828, and she was born November 28, 1830. Jeremiah Troyer was sixteen years old when he accompanied his parents, Samuel and Barbara (Hostetter) Troyer, to Elkhart County, Indiana. When his mother died his father went back to Holmes County and was married there a second time. He died in Howard County, Indiana. In those early years Jeremiah Troyer journeyed back and forth to Holmes County on numerous occasions, making five trips on horseback and several by wagon, when he had to ford unbridged creeks, penetrate swamps and sleep in the open, and on more than one horseback journey escaped from thieves and was attacked by panthers. He was married in Holmes County, Ohio, and the trip back to Howard County, Indiana, was made by wagon. The first home was a log house in Howard County. From there in 1874 the parents of John J. Troyer moved to LaGrange County and settled in Newbury Township, where the father bought 220 acres in the woods, north of the Pleasant View schoolhouse. He and wife spent the greater part of their lives on that place, but subsequently moved to Elkhart County, where Jeremiah Troyer died in 1896, having survived his wife three years. They had the following children: Cornelius, who was born in Holmes County, spent the most of his life on the farm in Newbury Township; Lydia, who was in Howard County, Indiana, married Jerry Yoder; Mary, who lives in Newbury Township, is the widow of Tobias David Yoder; Sarah, who died in Marion County, Kansas, was the wife of Edward Shock; Susan, who is the wife of Samuel S. Esch, of Elkhart, Indiana; Samuel E., who lives at Elkhart, formerly lived in Clay Township, LaGrange County; Barbara, who is the wife of P. S. Schrock, of Marion County, Kansas; Paulina, who died in early womanhood; Jeremiah, who lives at Chateau, Oklahoma; Elizabeth, who was the wife of J. D. Troyer, and died in Johnson County, Iowa; Abraham, who died in infancy; John

J., who resides in Clay Township, LaGrange County; Moses J., who lives in Ford County, Kansas; and David J., who lives at Midland, Michigan. The parents were members of the Mennonite faith and all their children embraced the same.

John J. Troyer grew up on his father's farm and obtained a public school education. He started out for himself without capital, and all he has he earned through his own industry. His business all his life has been along agricultural lines and he has profited through experience. He now owns 170 acres of exceptionally fine land and has increased its value through excellent improvements, his farm buildings all being convenient and substantial. He gives much attention to grain growing and raises standard stock.

Mr. Troyer was married on November 13, 1893, to Miss Sophia Hostetter, who is a daughter of Samuel and Katie (Mehl) Hostetter, the latter of whom died in 1919. Mr. and Mrs. Troyer have had children as follows: Naoma, who is the wife of Mahlon C. Esch, and they have an adopted child, Gerald; Viola and Orpha, both of whom died in infancy; Minnie, who is a teacher, is a graduate of the high school and Goshen College; Howard, who is in the senior class of the Shipshewana High School; and Nora May and Bessie, who have made fine records in the public school. Like his father, Mr. Troyer is a republican in his political opinions. He is a highly respected citizen of LaGrange County.

DATON H. LONG. The family of which Daton H. Long is a representative has been in LaGrange County for over half a century, and Mr. Long's personal relations here have been chiefly with farming, and for a number of years also with the good and public-spirited citizenship of Bloomfield Township.

He was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, December 8, 1857, a son of Daniel and Sarah (Bair) Long, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. They were married in Ohio and came to LaGrange County in 1861, in the spring, settling on a large tract of prairie and timber in Greenfield Township. Daniel Long became one of the leading farmers and land owners of the county. At the time of his death his possessions aggregated 1,430 acres. He died at the old home in Greenfield Township, September 14, 1889, aged sixty-eight years, and his widow passed away August 29, 1915. He was quite active in republican politics, and he and his wife were members of the Dunkard Church. Their children were: Mary, wife of Daniel Blasus; Benjamin; Rebecca, wife of John Stierenagle; David J.; Sarah, wife of Adolph Segrist; Phoebe Jane; Daton H.; and Vesta, wife of Ellis Rowe.

Daton H. Long was four years old when the family came to LaGrange County, and he grew up on the homestead in Greenfield Township. He attended district school, the high school at Mongo and had a business course in Chicago. His first independent efforts as a farmer were made on eighty acres which he bought in Lima Township. Later he bought 97½ acres in Greenfield Township, and traded that for forty acres, where he now lives in Bloomfield Township. Since coming here his possessions have grown and they now aggregate 146 acres. He has also remodeled the house and the barn and has a fine barn, 40 by 52 feet. For eighteen years he and his brother David were associated in the stock shipping business. Mr. Long is a republican, and his wife is a member of the Methodist Church.

October 21, 1880, he married Miss Sabra B. Stacy. She was born in Lima Township of LaGrange County, October 25, 1861, a daughter of Nelson and Laurette (Anderson) Stacy, early settlers of La-

Grange County. Mr. and Mrs. Long have five children: Mabel Clare, who is the wife of Albert J. Balkee and has a daughter, Vera Mabel; Harry D., who married Bertha M. Rennert, of Oshkosh, Wisconsin; Hazel, who died in infancy; Mahlon, who married Ruth Myers; and Morse, who died in infancy.

JOHN C. MCCOY has a large and well kept farm in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County, and his family have many interesting connections with past history.

Mr. McCoy was born on the old McCoy place, now included in the city limits of LaGrange, July 30, 1860, a son of Mathew and Hannah (Ferguson) McCoy. His father was born in Ohio in 1823 and his mother in Pennsylvania in 1821. Mathew McCoy moved to LaGrange County in 1856 with his parents. Mr. and Mrs. Thomas McCoy, who settled in Bloomfield, just north of LaGrange, on 160 acres of land. Thomas McCoy and wife spent their last years there.

Mathew McCoy received his early education in Ohio, and from LaGrange County he went back to that state to claim his bride and brought her to the farm in Bloomfield Township and lived on the old homestead there until his death in 1901. His wife died in 1905. They were among the original members of the Presbyterian Church in LaGrange and contributed liberally to the erection of the first building. In politics he was a republican and at one time was appointed to fill out an unexpired term as county treasurer. Their children were: Mary, deceased; Walter, John C., William E.; and Jennie, deceased.

John C. McCoy grew up on his father's farm and was educated at LaGrange. Since early manhood he has owned several tracts of land, and bought his present farm of 174 acres in Bloomfield Township in 1906. One hundred and nine acres of this tract was the old Westbrook Farm. This land is devoted to general farming and stock raising, and in the past twelve or thirteen years many improvements have been added, including a barn 46x72 feet, a silo 12x30 and other equipment in keeping.

Mr. McCoy is a republican and has served as trustee of Bloomfield Township one term. He and his wife are active and interested members of the LaGrange County Horticultural Society.

October 18, 1883, Mr. McCoy married Miss Rowena Repine. She was born at Wolcottville May 6, 1862, a daughter of John C. and Margaret (Vine) Repine. Mr. and Mrs. McCoy have five children: Hugh, who was educated in the LaGrange public schools, took a commercial course at Janesville, Wisconsin, and for several years has been a railroad man with home in Montana. He married Serena Taft. Hazel, the second in the family, is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and is a graduate nurse from the Presbyterian Hospital of Chicago and since graduation has been identified with that institution, for the past two years being a skilled attendant in the operating room. Margaret is also a high school graduate and taught school for two years before her marriage to Vern Shelly. Mr. Shelly is the active head of the McCoy farm in Bloomfield Township. He and his wife have one daughter, Dorothy. John C. McCoy, Jr., was born in 1901 and graduated from the LaGrange High School in 1919. Arthur, the youngest child, was born in 1903 and is now in the second year of the Bloomfield Township High School.

Mrs. McCoy's father was born in Pennsylvania in 1831 and her mother in Ohio in 1832. Though more than forty years of age at the time, John C. Repine enlisted in Company A of the First Indiana Heavy Artillery in 1864, and was with that command during



the last year of the Civil war. He was discharged August 8, 1865. He went to Ohio with his parents and later came to Noble County, Indiana, where he and his wife were married. Soon afterward they moved to South Milford, where he worked at his trade as a machinist, and four years later settled at Wolcottville and still later at Rome City, where he died in 1906. Mrs. McCoy's mother died in 1910. Both were members of the Baptist Church. Mrs. McCoy was the youngest of four children, the others being Clinton E., Emma, wife of Cassius Markham, and Cora B., wife of Dr. Charles Niman.

ARTEMAN A. STALLMAN, whose busy career as a farmer in York Township has made him well known throughout Steuben County, has spent many years in this county and was also formerly a druggist at South Bend, Indiana.

He was born in Bucyrus, Ohio, August 9, 1852, a son of Frederick E. and Elizabeth (Rupp) Stallman. His father, who was born in Westphalia, Germany, April 2, 1819, came to America in 1841, locating at Bucyrus, Ohio, where he operated a butcher shop for over sixteen years. On October 4, 1844, he married Elizabeth Rupp, who was born at York, Pennsylvania, and died June 16, 1853. About 1857 Frederick E. Stallman moved to York Township in Steuben County, and spent the rest of his life as a farmer. He died June 7, 1871. He and his first wife had the following children: Ann Elizabeth, born April 23, 1846, and died April 29, 1846; John Henry, born May 3, 1847, died April 3, 1852; Charles William, born April 13, 1850; and Arteman A. On March 4, 1856, Frederick Stallman married Louise Underwood. She died April 22, 1857, the day after the birth of her only child, Lydia Gertrude. The daughter was born April 21, 1857, and died February 10, 1912. On October 7, 1858, Frederick Stallman married Rachel Handley. She was born November 15, 1828. Her children were four in number, Esther Lillie, born August 19, 1859, and died May 13, 1862; Elmer Edwin, born August 30, 1862; Lettie Jane, born October 24, 1863, and died February 2, 1886; and David Casper, born January 18, 1867.

Arteman A. Stallman when ten months old was taken by his uncle, Dr. P. E. Rupp, to rear, and until he was two years old he lived with his grandmother Rupp. Doctor Rupp marrying at that time took the boy into his home. Doctor Rupp was a resident of South Bend, and there Arteman Stallman acquired his education in the public schools. From the age of fourteen to twenty-two he worked in his uncle's drug store at South Bend and acquired a thorough knowledge of the drug business.

On June 1, 1875, Mr. Stallman married Catharine Harriett Wood, a daughter of George A. and Harriet R. (Ranstead) Wood. Following his marriage he moved to a farm in York Township of Steuben County, but after five years returned to South Bend and was identified with his uncle's drug store for two years. Since 1883 he has been steadily identified with farming and at his present location. He also erected a building and put in a good stock of general merchandise and for five years he operated a huckster wagon during the summer months. In 1887 he ran a store at York and was postmaster there one year. After that he combined the operation of his home farm with his store. In 1894 he moved to section 20 in that township and in the spring of 1901 bought the place where he still lives in that section. He owns 135 acres and does general farming and stock raising. Mr. and Mrs. Stallman had four children: Mabel L., who died June 29, 1919, was the wife of A. L. Phillips; Aclelia A., who married Fred

D. Rowe and has four children, Victor Loomis, Harlon Dolores, Freda Doris and Frederick Arteman; Edward Rupp, who married Neva Keys; and Muriel Dolores. Mrs. Stallman is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

HOMER A. BARKER. Among the good farms of Noble County one that deserves notice on account of its improvement and superior management, and is also representative of the industry and effective work of a very capable citizen, is that of Homer A. Barker on rural route No. 1 in Wayne Township.

Mr. Barker has been identified with this section of Northeast Indiana all his life. He was born in Salem Township of Steuben County, Indiana, December 8, 1867. His parents were John and Hannah (McMillen) Barker. John Barker was born in England in June, 1828. Seven weeks after his birth his parents were members of a small colony that left England, there being seven families and seven brothers. After a voyage across the ocean they landed at New York, where the parents sojourned a short time and then moved west to Cleveland. John Barker grew up in northern Ohio, and for several years was employed as a boatman on the canal between Cleveland and the southern part of that state. He was married at Newburg, now a suburb of Cleveland. In 1862 he came to Indiana and located in Milford Township of LaGrange County. Three years later he moved to Steuben County, and that was his home the rest of his life. He was a democrat in politics. Of the seven children six are still living: P. A. is the one deceased; N. N. Barker lives at Kendallville; William, of Fort Wayne; Harry, of LaGrange; Josephine, widow of A. T. Balote; Homer A.; and Cora A., wife of Arthur Cook, of Three Rivers, Michigan.

Homer A. Barker grew up on the old farm in Steuben County and was educated in the public schools there. He lived at home to the age of twenty-seven. December 5, 1894, he married Nettie Emerick. She was born in Wayne Township, of Noble County, March 26, 1872, daughter of J. W. and Phemia (Smith) Emerick, both of whom were natives of Ohio. Mrs. Barker grew up on a farm in Wayne Township and was educated in the common schools.

Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Barker have been successfully engaged in farming in Wayne Township, and his ample farm now comprises 200 acres, well cultivated and well stocked and improved.

They have three children: Clifford J. and Mildred R., in high school, and Carl D. Mr. Barker is a member of South Milford Lodge No. 619 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He is past noble grand, has sat in the Grand Lodge, and is also a member of the Encampment degrees. Both he and his wife are members of the Rebekahs. Politically he votes as a democrat.

THOMAS CLARK BENSON. One of the beautiful homes of DeKalb County is Birdlawn Farm, situated in Richland Township, the property of Thomas Clark Benson. It is the old family homestead of the Hine family, and its name, together with that of the adjoining farm, Meadow Lark, which also is a part of the Hine family estate, serves to perpetuate the beautiful memory of a gifted woman, the late Mrs. Jane L. Hine, mother of Mrs. Benson, known in Indiana history as the "Bird Woman."

Thomas Clark Benson was born in Warren County, Indiana. His parents, Jonathan and Eliza (Jones) Benson, died when he was very young, and he was reared in the Ankrum family in Vermilion County, Illinois. He had one brother and four sisters, namely: Asbury, Mary Jane, Eliza-

beth, Matilda and Lydia. The only survivor is Mrs. Matilda Nichols, whose name is at Weatherford, Oklahoma. Mr. Benson was afforded educational opportunities and for a number of years taught school very acceptably, then began study for the ministry, pursuing theological courses at Union Christian College, Merom, Indiana, and Oberlin Theological Seminary at Oberlin, Ohio. It was at Oberlin that he met Miss Nellie Cynthia Hine, to whom he was united in marriage on March 26, 1884, at Birdlawn, the present family home.

When Mrs. Benson's grandfather, Sheldon Horatio Hine, first invested in this half section of Richland Township wild land he traded thirty milch cows for it, at the time living in the Western Reserve across the Indiana-Ohio state line, buying this property as an investment. When he sent his son, Horatio Sheldon Hine, to pay the taxes the young man, then nineteen years old, did not regard it as worth the money, but his father said, "Young man, some day you will be glad to have it." Since 1863 Birdlawn has been a part of the estate now owned by Mr. Benson. When Horatio S. Hine came to pay the taxes he found conditions that would have justified almost any business man entering a protest. He found a swamp instead of a farm and the sink hole in it was so deep that for many years the New York Central Railroad passing through Waterloo, Sedan and Corunna, had to make a detour in order to avoid it. A road bed through the sink hole was finally made by hauling timber from three states, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio, laying tier on tier on the ice, subsequent draining making it possible to make a solid permanent roadway. The above is interesting as local as well as family history.

While a brother of Horatio Sheldon Hine, Lemon Hine, first came to this DeKalb County farmstead and remained long enough to build the house which still stands there, it was Horatio S. Hine who developed the farm, and it is his grandson, Martin Lee Benson, who at present maintains its standing in agricultural pre-eminence. Horatio S. Hine was twice married, his first union being with Cynthia Brooks, who was the mother of three sons: Sheldon H., Charles L. and Frank B. After her death Mr. Hine married her sister, Jane L. Brooks, who became the mother of three children, namely: Mrs. Nellie Cynthia Benson, Brooks L. and Lemon. The mother of Mrs. Benson was born April 2, 1831, and died February 11, 1916, the centennial year in Indiana history. With a natural love of nature, Mrs. Hine beautified the hill slope in front of the farmhouse by setting out wild flowers and it has been Mrs. Benson's pleasant duty to protect and preserve them. It was not, however, until she had faithfully discharged her duties as wife and mother that Mrs. Hine began her special studies of bird life, and some of her finest essays were written after she had passed three score and ten. She was frequently invited to address audiences on bird lore, wrote voluminously on the subject for different publications and many of her manuscripts are preserved and consulted as being scientifically authentic. She was a member of the National Ornithological Society, and a booklet has been issued as a memorial.

For several years after their marriage Mr. Benson continued in the ministry, serving Christian churches in Kansas, Pennsylvania and Ohio. In 1896, coming to Birdlawn with Mrs. Benson to visit her parents and finding them in need of a daughter's ministrations, he decided to remain, and this has been the Benson home ever since. Mr. and Mrs. Benson have the following children: Paul Hine, Martin Lee, Rhoda Bernice, Kathryn Eunice and Frank Earl. As a student in Angola College Paul H.

Benson specialized in literature and chemistry. As a soldier in the state military organization sent to the Mexican border, he soon became an interpreter of languages, and his knowledge of chemistry has been very useful to him in a business way at Saginaw, Michigan, since he returned from military service. Martin Lee Benson made a special study of agriculture and is the farmer at Birdlawn. Rhoda B. is the wife of J. H. Miser and they live on their fruit ranch in California. They have two sons, Harold and Glenn. Kathryn E. Benson, a graduate of the Auburn High School, had training in the Oklahoma College of Agriculture, and for several years taught school in Wyoming. Frank Earl Benson, who was one of the earliest enlisted men to go overseas with the American Expeditionary Forces in the World war, served as orderly to Dr. Richard Derby, son-in-law of the late beloved Theodore Roosevelt, and at Chateau Thierry and other points was between the lines in the hardest of the fighting and ever exhibited the valor that has won laurels for the American soldier. This family in all its branches illustrates the sterling qualities, high ideals and solid worth that make the real American type.

V. D. WEAVER. In the citizenship of LaGrange County few men have played a more active and varied part in the last twenty-five or thirty years than V. D. Weaver, whose name is associated with a number of important enterprises, and is also well known in public affairs through his long service as county auditor. While he is a man of many interests, he is usually found in business hours in the National Bank at LaGrange, of which he is president.

He was born in Newbury Township of LaGrange County July 26, 1869, son of David and Elizabeth (Yoder) Weaver. His father was born near Johnstown, Pennsylvania, January 9, 1832, and his mother in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, May 30, 1842. They were reared in Pennsylvania, were married there on December 5, 1861, and about the close of the Civil war, in 1864 or 1865, came to Newbury Township of LaGrange County. They bought a farm, lived on it a short time, and then bought another place in the same township, where they spent the rest of their industrious and useful lives. The mother died July 10, 1886, and the father April 8, 1915. They were lifelong members of the Mennonite Church. Their family consisted of eleven children, ten of whom are still living. Willis died after his marriage. Those still living are: Catherine, wife of Jonathan Farver; Daniel, connected with the LaGrange Hardware Company; Nancy, wife of George Nelson; V. D.; Mahlon, a farmer in Newbury Township; Mary, wife of Harry J. Hostetler, of Newbury Township; Silas, a farmer in Bloomfield Township; Susan, wife of Milo Miller, of Michigan; Elizabeth, wife of William E. Hoffman, of Kent County, Michigan; and Rose, wife of Lorenzo Blough, of Windber, Pennsylvania.

V. D. Weaver grew up on the home farm in LaGrange County, attended the district schools and later graduated in a business course from Valparaiso University. On returning to LaGrange he was connected with the Farver Brothers lumber business for fifteen years, and he is still a director of the Farver Lumber Company. In the meantime he had interested himself in public affairs, and being recognized as a man of capability and good judgment was elected at the age of twenty-five trustee of Newbury Township. He served the long term. In December, 1903, he was appointed to fill out an unexpired term of one month in the county auditor's office, and on January 1, 1904, entered that office by formal election, serving four years, and was then re-elected and held the reins of administration until



January 1, 1911, when he retired with a splendid record to his credit. In 1910 he had been elected assistant cashier of the National Bank of LaGrange and on January 1, 1911, he entered upon his duties in that position, serving as cashier until July 1, 1919, when he became president of the bank.

Mr. Weaver is also a director of the Weldman State Bank, of the LaGrange Hardware Company, and is connected with a number of local organizations. He is treasurer of the LaGrange Commercial Club, treasurer of the Red Cross, president of the LaGrange School Board, is Sunday school treasurer and a steward of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and is treasurer of the Republican County Central Committee. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

December 22, 1895, Mr. Weaver married Elora Frazier. She was born at Nappanee, Indiana, November 21, 1875, and died January 8, 1910. Mr. and Mrs. Weaver had four children: G. Hobert, a graduate of high school and of the Valparaiso Commercial College, was cashier of the Weldman State Bank for eighteen months and then left civil life to give his services to the Government, and was connected with the mechanical department in the great ship building plant at Newport News. Benjamin M., the second son, is a traveling salesman for Coppes Brothers & Zook, cabinet manufacturers at Nappanee, Indiana. The two younger children are David F. and Ruth Pauline, both public school students.

WILLIAM FAIR was long and favorably known in LaGrange County, was an old Union soldier, and for half a century was identified with the agricultural community of Springfield Township.

He was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, in 1844, son of Samuel and Mary (Weaver) Fair. His parents were both born in Pennsylvania, were married in Ohio and in 1866 came to LaGrange County and located in Springfield Township, where they bought eighty acres of land. Later they bought twenty acres more in the same township, and on that place spent the rest of their lives. The father was born March 11, 1818, and died August 28, 1871. The mother was born July 14, 1823, and died December 23, 1908, at the age of eighty-five. The record of their children is as follows: Charles, born April 25, 1842, and died August 18, 1842; Hannah, born July 7, 1843; William, born October 12, 1844, and died August 6, 1916, his older sister Hannah surviving him and passing away September 28, 1917; Elizabeth, born May 17, 1846; Ephraim, born March 26, 1848, and died September 29, 1875; Manasses, born August 24, 1850; Eston, born September 1, 1853; Nathaniel, born March 9, 1855, and died July 17, 1861; Emanuel, born October 10, 1860, and died July 3, 1880; and Dora Ellen, born February 11, 1867.

William Fair was reared in Ohio, attended the public schools there, and at the age of twenty, October 3, 1864, enlisted in Company E of the One Hundred and Eighty-Second Ohio Infantry. He was a private during the latter period of the war and was granted his honorable discharge July 7, 1865. Soon afterward he assisted his father in buying the land in LaGrange County, and he took twenty acres there where his widow still lives. He lived there until his death and the family homestead now consists of forty acres. William Fair was a republican in politics, was public spirited, a kind neighbor and friend, and led a wholesome and unselfish life.

October 24, 1881, he married Sophia Rasler. Mrs. Fair was born in Noble County, Indiana, October 15, 1855, a daughter of George and Margaret (Neff)

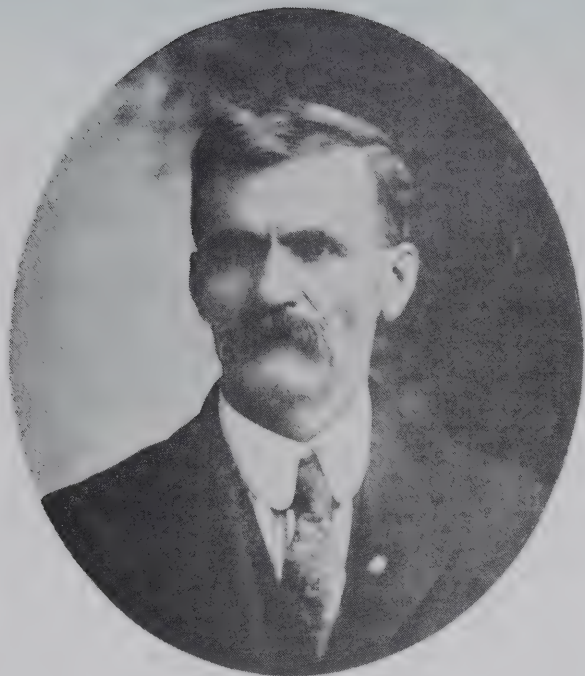
Rasler, both natives of Pennsylvania. Her father was born in 1808 and her mother in 1814. They were married in Ohio, came to DeKalb County, Indiana, at an early age, and in 1857 moved to LaGrange County and located in Springfield Township. Her father for a time rented the Wash Greenfield Farm and then bought twenty acres in Milford Township, moving to that place in 1862. Her father died there September 10, 1882, and her mother June 3, 1892. In the Rasler family were nine children: Daniel, born July 27, 1835, and died April 30, 1917; David, born November 18, 1837, and died September 8, 1841; Philip Noah, born May 13, 1840, and died March 30, 1904; John, born December 2, 1842, and died November 26, 1900; George, born December 22, 1845, and died February 20, 1846; Aaron, born October 22, 1848, and died March 15, 1860; Mary Ann, his twin sister, born October 22, 1848, and died July 7, 1894; Gilbert, born June 15, 1851, died July 23, 1862; and Sophia, Mrs. Fair, who is the youngest of the family, born October 15, 1855.

Mr. and Mrs. Fair had four children: George, the oldest, was born November 6, 1882, was educated in the high school at Mongo, and now works the home farm. Celestia, born April 24, 1886, is a graduate of the eighth grade and the Mongo High School. Ellen, born September 27, 1888, died in infancy. Stella, the youngest daughter, was born April 24, 1893, and completed the work of the grade schools and the Mongo High School, attended the LaGrange High School and the Tri-State College at Angola, and was a successful teacher in North Dakota until she married Lewis O. Magnus. Mr. and Mrs. Magnus live near Sterling, North Dakota, and have one child, Chester Irvin.

BART HANSELMAN. A new flag has been added to those of our country during the past couple of years, and it hung in the windows of homes all over the land while those whom the service stars represented were serving in the different branches of the army and navy during the great war. Although the majority of these flags are now carefully stored away among the precious mementoes of the families to whom they belonged, the boys being happily so many of them back on our own shores, they will never be forgotten or what they represent held in light esteem. Steuben County sent the very flower of its young manhood to France to do battle against a common enemy, and its soldiers of this war rank with those of the old soldiers of the Civil war still answering to roll call in the flesh. One of the patriotic families who is proud of the fact that one went out from their home in response to the call of the Government is that bearing the name of Hanselman, of whom Bart Hanselman is one of the prosperous farmers of Otsego Township.

Bart Hanselman was born in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, Indiana, in the City of Angola, September 25, 1865, a son of John Q. and Margaret (Kankamp) Hanselman, and grandson of Aaron and Christina (Read) Hanselman, natives of Pennsylvania, who became pioneers of Steuben County, locating in Steuben Township at a very early day and developing a valuable farm from the wilderness. Their children were as follows: John Q., George, Lynn, Elizabeth, Eliza, David, Peter, Daniel and Lewis.

John Q. Hanselman was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, January 25, 1836, and he died January 19, 1918, in Otsego Township. His wife was born at Bremen, Germany, April 4, 1841, and died in Otsego Township, June 17, 1907. She was a daughter of John and Lucile Kankamp. In young manhood John Q. Hanselman was engaged in teaming



*Casper Bardon*



*Minnie M. Bardon*



father bought a farm in section 22 of Newbury Township and subsequently he bought out his father's interest and now owns 131 $\frac{3}{4}$  acres. He practices general farming and livestock husbandry on a successful scale, and has a group of fine buildings, nearly all of which have been put on the land during his tenure of ownership.

For the past seventeen years Mr. Miller has also officiated as pastor of the Shore Mennonite Church, doing that work, according to the custom of the church, without compensation. In 1895 he married Magdalena Yoder, daughter of Joseph C. Yoder. To their marriage were born Irwin, Percival J., Mabel Elizabeth, Orpha, Rachel and Clara. The mother of these children died in 1907. Mr. Miller married Mrs. Anna Weaver in 1909. She was the widow of Willis D. Weaver. They have one daughter, Alta and by her first marriage Mrs. Miller has a son, Ralph.

BURRITT S. WALTER, the present county treasurer of LaGrange County, has taken an active part in public affairs for a number of years and at the same time has played a busy role in farming and in various other enterprises.

He was born in Clay Township of LaGrange County July 11, 1869, son of Valentine and Lydia (Shipley) Walter. His parents were both born in Ohio, but when children were brought by their respective parents to LaGrange County, both families settling in Clay Township. Valentine and Lydia attended district school there and after they were grown they married, and for a number of years were substantial farming people there. They now live retired at LaGrange. The father is a republican and both are members of the Lutheran Church, Valentine having been officially connected with the congregation for a number of years.

Burritt S. Walter was the only one of the two children of his parents to survive infancy. He grew up on the home farm in Clay Township, and in addition to the district schools attended a high school at LaGrange. Since early manhood he has found abundant opportunity to test his ability in business affairs. He owns a splendid farm of 420 acres in Clay Township, and is also interested in sixty acres in another township in the county. For a number of years he has done a large business buying and shipping cattle and horses. He is president of the LaGrange Automobile Company, director of the LaGrange Trust Company, is treasurer of the LaGrange Combination Sales Company, and is a stockholder in the Noble Truck Company.

Politically he has long been identified with the republican party and for six years was township assessor in Clay Township. He is now serving his second term as county treasurer, and no more careful and efficient custodian of the public funds of the county ever held office at the courthouse in LaGrange. Mr. Walter is a member of the Lutheran Church and one of its trustees, and is affiliated with LaGrange Lodge No. 144, Knights of Pythias.

He married Lou S. Latta, who was educated in the common schools of this county and before her marriage was a teacher for several terms. They have four children: Rollo N., a graduate of high school and for two terms a student in the Angola Tri-State Normal and now cashier of the LaGrange Truck Company; Nina, wife of Forest Aldrich; Russell L., a graduate of the LaGrange High School and a practical farmer in Clay Township; and Monroe, who is a graduate of high school and is now a student of dentistry.

CASPER BARDON is an old and prominent resident of LaGrange County, a prosperous farmer in Van Bu-

ren Township, and is especially esteemed because of his service as a Union soldier during the Civil war.

He was born in Germany June 12, 1841, and in 1847, at the age of six years, came to America with his parents, Michael and Catherine (Buckner) Bardon. The family lived in Pennsylvania for eight years and then settled in Van Buren Township of LaGrange County. Michael Bardon acquired a tract of land, cleared some of the woods away and built a log house 12 by 18 feet as the first home of his family. Like so many of his countrymen, he was industrious and thrifty and made a good farm. During his lifetime he built a large barn 40 by 60 feet. The comfortable and commodious house still standing on the farm was built by Mr. Casper Bardon, who is a carpenter by trade. Michael Bardon died in 1894, at the age of seventy-seven, and his widow survived until 1904, when she was eighty-five years of age. Their children were Margaret, Elizabeth, Susan, Casper, Catherine, Mary, Louis, Frederick, Henry and Charlotte.

Casper Bardon finished his education in the common schools of LaGrange County, and in 1862, at the age of twenty-one, enlisted in Company D, Thirtieth Indiana Regiment. His second enlistment was in Company A, One Hundred and Forty-Second Indiana Infantry and was with his command until the close of the war. He participated in many campaigns and many engagements and was in the great battles of Gettysburg and Nashville. When the war was over he returned to Van Buren Township, and had thirteen acres of the old homestead. Later he bought the 138 acres which he now owns and where he lives, near Scott, and he also owns a life lease on forty acres in Van Buren Township. He has worked at his trade as carpenter and has made a competence as a farmer. He cast his first vote for Lincoln and has been a stanch republican ever since. He is a Lutheran in church membership, while his first wife was a Baptist, and the present Mrs. Bardon is a Methodist.

In 1872 he married Miss Lois Berry, a daughter of Conrad Berry, of Van Buren Township. Their only child was stillborn. Mrs. Bardon died in 1903. In 1905 he married for his present wife Minnie M. (Shelby) Johnson. She was the mother of one son by her first husband, Clarence Johnson, who owns his own farm in Colorado and married Viva Smith, a daughter of George P. Smith, of LaGrange.

HENRY H. BODIE, whose home is in Jamestown Township of Steuben County, is now practically retired, after many years of well spent toil and thrifty husbandry as a farmer. When a boy he had to get out and make his own way in the world, and in all his active career he has sought no help which he could not repay and has thoroughly earned his independence.

Mr. Bodie was born in Putnam County, Ohio, March 19, 1860, son of Joseph and Rhoda Ann (Martin) Bodie. Joseph Bodie enlisted in the Union army in 1861, and served faithfully until his death at Nashville, Tennessee, in 1864. About the time of his death his widow and her family moved to Allen County, Indiana, and she survived her husband nearly half a century, passing away in 1909, at the age of eighty-one. Her children were Hannah, Barbara, Margaret, Isaac, Christine, William, Sarah, Joseph, Henry H. and Emma.

Henry H. Bodie when nine years old came to Steuben County to live with his sister Margaret, who married Amos Gleason and lived in Jackson Township. He had little time or opportunity to attend school, and at an early age went to work for neighboring farmers by the month. Having accumulated

some equipment and with his experience he began renting land from Gideon Davis, whose daughter he married. In 1903 he moved to Jamestown Township and bought eighty acres which his son Roy now operates. Mr. and Mrs. Bodie for the past eight years have lived in comfort on a small place.

Mr. Bodie is a republican, and he and his wife are members of the Latter Day Saints Church. In 1880 he married Allie V. Davis, who was born in Jackson Township of Steuben County August 27, 1856, a daughter of Gideon and Eleanor (VanCleve) Davis. Her father came from the State of New York to Jackson Township in 1837, settling on the 140-acre farm where he died in 1888, at the age of sixty-three. Her mother was born in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, and passed away in 1912, aged eighty-two. In the Davis family were four children: Americus, Viola, Allie and Elmer. Mr. and Mrs. Davis also reared Edwin Owen Collins, a son of Truman Collins, until he was seventeen years of age, and also Harriett Collins.

Mrs. Allie Bodie's early school days were spent in the No. 6 Schoolhouse in Jackson Township. She finished the work there and entered the high school at Angola, Indiana, under the teaching of R. V. Carlin, L. R. Williams, A. W. Long and others. After completing her studies there she took up teaching, and was a most successful instructor, and probably as well and as favorably known as any teacher in the county.

Mr. and Mrs. Bodie have three children: Inez, Roy G. W. and Zelma. Inez, born June 10, 1882, was educated in the public schools of Jackson Township, the Flint High School, was a successful teacher for several years, and is the wife of Bert Collins. Mr. and Mrs. Collins had four children, Lowell, Loene, Max and Robert Bodie, but the last named died in infancy. Roy G. W. Bodie was born September 22, 1886, and completed his education in the Jamestown High School. He is a successful young farmer, working his father's place of eighty acres in Jackson Township, is a republican, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1905 he married Ethel DeLancey, a daughter of Charles and Emma DeLancey, of a family well known in Steuben County and referred to on other pages. Roy Bodie and wife have four children, Arnona, Roy Charles, Clyde Henry and Beatrice Lula. The daughter Zelma Bodie, born February 27, 1892, was educated in the public schools and the Jamestown High School, and is the wife of Ray DeLancey, a son of Charles DeLancey, above mentioned. They have four children, named Opal, Oral, Merlyn and Arlene. They live on the DeLancey farm at Gage, Indiana.

EARL LEMMON is a son of Clay Lemmon, who was the youngest son of Maurice and Lucinda Lemmon, and was born in Otsego Township, August 18, 1844. On October 10, 1861, at the age of seventeen, he enlisted in Company K of the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry, and saw a long period of interesting and arduous service. He was at the battle of Shiloh and the siege of Corinth, and after a period of confinement in the hospital was honorably discharged in the fall of 1862. About a year later he enlisted as a veteran in Company H of the Seventy-Fourth Indiana Infantry and joined the regiment in Chattanooga in time to participate in the Atlanta campaign. He was with Sherman on the march to the sea and was in the Grand Review at Washington in May, 1865. He received his honorable discharge July 24, 1865, and was not absent a day from his regiment during his second enlistment. In 1869 he settled on a farm in section 20 of Otsego Township. He became prominent in local affairs, was elected

township trustee in 1876 and again in 1878, and did much to improve school facilities of the township. He was elected justice of the peace in 1880, and in 1884 was elected treasurer of Steuben County, an office he held from 1885 to 1889. As a farmer he had begun in the woods and had cleared up a place of 120 acres, his first home being a log cabin. After 1885 he made his home in Angola. After retiring from the office of county treasurer he studied in a college at South Bend and was trained for the profession of optician, which he followed many years in Angola. He married September 19, 1869, Jane Cameron, who was born in Richland Township of Steuben County January 27, 1846, a daughter of William and Sarah Cameron. They became the parents of four children: Sarah Erdine, wife of John E. Kratz, of Angola; Ernest, who died in infancy; Edith, who died in February, 1918, at the age of forty; and Earl.

Earl Lemmon, who was born on the old homestead in Otsego Township September 17, 1883, lived in Angola from the age of two years until he was twenty-five. He is a graduate of the Angola High School, and in 1902 he began working the home farm and after the death of his father in 1917 acquired this property and has been busily engaged in general farming and stock raising. In politics he is a republican.

In November, 1907, Mr. Lemmon married Miss Ethel Dirrim, daughter of Lincoln Dirrim and a granddaughter of Wesley Dirrim, these constituting some of the oldest and most honored names of Steuben County citizenship. Mr. and Mrs. Lemmon have four children, named Esther, Elsie, Edith and Clay.

HARRY B. SCHLOTTERBACK. This is one of the oldest family names in the history of Perry Township in Noble County. The family was established here in the earliest pioneer times, when the county was a wilderness, and long years before the building of the first railroad or other modern improvements. The present representative of the name Harry B. Schlotterback, is not only one of the leading farmers of Perry Township, but has been honored by his fellow citizens with the responsibilities of the important office of township trustee, of which he is the present incumbent.

Mr. Schlotterback was born in the same township March 26, 1870, a son of Henry and Sarah E. (Davis) Schlotterback. How early the family was established in this section of Noble County is indicated by the fact that Henry Schlotterback was born in Perry Township, October 30, 1834, more than eighty-five years ago. His wife was also born in the same township in 1842. Henry died in October, 1917, and his wife in 1911. He was a republican and always followed farming as his occupation. There were seven children in the family: Eden H., a mechanic at Ligonier; Anna, wife of William Lacounts; Harry B.; Emma, wife of Albert Dearthoff; John M., who lives in Canada; Jesse E., of Wawaka; and Louis E., of Ligonier.

Harry B. Schlotterback received his education in the district schools and lived at home until he was twenty-one, at which time he acquired a home of his own by his marriage to Miss Lizzie M. Pollock, a sister of Charles E. Pollock, one of the well known citizens of Washington Township of Noble County. Mr. and Mrs. Schlotterback have two children: Marian L., a graduate of the Ligonier High School and still at home; and Melvin, who is in the third year of the high school.

Mr. Schlotterback is an active republican in politics, and was elected on that ticket to his present



responsibilities as township trustee. He is making a success at his business as a general farmer and stock raiser, and has a fine and well improved place of 127 acres in section 32.

HOLLY J. BONTRAGER, the present trustee of Newbury Township, is one of the busy and energetic young men of affairs of Shipshewana. His own career has been a continuation of an honorable family record that has been identified with LaGrange County since early times.

Mr. Bontrager was born in Newbury Township September 14, 1881, a son of John A. and Sarah (Hershberger) Bontrager. His mother was born in Starke County, Indiana, June 9, 1862, a daughter of Abraham Hershberger. His father was born in Newbury Township October 5, 1856. Mr. Bontrager's great-grandfather, John Bontrager, was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, October 3, 1781. In December, 1802, he married Barbara Johns, who was born November 22, 1782. Their family consisted of the following children: Fannie, born September 22, 1803; John, born March 10, 1805; Maggie, born January 23, 1807; Mary, born November 14, 1808; Joseph, born August 4, 1811; Gertie, born January 25, 1814; Christian, born January 16, 1816; Barbara, born July 21, 1819; and Amos, born November 20, 1826.

The family record is continued through Amos Bontrager, who married Lydia Miller. She was born two years after her husband, on July 21, 1828, and was a native of Western Pennsylvania. Amos Bontrager was one of an early colony of settlers to come from Pennsylvania to Northeast Indiana. The journey was made along the Ohio River until they started north to LaGrange County. The Bontragers brought along a herd of sheep and a number of cattle. Amos Bontrager located in section 21 of Newbury Township about 1848, and lived there the rest of his life. He died October 24, 1899, and his wife December 21, 1898. The names of their children and dates of birth are as follows: Rosa, born March 10, 1850; Gertie, June 12, 1851; Isaac, January 29, 1853; Barbara, November 21, 1854; John, October 5, 1856; Benjamin, October 30, 1858; Tobias, stillborn, 1860; Eli, December 16, 1861; David, December 30, 1864; Lydia, March 15, 1867; Abner, February 19, 1870; and one daughter, stillborn, 1873.

John A. Bontrager has been a farmer in Newbury Township since early manhood and owns a good farm of 100 acres there. His wife died December 20, 1898. They had three children: Holly J., Todd J., born November 17, 1884; and Sadie, born September 14, 1898, and died January 2, 1899.

Holly J. Bontrager attended district school in Newbury Township, is a graduate of the high school at Shipshewana, and the first year out of high school he taught in that township. From 1902 to 1915 he lived in Chicago, and on returning to LaGrange County was associated in farming with his father until February, 1919. Since that date he has given his time and energies to his duties as secretary and treasurer of the Farver Lumber Company of Shipshewana. Mr. Bontrager was elected to the office of township trustee in November, 1918, and entered office in the following January.

June 16, 1909, he married Ethel Preston, a daughter of Henry and Mary (Raymond) Preston. Mrs. Bontrager, who died August 26, 1914, was the mother of two children: Maurice, born January 31, 1910; and Frances, born May 16, 1914. On April 22, 1919, Mr. Bontrager married Ida Brasen, a daughter of Olaf and Sophia Brasen.

FRANK M. SMITH, who has been identified with the ownership and operation of a number of farms

in Northern Indiana and elsewhere, also was formerly proprietor of some of the grain elevators in LaGrange County, is a native of that county, and of a family relationship that has received special attention on other pages of this publication.

He was born near Cedar Lake in Lima Township January 16, 1854, a son of James and Sarah (Burnell) Smith. His mother, it should be noted, was born in England and was six years of age when, her mother having died, she came to the United States with her father, Thomas Burnell, whose name is prominently identified with the early settlement of LaGrange County, where he located in 1830 and built the first frame house on English Prairie.

Frank M. Smith was six years of age when with his parents he came to Greenfield Township, and he grew up on a farm, supplementing his advantages in the local schools at Orland Academy and the LaGrange Collegiate Institute at Ontario. He also had normal school instruction, and on February 22, 1873, graduated from the commercial department of Hillsdale College in Michigan. With this training he taught school six winters, working on the farm in other seasons. He then engaged in farming as his regular vocation, and bought eighty acres in section 16 of Lima Township. Later he added 160 acres and had a complete and well equipped farm of 240 acres. He bought and sold a number of tracts of land, and at the present time his holdings are represented by eighty acres in Clay Township, forty acres in Lima Township, 160 acres in St. Joseph County, Michigan, and 160 acres in Scott County, Kansas.

Mr. Smith came to Howe in 1901 and engaged in the grain business, at the same time looking after his farms. For several years he bought grain, and later he bought the elevator at Shipshewana and about six months later the Wolcottville elevator. Half a year later he sold these and bought a half interest in the elevator at Howe, but sold that in 1918. He now devotes his time to looking after his farms and is also owner of some good property at Howe. Mr. Smith is non-partisan in politics. His wife is an Episcopalian.

On January 15, 1878, he married Florence Augusta Deal, daughter of Elisha and Catherine (Millis) Deal. To their marriage were born three children, and they now have one grandchild. Catherine Bernice, the oldest daughter, is a graduate of the Howe High School, and by her marriage to Willard G. Sweitzer, of Howe, has a daughter, Catherine. Nellie Deal Smith completed her education in the Howe High School and died in 1909, at the age of twenty-three. Marv Elizabeth is a graduate of the Howe High School, had other educational advantages, and is the wife of Dr. Frank Cummings, of LaGrange.

Mrs. Smith was born in Springfield Township of LaGrange County January 27, 1859. Her grandparents were Conrad and Elizabeth (Rawles) Deal, who settled in Springfield Township at an early date, cleared up a farm, and Conrad died in 1870. Elisha Deal, father of Mrs. Smith, was born in Marion County, Ohio, in 1830, and was five years old when he came with his parents to Springfield Township. He lived with his father until he was twenty-seven, when he began farming for himself. For many years he also operated a threshing machine, and had one of the pioneer outfits in LaGrange County. He was owner of a farm of 120 acres in Springfield Township. Elisha Deal married, February 14, 1857, Catherine Millis, a daughter of Levin and Ruth (Leonard) Millis, natives of Maryland, where Catherine was born in 1834. Elisha Deal and wife had two daughters, Augusta and Mary E., the latter born August 27, 1863.

**PHILIP CHOLER.** The Choler family, prominently represented in LaGrange County by the present county clerk and also by Mr. Philip Choler, one of the largest land owners and leading farmers of Bloomfield Township, was established here more than half a century ago.

Philip Choler was born in Bloomfield Township October 4, 1866, two years after his parents, Levi and Elizabeth (Groff) Choler, established their home in Bloomfield. The parents were both born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. On coming to LaGrange County Levi Choler worked in a saw mill for two years and then bought land and farmed continuously until his death. He owned 160 acres and he and his family were members of the Lutheran Church. His children were: Kate, wife of A. D. Griffith, of Sturgis, Michigan; Phoebe, deceased wife of John Fellows; Mary, Mrs. J. N. Smith, of LaGrange; Philip; Etta, wife of A. J. Gilbert, of California; George, present county clerk of LaGrange County; and Dora, Mrs. Milo Yoder, of Middlebury, Indiana.

Philip Choler attended the Pleasant Hill School when a boy, and since his school days has been identified with farming. Through many years of industrious effort he has acquired a large and valuable farm, comprising 250 acres. He has lived on this farm since 1899, and in twenty years has erected a number of substantial buildings.

January 8, 1895, he married Miss Ella Fisher. She was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, a daughter of Adam and Mary Jane (Sherley) Fisher, the former a native of Columbiana County and the latter of Noble County, Indiana. Mrs. Choler's maternal grandmother, Jane (Frederick) Sherley, is still living at the age of ninety years, making her home among her children. She and her husband came from Columbiana County, Ohio, and were early settlers in Noble County, and afterward lived in Steuben County. Her two brothers, William and Ira, were Union soldiers. Mr. Choler's maternal uncle, Philip Groff, was also a soldier in the Civil war. Mr. and Mrs. Choler are members of the Lutheran Church. They have three children: Vern, Dora Marie and Iva Elizabeth. Dora is the wife of Robert Frutig, a farmer of Bloomfield Township. The son Vern is an honored soldier of the recent war. He was in the service twenty months and one day and in all that time was never home on a leave of absence. He sailed overseas June 11, 1918, in Company D of the Three Hundred and Fourteenth Engineers, part of the Eighty-Ninth Division. He returned to America May 26, 1919. When he went into army camp he trained for the infantry but later was transferred to the engineers. While along the battle front he was slightly gassed. He now makes his home with his father.

**WILLIAM M. SANXTER.** Northeastern Indiana has produced some of the most prosperous farmers and reliable citizens of the country, men who understand their work and love their country, and can be depended upon to continue their agricultural labors as long as there is need of their efforts to produce a sufficient amount of food to supply domestic and foreign demands, now so greatly increased because of the great war. One of the men who belongs to this class is William M. Sanxter of Otsego Township, Steuben County. He was born in Richland Township, Steuben County, September 12, 1861, a son of Christopher and Rebecca (Brown) Sanxter, both natives of England, he born in 1822 and she in 1824. They were married in England, where four of their children were born, and then in 1852 they came to the United States, landing at New York City. With them came Joseph Brown and James Peachey, neighbors, Joseph Brown being the father-

in-law of Christopher Sanxter and James Peachey. The trip across the ocean took sixteen weeks, as they were shipwrecked, and they had many adventures. They were a little more fortunate than many emigrants of their day, as there was enough money among them to pay the railroad fare of the women and children to their objective point, Medina County, Ohio, but the men had to make the trip on foot. Christopher Sanxter and his family later went to Wayne County, Ohio, and still later came to Steuben County, securing land in Otsego Township, but not being satisfied went to DeKalb County, Indiana. Two years later they returned to Steuben County, and spent two years in Richland Township, but then returned to Otsego Township, where Mr. Sanxter owned 167½ acres, and here he died in 1889, his wife having passed away in 1883. He was a republican and took pride in the fact that he cast his first presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. Both he and his wife joined the Methodist Episcopal Church in England, and connected themselves with that denomination upon coming to their new home. Their children were as follows: Arthur; Catherine, who married J. S. Baker; Frederick, who died in England; Margaret; Frederick (II), who is deceased; Margaret (II), who is deceased; Mary Delaney, who married Ted Craig; William M., whose name heads this review; and Ella M., who is the wife of George Beard of DeKalb County. The first four children were born in England, and the remaining five in the United States.

William M. Sanxter was reared in Steuben County, and attended the schools of his neighborhood. Having been brought up amid rural surroundings, he early decided to become a farmer and has devoted himself to agricultural work, now owning a fine farm of 120 acres in Otsego Township, where he carries on general farming and stock raising. Both by inheritance and inclination he is a republican.

On January 1, 1884, Mr. Sanxter was married to Ella M. Erlsten, born at Defiance, Ohio, November 7, 1863, a daughter of Alexander and Sarah (Zyler) Erlsten. Alexander Erlsten was born in Wayne County, Ohio, January 1, 1834, and his wife was born in Richland County, Ohio, November 26, 1842. They were married in Ohio, and April 11, 1878, settled on the farm now occupied by Mr. Sanxter. In 1886 they moved to Hamilton, Indiana, where he now lives, but Mrs. Erlsten died December 27, 1918. They had the following children: Ella; Charles, who is deceased; Daisy; and Clara. Mr. Erlsten served during the Civil war as a soldier in the Union army, enlisting in 1861 in the Thirty-Eighth Ohio Infantry, and served for fourteen months, when he was honorably discharged. Mr. and Mrs. Sanxter became the parents of the following children: Erlsten Arthur, who married Clara Kepler of Steuben County, has the following children, Estle, Luella and Forrest; Forrest Glenn, who is deceased; Shirley, who married Eula Teegardin, a daughter of Thomas Teegardin of Otsego Township, has the following children, Geraldine, Lawana and Marian; Leon, who married Mrs. Inez Tee, has one son, William Edward; Olen G., who is mentioned below; Leta and Lois, both of whom are at home. Olen G. Sanxter was a member of the National Guards and saw service on the Mexican border during 1917, and in the World war, receiving his honorable discharge December 16, 1918, as second lieutenant. He was at Camp Shelby and Camp Taylor. The Sanxter family is one of the best known ones in Steuben County, and it is connected by marriage with many other old established ones in this part of the state. The members of



this family have ever proven themselves worthy citizens and upright men and women, and the several communities fortunate enough to have them as residents can be sure of securing from them a hearty and effective support of public-spirited movements and also those tending toward a moral uplift.

GEORGE STRATER. Perhaps at no time in the country's history has every agricultural interest been of so much importance as at the present time, and it is the capable, industrious farmer who has the opportunity of not only reaping just returns for his hard work, but of also demonstrating a spirit of generous patriotism that entitles him to the gratitude of the rest of the country. One of the excellent farmers and representative citizens of Noble County is George Strater, whose farm is on the southeast quarter of section 26 in Wayne Township. Mr. Strater is the more entitled to credit since he started life absolutely without capital, and has acquired a farm, paid for it, improved it, and won his way into the class of most industrious and capable citizens.

He was born in Orange Township of Noble County April 15, 1868, son of John F. and Margaret (Toby) Strater. His parents were both born in Germany, came to the United States with their respective parents, located in Richland County, Ohio, where they grew up and married, and then moved to Indiana and established a home in Orange Township, of Noble County. Here they spent the rest of their lives. They began with eighty acres of new land, and kept improving and adding more until they had a complete farm of 260 acres. Besides making this fine farm they had a large family of children grow up around them and for whom they provided liberally. Of their twelve children one died at the age of two years, and one other in 1915. Ten are still living: Catherine, wife of Samuel Linsey, of DeKalb County, Indiana; Mary, of Wayne Township; Nettie, widow of Nelson Chamberlin; Laura, unmarried; George; J. M. Strater, of Orange Township; Harvey, of Orange Township; Minnie, wife of W. A. Rhea; Emma, wife of John Rhea; and Albert, of Wayne Township.

George Strater grew up on the home farm, attended the common schools, and was with his parents to the age of twenty-one. For one year he worked in Howard County, but with that exception has since lived in Noble County. On September 15, 1896, he married Miss Jennie Ross. She was born in Orange Township. Mr. and Mrs. Strater began house-keeping with practically nothing excepting a few household goods, and as tenants and renters they kept steadily marching ahead, largely in an era of low prices and little demand for what they produced, but eventually have secured and paid for their present farm of 160 acres, which is a handsome property and very valuable. Mr. Strater handles all kinds of the best grade of stock. He is a democrat in politics and a member of the Evangelical Church at Kendallville. Mr. and Mrs. Strater have two living children: Norman R. and Dorothy, both graduates of the common schools and still at home.

JACOB S. HOSTETLER, who is the father of Josiah J. Hostetler of Shipshewana, has for over thirty years been one of the leading farmers of LaGrange County, and a citizen well known and well liked in his community.

He was born in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, March 26, 1863, son of Samuel and Sarah (Miller) Hostetler, both of whom were natives of Cambria County. The maternal grandparents were Jacob and Fannie (Hershberger) Miller. The paternal grandfather Peter Hostetler was born in Pennsyl-

vania November 30, 1807, and married Elizabeth Eash. Their children were Polly, Susan, Isaac, Samuel, Henry, Sarah, Lydia. Samuel Hostetler came to Clay Township, LaGrange County, in 1869 and after living on a farm there fourteen years moved eight miles further west to Newbury Township, where he made his home on a farm until his death in 1890. His widow is still living. They were the parents of nine children, named Amanda, who became the wife of Aaron D. Yoder; Jacob S.; Fannie; Daniel S.; Samuel; Levi; Amos; Henry and Sarah.

Jacob S. Hostetler was five or six years of age when brought to LaGrange County and he acquired his education in the district schools of Clay Township. In 1887 he married Matilda Miller, daughter of Moses P. Miller. For sixteen years after his marriage he was a farmer in Clay Township and in 1903 he moved to Newbury Township. For the past nine years his home has been in section 23, where he owns his farm of eighty acres.

His first wife died in 1898, the mother of three children, Orva C., Josiah J., and Willis, Josiah alone surviving. In 1899 Mr. Hostetler married Carrie Sunthimer and has one child, Ora Wilson. Mr. and Mrs. Hostetler are members of the Amish Mennonite Church.

JOSIAH J. HOSTETLER. A prominent and substantial old pioneer family of LaGrange County is that of Hostetler, one largely agricultural although not entirely so, as is evidenced in a well known representative, Josiah J. Hostetler, who is postmaster at Shipshewana and has been connected with railroad affairs at this point.

Josiah J. Hostetler was born in Clay Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, August 20, 1890, the son of Jacob S. and Matilda (Miller) Hostetler, and a grandson of Samuel and Sarah Hostetler, who came very early to LaGrange County. The grandfather died here but the grandmother survives and is one of the oldest residents of Newbury Township. The mother of Josiah J. Hostetler died when he was a child. His father subsequently married Caroline Sunthimer, and they have one child, Ori, and the family home is in Newbury Township. The maternal grandfather of Mr. Hostetler was Moses P. Miller, a man of prominence in the county at one time, and extended mention of whom will be found in this work.

After attending the public schools Mr. Hostetler took a short course in Goshen College, and then accepted the position of ticket agent for the Valley Line Railroad at Shipshewana, in which he continued until May, 1918, when he was appointed postmaster. From early manhood Mr. Hostetler has been a democrat and, believing the principles of this organization are best for the public good, has brought his political strength to bear in their support. The office of postmaster at Shipshewana is no sinecure, the rapid development of the place bringing additional duties and responsibilities. Mr. Hostetler is a popular official and personally enjoys the esteem of everyone.

JOHN H. SCHERMERHORN. The annals of the Schermerhorn family cover almost the entire period in which LaGrange County has been the home of civilized men. The family history here goes back over eighty years. Several of the Schermerhorns are well known in the county as practical and progressive farmers, good citizens, and men who have shown a disposition to assume the duties required for the public welfare.

One of the family is Mr. John H. Schermerhorn, a farmer living on his father's old homestead in Clear Spring Township. He was born on that farm

December 26, 1876, a son of Horace G. Schermerhorn and a grandson of Ernestus Schermerhorn.

Ernestus Schermerhorn was born in Onondaga County, New York, March 21, 1802. He married Ann Johnson, who was born in the same county. In 1836 they came West, bringing their four children, and located at Howe, Indiana. Ernestus Schermerhorn was a salt boiler by trade, and owned an interest in salt works in the East and also operated a canal boat. In LaGrange County he entered 200 acres of government land in Clay Township, and in 1837 moved into his log cabin in the midst of the woods. Two years later he sold that and bought 240 acres in Clear Spring Township, in section 4. This is the land now owned by his youngest son, Horace, and operated by his grandson, John H. Ernestus Schermerhorn was a straight out republican in politics. He was a devoted reader of the old New York Tribune and placed special confidence in everything Horace Greeley, its editor, said until Greeley went on Jeff Davis' bond, a procedure that disgusted this reader, as it did many other of the faithful. Ernestus Schermerhorn was the first county assessor of LaGrange County. He was the father of twelve children, seven sons and two daughters reaching maturity. The only two now living are Aaron P. and Horace G. Aaron was born January 2, 1830, and lives at Stroh in LaGrange County.

Horace G. Schermerhorn was born on the old homestead in section 4 of Clear Spring Township August 17, 1847, grew up there and had a common school education. April 4, 1874, he married Evaline Wemple. She was born in New York State, but was brought to Indiana when only a girl. They had five children: Alice, wife of Bert Wier, of LaGrange County; John H.; Myrtie, unmarried and living with her father; Nettie, wife of Earl Fisher, of LaGrange, and Bessie, wife of William Bogert, living on the home farm. Horace Schermerhorn is a republican, served as township assessor, and is now chairman of the County Council of LaGrange County.

John H. Schermerhorn has spent his life on the old homestead. He is the only son of his parents. He graduated from the LaGrange High School, and has taken the short course in agriculture at Purdue University. He is one of the progressive and successful farmers of the county, and pays much attention to livestock.

August 15, 1906, he married Bertha Showalter. She was born in LaGrange County and is a graduate of the common schools. They have four children: Horace A., born August 9, 1907; Oneida M., born December 17, 1909; Mary A., born February 9, 1912, and Elmer O., born October 31, 1918. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and Mr. Schermerhorn is a republican and spent one term of four years as a member of the County Council. In early life he put in five years as a teacher in the district school.

EDWIN R. POWERS, of Angola, was born in Williams County, Ohio, October 25, 1862, a son of Edwin and Clarissa L. (Jones) Powers, the former a native of New York State. The grandparents were Winn and Betsey Powers, who were identified with the earliest settlement of Steuben County, coming about 1836. Edwin Powers, Sr., was seven years old when brought to Steuben County. He attended a school at home kept and taught by his father. He followed the occupation of farming and for a number of years owned a farm in Williams County, Ohio. He finally moved to Angola to educate his children. His wife died in 1872. He served as township treasurer in Williams County, Ohio,

and was a democrat in politics. He and his wife had the following children: Winn, who for two terms was mayor of the City of St. Paul, Minnesota, and while mayor the commission form of government was established; Edwin R.; Dora B., of Minneapolis; Frank L., county assessor of Ramsey County, Minnesota; Daisy, wife of Mr. Wiseman, of St. Paul.

Edwin R. Powers was educated in Williams County, Ohio, grew up on a farm, and for twenty years was a traveling salesman. In 1909 he engaged in the real estate business and is a member of the firm Powers, Powers & Ivan.

He is a democrat, a member of the Masons, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias. In 1891 he married Miss Jessie D. Gore, of Williams County, Ohio. Their daughter, C. Louise, is the wife of W. O. Goodwin, of Fremont. Mr. and Mrs. Goodwin have a daughter, Barbara Mary.

JOHN KLINK. Few but the oldest residents in Salem Township in Steuben County will recall the late John Klink, who was an early settler there, a good farmer and a good citizen, and the homestead that he developed as a result of so much toil is now occupied by his daughter, Mrs. Mary Peeper.

John Klink was born in Seneca County, Ohio, March 1, 1829, son of Christian and Mary (Failer) Klink. He came to Steuben County in early manhood, and bought the present farm in section 12 of Salem Township in 1856, more than sixty years ago. He had eighty acres, cleared away the timber and brush, put up the first buildings on the land and lived there with growing prosperity and comfort until his death on January 13, 1866. After his death his widow and child lived on the homestead for nine years. Mrs. Klink in 1875 was married to William Craig, and they moved to Auburn, where she died May 24, 1892. The children of John Klink were Mary; Thomas P., who died at the age of thirteen; Caroline, who died when fourteen years old; and Lovina, who died at the age of nine.

Mary Klink, the only living descendant of John Klink, was married December 9, 1873, to Nathaniel Killinger, a son of Steven and Rebecca Killinger. Nathaniel Killinger was born in Summit County, Ohio, October 2, 1849. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Killinger lived on the farm in section 12, which was under Mr. Killinger's capable direction until his death August 14, 1891. Mr. and Mrs. Killinger had three children, noted briefly as follows: Minnie, wife of Clyde Dole, a farmer in Salem Township, and they had three children, named Zema, who married Clarence Rehneil, and have a son, Howard Paul; D. N., and Ferman P. Morton B. the second child of Mrs. Killinger, was born January 20, 1877, and was drowned June 9, 1895. Lloyd C. Killinger, who is a successful farmer in Jackson Township, married Rita Doudt, and has two children, Dewan and Marjorie D.

On July 12, 1904, Mrs. Killinger became the wife of William Peeper. During the next two years they lived in Hudson, but since 1907 have resumed their residence on the old Klink homestead, where Mr. Peeper is now directing its management.

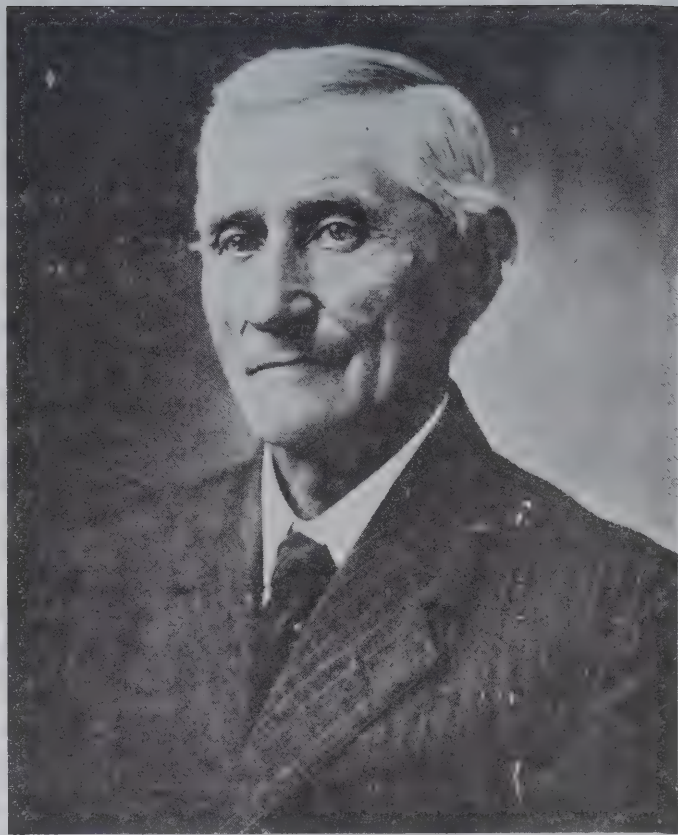
ALPHEUS K. FAUX. One of the foremost agriculturists of Allen Township in Noble County, Alpheus K. Faux has lived in that county since boyhood and is a man who has earned his own success in life, and now has a property which is the source not only of profit but of all the pleasurable associations of a home. His farm is two miles south and two miles west of Kendallville.







*Mrs Charles A. Junod.*



*Chas A. Junod.*



Mr. Faux was born in Morrow County, Ohio, December 20, 1864, son of Charles and Maria (Stockdale) Faux. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Ohio. They married in Ohio and settled on a farm near Mount Gilead in Morrow County, but in 1875 left the Buckeye state and located in Noble County, where they spent their last years. Their home was in Orange Township. They were members of the Baptist Church and the father was a democrat in politics. His ready energies and resourcefulness enabled him to make a success, though he began life as a poor man, and he owned 320 acres of Noble County land. Of his fourteen children seven are still living: Burke, a farmer in Orange Township; Sadie, wife of Josiah Ziglar; Lottie, wife of John Spice, of LaGrange County; Alpheus K.; W. R., a farmer in Orange Township; Estella, wife of John W. Harvey, of Jefferson Township; and Justin, of Orange Township.

Alpheus K. Faux began attending school in Ohio and was ten years old when his people located in Noble County. After getting his education he lived at home to the age of twenty-one and pursued farm labor as a means of self support for a number of years. In 1893 he married Frances Wirick. After his marriage he rented a farm, and then bought an interest in the old homestead. That was his home until 1909, when he sold out and bought his 160-acre farm in Allen Township. This is devoted to general farming and stock raising, and is considered one of the notable farms of the township.

Mr. and Mrs. Faux have four children: Bernice, Charles D., George and Paul, all graduates of the common schools and all still at home. Mrs. Faux is a member of the Lutheran Church. In politics he votes as a democrat.

WILLIAM SEELY, who has long since passed the age of four-score, has spent three-quarters of a century in DeKalb County, and during this long time has been fruitful in many private and public endeavors and influences that have directly promoted the welfare of his community in Newville Township.

Mr. Seely, who still lives on his farm near the village of Newville, was born in New York State October 7, 1833, a son of Amzi and Mercy A. (Ray) Seely, the former a native of Connecticut and the latter of Massachusetts. The Seely family came to Indiana, arriving in DeKalb County July 3, 1843. The same year they settled on the Richmond farm, and in the fall of 1845 Amzi Seely moved to Orangeville, where he bought an interest in the flouring mill. He sold his share of this property in 1858 and after that lived at Newville until his death in the spring of 1877. He was a man of prominence in the county and served four years as a county commissioner. In politics he was a democrat. Amzi Seely was the father of four children, William; Isaac and Benjamin, both deceased, and Harriet, who is the wife of Samuel Stafford, of Newville.

William Seely was ten years old when brought to Indiana. He finished his education in the local schools and at the age of eighteen began apprenticeship to the cabinet maker's trade. He followed that work until the spring of 1872, when he built a sawmill, and operated this mill for many years as a matter of commercial convenience and of profit to the Newville community. He later bought his farm of 120 acres, and for many years has had his home on that place.

In June, 1863, Mr. Seely married Ellen Stager. She was born in Ohio in 1836 and was reared in DeKalb County. Mrs. Seely died September 19,

1913, a few weeks after they had celebrated the fiftieth or golden anniversary of their wedding. She was the mother of five children: Elizabeth, widow of Horace Josling; Bertha, wife of Charles Wilson, of DeKalb County; Lena, wife of John E. Platter; Maude M., wife of E. R. May, of DeKalb County; and John A., who is married and lives in Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Seely has nine great-grandchildren.

Mr. Seely is a democrat and has been quite active in politics. He was elected trustee of Newville Township in 1882 and served three terms, eight years altogether. He is the only surviving charter member of William Hacker Lodge of Masons, and is also a Royal Arch Mason.

CHARLES A. JUNOD has had the satisfaction of spending over forty years in agricultural effort in LaGrange County, and from small beginnings has accumulated sufficient prosperity for all his needs, and in the meantime has seen a good family grow up around him and become honored in their respective spheres and vocations.

Mr. Junod was born at Ligieniere, Switzerland, May 18, 1845, but has been a resident of America since he was twelve years old. His parents were Charles L. and Elizabeth (Kiefer) Junod, both natives of Switzerland. His father was born in 1811 and brought his family to America in 1857. He lived in Erie County, Pennsylvania, until 1862, then came to LaGrange County, Indiana, and after three years in Greenfield Township moved to Van Buren Township, where he spent the rest of his life and where he died June 6, 1889. At the time of his death he owned 160 acres of land. He and his wife had the following children: Ida, Charles A., Emma, Augustus, Lewis, Alcid (who died on the way to Indiana from the old country), Frank and Amos.

Charles A. Junod received his education partly in the old country and partly in America, and as a young man worked out by the day or month. In 1874 he married Eveline Steininger, a daughter of Joseph Steininger. The next three years he farmed rented land, and in 1878 bought the place of eighty acres in Van Buren Township where he lives today and where he has gathered most of his prosperity. In 1896 he bought an adjoining sixty acres, and has the entire farm well arranged and well improved with buildings and other equipment. He and his wife also own 160 acres in St. Joseph County, Michigan.

Mr. Junod lost his first wife in 1891. She was the mother of four children: Orla, the oldest, is a state senator living in Montana. He married Mabel Mathew, and had three children, Eveline, Mabel and Amoretta, the first two now deceased. Charles F. has achieved distinction in financial circles, being vice president of the Atlantic City Bank of New York City. He married Augusta Smith and they have two children, Charles F., Jr., and Robert Smith. Joseph S. Junod is a farmer at home, while Ray L., the youngest of the family, lives in Chicago and is connected with the Continental National Bank. He married Catherine Boyden and has two children, Elizabeth and William B.

June 7, 1892, Mr. Junod married Martha C. Sexauer, a daughter of Andrew Sexauer. They have two children, Lottie S. and Carlie E. Mr. Junod served for eight years as a member of the County Council of LaGrange County, and his name is therefore known in all parts of this county.

SAMUEL B. NICHOLS. The life activities of Samuel B. Nichols have been widely known in LaGrange County, particularly in Lima Township, where he

has been a farmer and stockman, merchant and vice president of the State Bank of Lima for about thirty years.

He was born in Greenfield Township of the same county November 10, 1867, a son of Charles G. and Ella (Burnell) Nichols. Of the older members of his family and their relations with LaGrange County more is said on other pages. Samuel B. Nichols grew up on the homestead farm, had a public school education, and attended the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso. On locating at Lima, now Howe, he engaged in the hardware business for about ten years, associated with Arthur S. Atwater under the firm name of Atwater & Nichols. In the meantime Mr. Nichols became interested in the State Bank of Lima, and when his brother Charles became its president he accepted the post of cashier, and has been the responsible executive of the bank ever since. He and his brother also own the old homestead and do an extensive business as stock feeders.

Mr. Nichols had no aspiration for office, though he is now a member of the Township Advisory Board. He votes as a republican, is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason, and a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He was reared in the Episcopal Church, but attends worship at the Presbyterian Church, of which his wife is a member. He married October 23, 1895, Mary Samson, daughter of Marshall Samson, of Homer, New York.

FRANK J. SMITH with his brother Charles Smith constitute the firm of Smith Brothers, hardware merchants at LaGrange. This is an old established business, the firm having been in existence thirty years. They bought a business which had been conducted in LaGrange for a number of years. Frank J. Smith is one of three brothers, all of whom have been successful hardware dealers. The other one is a merchant at Hillsdale, Michigan.

Frank J. Smith was born at Hillsdale May 10, 1859, son of John and Elizabeth (Openo) Smith. His father was born in Hesse Darmstadt, Germany, in 1832. The mother was born in Oakland County, Michigan, in 1836. Her father, Joseph Openo, came out to Michigan Territory and settled in Oakland County in 1835, and spent the rest of his life as a farmer. In the Openo family were seven children, named Nancy, George, Charlotte, Charles, Joseph, Elizabeth and Mary. John Smith came from Germany to the United States when fourteen years of age, having in the meantime acquired a common school education. At Hillsdale, Michigan, he worked as a farm hand and later entered the hardware business in that city, and was a prosperous merchant at the time of his death in 1866. He and his wife had three children, Frank J., Charles H. and George N. The latter is owner of the Hillsdale Hardware Company. The mother of these sons died at Hillsdale May 30, 1917.

Frank J. Smith grew up in his native city, attended the public schools, was in high school through his junior year, and then followed the period in which he was earning his living, serving five years as deputy postmaster at Hillsdale. Another incident of his early life was going out to South Dakota and taking up a claim of 160 acres. After finishing a commercial course at Hillsdale College Mr. Smith removed to Hudson, Michigan, where he was employed in a hardware store for five years. He came to LaGrange County in 1888 and with his brother Charles bought out the hardware store owned by Arad Lampman on the west side of Main Street. They were in that old location for three years and in January, 1892, moved to their present location where they have been in business for over

a quarter of a century and which is a landmark in the business district of LaGrange. The Smith Brothers are well known throughout Northern Indiana, have a large and completely stocked hardware establishment, and their success has been derived from their knowledge of business, honesty and upright dealings with the public.

Mr. Smith is an independent democrat in politics. He and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church. He married Eva B. Dickerson in 1888. She was born at Hudson, Michigan, a daughter of James B. and Catherine Schuyler (Clover) Dickerson. Her mother was a descendant of Peter Schuyler, one of the most noted heroes of the American Revolution and first mayor of Albany, New York. Her parents spent many years in Hudson, Michigan, where they died. To Mr. and Mrs. Smith were born three children: Arnold D., who is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and was a student at Wooster University, after a year in service overseas has taken up his pre-war occupation as an automobile salesman. Kathryn Schuyler, who graduated from the LaGrange High School, then attended Western College for Women at Oxford, Ohio, and later the Michigan Agricultural College, is now bookkeeper for the Smith Brothers hardware business at LaGrange. George Schuyler, the youngest child, is a graduate of the LaGrange High School, and is now junior in the Mechanical Engineering Department of Purdue University.

CHARLES H. SMITH, of the firm of Smith Brothers, hardware merchants at LaGrange, is one of the most enterprising citizens of his community. With his brother Frank he has always been interested in every movement for the welfare of the city and county.

He and his two brothers are all veteran hardware men, the third brother being a hardware merchant at Hillsdale, Michigan. Charles H. Smith was born at Hillsdale March 10, 1861, a son of John and Elizabeth (Openo) Smith. His father was a native of Germany, came to the United States as a boy worked at various occupations in Southern Michigan and afterward became a hardware dealer at Hillsdale, where he died in 1866, when his son Charles was only five years old. The mother survived many years. Her father was one of the pioneer settlers of Oakland County, Michigan.

Charles H. Smith as a boy attended public school at Hillsdale, and was in his senior year in high school when he left his studies to earn his own way and improve his opportunity to enter the hardware business. For ten years he was clerk in a hardware store at Hillsdale, and the only interruption to his service was eight months while he was entering and making the initial improvement upon a 160 acre claim in South Dakota. Later he was clerk in a hardware store at Huron, South Dakota, and for two years was traveling salesman representing a hardware house in Minnesota and South Dakota.

Mr. Smith and his brother Frank formed their partnership in 1888 and bought out an old established business at LaGrange. Their trade associations now cover all the territory around LaGrange, and it is one of the oldest and best known hardware organizations in Northeast Indiana.

Mr. C. H. Smith was also one of the organizers of the LaGrange Creamery and Ice Company and has been president of that corporation since it was organized. He was also identified with the organization of the LaGrange State Bank and has since been one of its directors. He is an independent democrat in politics and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at LaGrange. His family attend the Presbyterian Church.



Mr. Smith married Miss Margaret Selby in 1890. She was born at LaGrange and her father was the late Harrison Selby, a prominent old time merchant of the county. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have one daughter, Lenore D. She is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and finished her education at Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, and St. Mary's College at South Bend, Indiana.

L. W. CRANDALL has been in one line of business at Fremont for nearly thirty years, general produce, and is one of the oldest merchants and business men of that town. He came to Steuben County over forty-five years ago, and was a farmer until he entered business at Fremont.

Mr. Crandall was born in Courtland County, New York, July 29, 1853, a son of Cordial and Charlotta (Cutler) Crandall, who were natives of Vermont. His father spent his active life as a farmer in Oneida County, New York. The Crandalls are a Presbyterian family. There were seven children: Andrew Z., who served as a Union soldier in the Civil war, Aaron S., Stanford S., Laura L., Jotham N., Frank W. and L. W.

L. W. Crandall received a public school education in Oneida County, New York, and at an early age left home and became dependent upon his own energies. After working for several years in the East he came to Angola in 1872, and worked for others until he could get started independently. For twelve years he was a farmer in Jamestown Township, and in 1891 left his farm and engaged in the feed and produce business at Fremont.

March 30, 1881, he married Mary J. Nuttle. They had four children: Robert C., Frank L., Lula F. and Bertha M. Bertha died in childhood.

MILTON HALFERTY has been one of the fixtures in the agricultural community of Noble County practically all his life. His people settled in Allen Township upwards of seventy years ago, and there the Halfertys have been known for their substantial character, their industry, thrift and intelligence ever since.

Milton Halferty was born on the farm where he now resides in Allen Township, August 19, 1865. His farm is two and a half miles west of Avilla. Mr. Halferty is a son of Edward and Henrietta (Carr) Halferty. The Halferty family came from Pennsylvania, where the grandfather served as lieutenant in the French and Indian war. Edward Halferty was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, October 14, 1816, and in early life moved to Ohio. November 17, 1846, in Ohio, he married Miss Henrietta Carr. She was born in Morrow County, Ohio, January 17, 1823. Five years after their marriage, in 1851, they came to Indiana and secured a tract of raw land in Noble County, redeemed it from the wilderness, and lived there and prospered until the close of their lives. They were the parents of nine children: Mary J., widow of James M. Black; Byron, deceased; Charles M., of Avilla; William, of Morrow County, Ohio; Pierce, of LaGrange County, Indiana; Mina, wife of John D. Kuhn; Dora, who is the widow of Emmett Cox; Albert, of Noble County; and Milton.

Milton Halferty has spent all his life on the old farm, and as a boy attended the local schools nearby. In 1891 he married Miss Jennie M. Seymour. This good and noble woman died September 4, 1892, leaving one daughter. The daughter is also named Jennie and is a graduate of the common schools and the Avilla High School, and spent three years in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, Indiana. She taught a number of terms in the district schools and

is now at home with her father. Mr. Halferty has ninety acres, all under cultivation, and it is from that he has made his living for over thirty years. He is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge No. 316, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and is a past noble grand and has been a member of the Grand Lodge. In politics he votes as a democrat.

IRA E. SMITH is a resident of Spencer Township, DeKalb County, and for over sixty years or more he has been busied with his affairs as a stirring and progressive agriculturist in that community. Mr. Smith is proprietor of a fine farm of 160 acres in sections 34 and 35 in Spencer Township. His home is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles southeast of Spencerville.

He was born in Portage County, Ohio, February 22, 1852, a son of Levi and Harriet E. (Robb) Smith. Levi Smith was born in Mahoning County, Ohio, February 22, 1828, a son of Peter and Elizabeth Smith, who came from Pennsylvania. Levi Smith at the age of seventeen began learning the shoemaker's trade, but in 1849 bought a farm in Portage County, Ohio, and in the spring of 1854 came to DeKalb County, Indiana, and bought eighty acres of sparsely improved land. He became one of the well to do citizens of DeKalb County, owning over 320 acres, and he and his wife lived there until their death. He married Harriet Robb in 1849. She was born in Ohio, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Robb. Levi Smith and wife had two children: Ira E. and Isaiah. The parents were members of the Methodist Church and the father was a democrat.

Ira E. Smith grew up on the home farm in DeKalb County from the age of three years and was educated in the district schools. September 17, 1876, he was married to Lois D. Moore. She was born in Scipio Township of Allen County, Indiana, April 17, 1857, a daughter of William A. and Dorliska (Bracy) Moore. William A. Moore and wife were natives of New York State and were married in Allen County, Indiana, where they spent their lives as farmers in Scipio Township. William A. Moore died September 19, 1896, and his wife May 17, 1914. Both were members of the Methodist Protestant Church and William A. Moore was a republican. In the Moore family were the following children: Angela S., wife of Zack Bartholomew; Harriet E., wife of John Omo; Lois D.; William W.; Charles W.; Henrietta C., deceased; Hiram B.; Cora L., wife of John Rarick, all living but Henrietta. Mrs. Smith was educated in the district schools.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Smith moved to the farm where they now reside. They have three children: Harriett D., who is the wife of George Bowman and lives near Leo, Indiana; William L., who is married and lives in Allen County; and Elmer E., who is married and lives in Spencer Township. All the children were given good advantages in the local schools. Mr. Smith is a democrat and has wielded considerable influence in local politics.

GEORGE W. KEPLER. The old Kepler home is in Franklin Township of DeKalb County, a mile and a half southeast of Hamilton. This place has been the center of associations for five generations of the Keplers. Land that was taken up and development begun by the grandfather of George W. Kepler, the present owner, has been under this name for over eighty years. Two small girls, living in the same locality, are granddaughters of George W. Kepler, and represent the fifth generation of the family.

George W. Kepler was born at Hamilton in Steuben County May 9, 1868. He is a son of John

and Nancy (Gunsenhouer) Kepler, the former born in Franklin Township in March, 1839, and the latter in Wilmington Township. John Kepler was a son of Samuel and Mary Kepler, who came to DeKalb County about 1834 and settled in Franklin Township, spending their last days on the farm where George W. Kepler now lives. John and Nancy Kepler had four children, three of whom are now living: Lula, widow of Henry Miller; George W.; Della, wife of Charles Mumaw, of Butler, and Cora M., who died in childhood.

George W. Kepler grew up in Franklin Township, attended district schools and the Hamilton High School, and on December 6, 1889, at the age of twenty-one, married Della Betz. She was born in Franklin Township March 16, 1870, a daughter of Jefferson Betz, and was educated in the common schools. After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Kepler lived a mile south of Hamilton, and then for about eight years lived in Hamilton. Mr. Kepler is a carpenter by trade and has done a great deal of contracting and building while in Hamilton and since returning to the old homestead farm. He has seventy-eight acres devoted to cultivation and livestock. He is a democrat in politics, is affiliated with Hamilton Lodge No. 228, Knights of Pythias, and his wife is a Pythian Sister, and both are members of the Hamilton Grange.

Their only son and child is Alva L. Kepler, who was born April 25, 1893, and lives in Franklin Township. He married Ida Dangler, and their two young daughters are Marie L., born September 20, 1916, and June Rose, born June 1, 1919.

CARL A. REDDING, of Pleasant Township in Steuben County, has a very successful record as a dairyman, and is regarded as an authority on many branches of the dairy industry in this part of Indiana. His own career supplements a meritorious family record, his people having been identified with Northeast Indiana for three generations.

Mr. Redding was born in Steuben Township July 26, 1876, a son of Alexander George and Sarah (Zabst) Redding. His grandfather, George Redding, was a native of France, came to America when a boy with an older married sister, and was bound out at Buffalo, New York, to learn the painter's trade. In 1862 he came to Steuben Township with his family, locating on a farm. He retired in 1875 and lived in Angola until his death in 1892. His wife died in 1890. They have two children: Sophia, who married George Merrill, of Toledo, and Alexander George.

Alexander George Redding was born in Toledo, Ohio, and died in September, 1876, when his son Carl was only a few weeks old. His wife, Sarah Zabst, was born in Pleasant Township of Steuben County, a daughter of John and Catherine Zabst. John Zabst, a notable figure among the pioneers of Steuben County, was born in Alsace-Lorraine, France, and at the age of ten years came to America. For several years he worked on a canal boat between Buffalo and Albany, and from New York State settled in Crawford County, Ohio, and in 1846 invaded the wilderness of Steuben County, Indiana. He located on a farm in Pleasant Township two miles southeast of Angola. The woods were heavy and dense all around him, and there was only a cow path between his land and Angola. He made the journey from Ohio with an ox team, his wife and two children coming with him. He paid \$500 cash for 160 acres of land, only five acres cleared and all the rest gradually came into cultivation through his individual labors. He was a man of high standing in the community, and was active in the Methodist Church. John Zabst and wife had

the following children: George, deceased; Erminda, who married Levi Harmon; Magdalena, who died in childhood; Margaret, who became the wife of Joseph Crotzer; Sarah; Catherine, wife of Silas Yeager; John; William; Augustus, who died in childhood; and Franklin.

Carl A. Redding was the only child of his father, whose career was interrupted just as he was getting started. Carl Redding and his mother then lived with her people in Steuben Township, and he grew up there, attending the public schools of Angola, including high school, and graduated from the Tri-State Normal College of Angola. After leaving school Mr. Redding applied himself to the business of farming on his present place, where he now owns 180 acres. He has added to the value of the land by his modern improvements. He began farming there in 1898 and in 1907 began specializing as a dairyman. His herd grew until he had seventy head. He sold a large part of his stock in December, 1918, but still has about fourteen blooded Holstein cattle.

In 1897 Mr. Redding married Mary K. Gale daughter of Jesse M. and Elizabeth Gale. They have two children, Louis and Ralph R. Mr. Redding is a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America and belongs to the Rotary Club at Angola.

FRANK M. OWEN. It is a pleasure to the men who are now engaged in cultivating the fertile land of Steuben County to reflect that this valuable section of Indiana was redeemed by men of brawn and muscle who came here imbued with the idea of securing homes for their offspring, and that among them were their own forebears. Frank M. Owen of Angola, who is the owner of considerable land in the county, descends from one of the very early settlers of Steuben County, Elijah Owen, whose arrival dates back to 1836, when that excellent man entered a tract of land at Gage Lake in Millgrove Township, and there he spent the remainder of his life. He was a ship builder by trade, and had worked at Sandusky, Ohio. He was married to Hannah Green, and they had the following children: Ira, Hannah and Henry H. The last named was born in Lake County, Ohio, near the Town of Perry, in 1834, so was only two years old when he was brought by his father to Steuben County. Here he was reared and attended the public schools of Gage Lake, and about 1855 began farming in Millgrove Township, where he remained until 1879, when he moved to Angola, and there he lived the remainder of his life. Henry H. Owen was married to Maria Burroughs, born in Fremont Township, Steuben County, Indiana, a daughter of Truman and Lydia (Dudley) Burroughs, the former a pioneer minister of the Baptist Church in this part of Indiana. He and his wife had the following children: Adoniram Judson, Rising, William (who is a veteran of the Civil war), Arvilla, Susan, Maria, Aletha and Merritt. The children born to Henry H. Owen and his wife were: Frank M., whose name heads this review, and Bell, who died at the age of twenty-five years. Both parents of these children were consistent members of the Christian Church.

Frank M. Owen was reared in his native place and attended the excellent schools of Gage Lake and the Angola High School. Having been brought up to farm work, he realized the desirability of entering that calling, and has been a farmer all his mature years. His birth occurred at Gage Lake, Millgrove Township, September 5, 1861, and he has spent his entire life in Steuben County, now mak-



ing his residence at Angola, although he owns seventy-six acres of land in Millgrove Township and 280 at Gage Lake. The rural residence is near Crooked Lake, a very desirable location, but it is only occupied during the summer months, for since 1897 Mr. and Mrs. Owen have felt that their children ought to be given the advantages of the Angola schools.

On October 6, 1886, Mr. Owen was married to Elsie Morse, a daughter of Frank B. and Elsie (Lewis) Morse. Mrs. Owen had the misfortune to lose her mother when she was only four days old and she was adopted by David D. and Ellen Scoville, and was known as Elsie M. Scoville prior to her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Owen have two children, namely: Alice B. and Paul H. The family all belong to the Christian Church. Mr. Owen is an Odd Fellow. He is a man of probity who has always done what he believed to be his full duty by his family and community, and is held in high esteem by his associates.

**SAMUEL WEIMER.** Representing an old and honored family name in Noble Township, Samuel Weimer has lived there all his life, and the manner in which he has conducted his private affairs and the stanch character he has exhibited in all his life's relations make him worthy of all the esteem and honors paid him. His farm home is a mile south and quarter of a mile east of Avilla.

He was born in Allen Township, November 29, 1862, son of Solomon and Catherine (Barcus) Weimer. The early history of this family shows that it was among the very earliest settlers in Noble County. Solomon Weimer was born in Avilla, October 15, 1841, more than three-quarters of a century ago. His father was Peter Weimer and his grandfather Samuel Weimer, both natives of Baden, Germany. Samuel Weimer brought his family to the United States, located at Avilla, his location being where the Catholic Church now stands. Peter Weimer after his marriage settled in Avilla, and later owned the farm which is now the site of the Old People's Home. Later he sold that and moved two miles north of Avilla, where he spent his last years.

Solomon Weimer grew up on the farm that has since been sold as a site for the Old People's Home, and after his marriage located on a farm west of Avilla. That farm he still occupied until his death, and was one of the well-known old timers of the locality. He died December 15, 1918. He and his wife had five children: Samuel; John, of Flag Center, Illinois; Elizabeth, wife of Charles Weimer; Sarah, wife of August Polk; and William, still at the home farm.

Samuel Weimer grew up on a farm in Allen Township and attended the district schools. He lived at home until he was twenty-one. He married Miss Susanna Simons, and after their marriage they started out as farmers on the 100-acre place where they lived until February, 1919, when he retired and moved to Avilla, his son now conducting the farm. Mr. Weimer besides prospering as a farmer has identified himself with various local affairs. He is a stockholder in the Mutual Telephone Company. For the past twenty years he has been active in local affairs as a republican. His wife is a member of the Lutheran Church and he is one of the liberal contributors to that denomination.

For all his material prosperity and honored position in the community Mr. Weimer doubtless takes the greatest satisfaction of his life in the fine family of children that has grown up around him. The

oldest is Carrie, wife of Charles Smuck, of Jefferson Township. Leroy is a graduate of the Avilla High School, of Wabash College and of Cornell University, and is now an expert in plant pathology in the United States Department of Agriculture. He is married. Nora married Joseph Anderson, of Swan Township, Noble County. Ella is the wife of James Kramer, of Greene Township, and is a graduate of the Avilla High School. Clarence served with the colors in the American Expeditionary Forces in France until he returned home April 11, 1919, after one year's service. He was in Battery F, 135th Light Field Artillery, and was in the October drive at the front. The two youngest are Harold and Gerald, twins. Gerald is married and lives in Jefferson Township, and Harold is married and on the home farm.

**EDWARD G. DICK,** proprietor of one of the good farms of York Township in Steuben County, has family connections that have been identified with this part of Northeast Indiana from pioneer days. The family has been an industrious one and has furnished numerous citizens of high standing to different localities.

Mr. Dick was born in Jackson Township of Steuben County, March 19, 1870, a son of George W. and Julia A. (Larue) Dick. The Larue family were among the first settlers of York Township. His grandfather, John Larue, was for a number of years engaged in farming in York Township, and later was a shoemaker and shoe merchant at Metz. He and his wife, Josephine, had the following children: John, Edward, Sylvester, Norma, Josephine, Julia A. and Emelia, but the last named died in childhood.

The paternal grandfather of Edward G. Dick was George E. Dick, a native of Germany who brought his family to America in 1851 and located in Williams County, Ohio, where he spent the rest of his life. In 1864 he enlisted in the Civil war, becoming a member of Company D, One Hundred and Ninety-Fifth Ohio Regiment. He acquired and developed a good farm of 180 acres. His children were named Peter, Margaret, Cass, George W. and Caroline. George W. Dick, also a native of Germany, was a small child when brought to America, and during the '60s he moved to Jackson Township in Steuben County. He has had a varied and active career as a farmer, farm developer and owner, and has tilled the soil in Ohio, Northeast Indiana and in the West. His present home is in Northwest Township, Williams County, Ohio. He and his first wife, Julia A. Larue, had three children, Edward G., Minnie and Myrtie. He married for his second wife Jennie Clark. There are two daughters by the second wife, Luella and Bessie.

Edward G. Dick attended the public schools of Williams County, Ohio, and began farming before he reached his majority. His first work in that line was done in Williams County, but in 1904 he moved to York Township, and for over fourteen years has been making a living and earning the esteem of the community as a farmer in section 17, where he owns eighty acres. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and with his wife is a member of the Methodist Church.

He married Caroline Knapp in September, 1889. She is a daughter of Nelson and Emelia (Castine) Knapp. They have five children: Lawrence, who married Nora Headley and has two children, Alene and Winona; George W., who during the World war served in Company A of the Thirty-Sixth Infantry; Fern, wife of Perry Duguid and the mother of two children, Lee and Madeline; Ethel, who is

married to Floyd Fireoved, and her three children are Deloss, Lena and Max; and Ralph, youngest of the family, is at home on the farm.

**SAMUEL E. CLINE.** Left an orphan at the age of ten years, Samuel E. Cline had many difficult struggles in his early youth, had to work for a living when most boys of his age were in school and at home, and out of it all he has achieved a commendable prosperity and is one of the successful farmers of LaGrange County and is also the present assessor of Springfield Township.

Mr. Cline was born in Barry County, Michigan, January 1, 1862, a son of John and Martha (McNutt) Cline, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. John Cline was reared in Ohio, and about 1855 brought his family to LaGrange County, Indiana. A few years later he moved to Barry County, Michigan, where he died in July, 1864, when his son Samuel was two years old. The mother returned with her children to LaGrange County in the same year and lived here until her death eight years later. Her six children were: Sarah Jane, who died at the age of three years; Nancy Ellen, who died when one year old; Hannah, who died when about eleven years old; John, a resident of Bloomfield Township; Hulda, who became the wife of Eugene Williams, and died in January, 1917; and Samuel E.

Samuel E. Cline received all his education in the graded schools of LaGrange County. The year of his marriage he bought forty acres of his present farm, where he has lived since September, 1886. By his personal labors he has cleared about thirty acres of land. His farm had only a log house when he came to it, and in that structure his children were born. Gradually prosperity has rewarded his labors and he now has 256 acres, all but thirteen acres in one body and with excellent improvements.

August 7, 1886, Mr. Cline married Miss Jennie Gage, a native of Bloomfield Township and daughter of Ezra Gage. To their marriage were born three children: Charles E., a farmer of Bloomfield Township; Vern E., a Springfield Township farmer; and Claude E., who lives on the home place with his father. Mr. Cline is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Shipshewana. He married a woman of legal capacity he was a member of the Township Advisory Board six years and was elected assessor of Springfield Township in 1914.

**GEORGE CASSEL.** One of the prosperous farmers of Steuben County who in his everyday operations is proving that American farmers are among the most diligent and thrifty persons in the world, and that their calling is now one of the most important, is George Cassel of Otsego Township. He was born in Williams County, Ohio, December 22, 1863, a son of Curtis Cassel, and grandson of Jacob Cassel.

Curtis Cassel was born at Hagerstown, Maryland, and his wife, Emily (Thrush) Cassel, was born in Pennsylvania, a daughter of Joseph and Catherine (Pfifer) Thrush. In 1871 he came to Scott Township, Steuben County, there spending about thirty years, but then moved to York Township, and after six years, having retired, went to Fremont, where he died in August, 1917, his wife having passed away in 1907. Their children were as follows: Joseph; Alice, who married Theo Swick; Helen, who married Morton Brown; Jacob; John; George; and Catherine, who married Domer Cassel.

George Cassel has had quite a varied experience, for after he had completed his courses at the district schools of Scott Township he began working for neighboring farmers, and then was employed

in a cider mill at Quincy, Michigan, for a time. He left there to take charge of a threshing outfit, which he conducted for seventeen years. Since 1893 he has been farming, and for the past six years he has been engaged in selling fire insurance, representing the Fidelity Phoenix Insurance Company. In 1893 Mr. Cassel bought twenty acres of land in Scott Township, adding eighty acres more in 1901. In 1910 he sold this farm in Scott Township and bought 141 acres in Otsego Township, in section 3, which is his present farm. The family residence, a very comfortable modern home, was erected by him, and he has made numerous other important improvements, for he believes in keeping everything thoroughly up-to-date. In addition to doing general farming Mr. Cassel is breeding blooded hogs, and is quite an authority on them.

Mr. Cassel was united in marriage with Della Bowman, a daughter of Henry and Lucy (Kissinger) Bowman. Mr. and Mrs. Cassel have one son, Floyd B., who was born July 29, 1888. He married Mabel Miller, and they have two children, Charlotte L. and George William. Floyd Cassel is assisting his father in conducting the homestead and is a very energetic young man. The Cassel family is well and favorably known in Steuben County, and its representatives stand well in public confidence.

**LEWIS I. MATSON,** who has spent his life in Northeastern Indiana, represents one of the pioneer families of DeKalb County, and his own active career has been spent chiefly in Steuben County, where for upwards of half a century he has been a practical and progressive farmer, and today owns one of the best farms in the vicinity of Pleasant Lake.

He was born in DeKalb County October 10, 1844, a grandson of Elijah Matson and a son of John Matson. John Matson, who was born near Rutland, Vermont, February 3, 1806, at the age of twenty-one went to Onondaga County, New York, and in 1835 came to Indiana and entered 160 acres of wild land in DeKalb County. He had a cabin built in section 30 of Franklin Township, and the following year brought his family, arriving at Hamilton on September 30, 1836. He was a carpenter by trade and worked long hours after darkness fell on the fields to make doors and windows for the neighbors, taking his pay in work on his own land. In that way he cleared up 100 acres and achieved success as a farmer. At the time of his death he had over 200 acres in DeKalb County. He was as public spirited as he was industrious, and enjoyed the love and respect of his community all his life. He died November 4, 1876. September 10, 1833, John Matson married Margaret Waterman, a daughter of Elijah Waterman. They were the parents of ten children: Cordelia, Alvin, Chloe, James, Lewis, Lydia, George and Ophelia and two that died in infancy. Cordelia married C. W. Taft. Alvin never married. Chloe became the wife of Professor Alonzo Collin, a member of the faculty of Cornell College at Mount Vernon, Iowa. James married Frances Taylor. Lydia was the wife of Burley Albrook. George married Matilda Ridge, and Ophelia became the wife of M. A. Goodell. John Matson was a whig and republican in politics.

Lewis I. Matson grew up on the old homestead six miles south of Hamilton in DeKalb County, attended public schools and also had a year of instruction in Cornell College in Iowa. He was a teacher for two terms and in 1867 came to Steuben Township in Steuben County, locating at Pleasant Lake. On March 4, 1867, he married Miss Orcelia R. Clark, who was born in Steuben County March 1, 1845, a daughter of Dr. Alonzo P. and Betsey







*Mr and Mrs. William H. Carey*



(Bump) Clark. The Clark family were pioneers of Steuben County February 16, 1852, son of Findben Township. Doctor Clark took up land near the Village of Steubenville, north of Pleasant Lake. At that time it was supposed the county seat would be Steubenville. Doctor Clark was both a physician and a lawyer, and was a citizen of great influence in his locality in the early days. He owned about 600 acres of land in Steuben Township. He died in 1867, at the age of fifty-nine, and his widow survived until March 26, 1878, being then seventy years of age.

After their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Matson located on a part of the Clark homestead, and after a few years he started the first hardware store in the Village of Pleasant Lake and continued the business for twelve years. He then took up general merchandising with the firm of Chadwick & Ransburg, and was associated with those merchants for twelve years. He then resumed farming, and has a place of 300 acres a mile north of Pleasant Lake and is successfully engaged in general crop raising and livestock. Mr. Matson has for twenty-five years been an active prohibitionist, and in early life was affiliated with the republican party. He was trustee of Steuben Township. Mr. Matson and his wife were Baptists, and he has been affiliated with that church for forty years.

Mr. and Mrs. Matson had four children. Clark A. P. is an attorney in Chicago. James L. is connected with the shipping department of the Overland Automobile Works at Toledo. Mabel is the wife of Henry G. Brown, of Lebanon, Indiana. The youngest is John O. Matson. The mother of these children died January 29, 1906. On August 12, 1906, Mr. Matson married Ada (Clark) Shackford, widow of Charles A. Shackford. She has three children by her first husband: Edna Grace, wife of William O. Driskell; Alice M., wife of Dr. J. R. Lacey; and Mabel F., unmarried.

John O. Matson, who for a number of years has been one of the leading business men and merchants of Steuben County, was born in Steuben Township November 4, 1878, and was reared in Pleasant Lake, attending the high school there. He acquired a business training as clerk with the firm of Chadwick & Ransburg for six years. In May, 1903, he bought the hardware store at Pleasant Lake from H. A. Gish, and for over fifteen years has continued a profitable business as a merchant, gradually extending his lines to include furniture and agricultural implements. Mr. Matson is a republican, but has never sought office, and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge and Knights of the Macabees. He has been a member of the Baptist Church for over twenty years.

July 31, 1900, he married Miss Bessie B. Lemmon. She was born in Steuben County, a daughter of Riley and Lorana (Tuttle) Lemmon. Riley Lemmon was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, November 26, 1839, and his wife was born in Steuben County, Indiana, April 15, 1840. The parents of Riley Lemmon were Maurice and Lucinda (Rathbun) Lemmon, who came to Steuben County in 1843, settling in Otsego Township, where they spent the rest of their days. Riley Lemmon grew up on the old farm in Steuben County and afterward acquired the ownership of the place. For sixteen years he has lived at Pleasant Lake. His wife died in 1899. Riley Lemmon and wife had the following children: Maurice, Cora, Morton, Lora, Chaplin, Vira, Bessie, Ethel and Elsie. Mr. and Mrs. Matson have two children: June Maurine, born March 22, 1904, and John Lewis, born January 31, 1916.

JOHN W. HARVEY is a native son of Jefferson Township, Noble County, and for the better part of his active life has applied his energies to the business of farming and stock raising and is easily one of the most substantial business men and citizens of that community. He is proprietor of the Maple Grove farm, comprising 160 acres, with fifty-three acres in a farm adjoining. The Harvey home is four and a half miles southwest of Kendallville, in section 2 of Jefferson Township.

This farm is the birthplace of John W. Harvey. He was born March 4, 1871, only child of James N. and Isabelle (Johnston) Harvey. James N. Harvey was born in Ashland County, Ohio, in Clear Creek Township, December 10, 1842, son of George and Mary (Bremner) Harvey. George and Mary Harvey were both natives of Scotland, were married there and three of their children were born before they came to the United States in June, 1837. They located in Ashland County, Ohio, but in the spring of 1853 came to Indiana and located in Jefferson Township. Some years later they moved to the village of Albion, where both the grandparents died. Of their nine children only two are now living, Robert Harvey, who was liberally educated, was formerly connected as a surveyor with the United States Government and is now state surveyor of Nebraska, and C. L. W. Harvey, a farmer in Jefferson Township of Noble County.

James N. Harvey was educated in the common schools of Noble County, attended Adrian College and also took the commercial course of Oberlin College. On February 7, 1870, he married Isabelle Johnson. She was born in Scotland September 10, 1847, and was brought to the United States in 1854, her parents locating in Richland County, Ohio. She lived there until her marriage, and had a good academic education and was a teacher prior to her marriage.

John W. Harvey has spent all his life on the old homestead in Jefferson Township. He attended the district schools and finished his education in the Tri-State Normal at Angola. After his education he worked the home farm, and on January 20, 1897, at the age of twenty-six, he married Miss Cora E. Faux. She was born near Mount Gilead in Morrow County, Ohio, December 17, 1873, and at the age of two years was brought by her parents to Noble County, where she grew up and received her education in the local schools. Mr. and Mrs. Harvey have three children: Carl E., born November 5, 1897, is a graduate of the common schools and of the high school at Kendallville and is still at home; Charles N., born September 27, 1903, is a student in the common schools; and Ivah B., born in February, 1909, is also a schoolgirl. The family are members of the Zion United Brethren Church. Mr. Harvey is a church trustee. He is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge No. 316, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and with the Encampment No. 156 at Kendallville. He has specialized to some extent in the breeding and raising of cattle, especially the Polled Angus. Mr. Harvey is a republican, and has been quite active in the party. Among other interests he is a stockholder in the Albion National Bank.

EDWARD A. OLNEY. There is probably no farm in LaGrange County which has been longer under one continuous ownership than the place where Edward A. Olney lives in Van Buren Township. He was born on that farm September 17, 1862, while his father, William S. Olney, was born there September 16, 1834. The latter date indicates that the Olney family has been in possession here for at least eighty-five years. The grandfather, John Olney, was

born in Vermont February 24, 1800. On August 14, 1823, he married Esther Smith, who was born March 13, 1802.

John Olney with his family came to Van Buren Township in 1830. They made the journey with an ox team from Morgan County, Ohio. Before leaving Ohio John Olney had cut from the native woods a cane to serve as a staff as he walked along and for the purpose of driving his oxen. When he reached his land in Van Buren Township he stuck the cane in the ground in the front yard of his humble log house. In a few weeks he was surprised to find it budding out and within his own lifetime it grew into a shapely tree. That tree is still a remarkable and interesting landmark, is now a great and handsome shade tree, and three feet from the ground it measures sixteen feet, four inches in circumference. John Olney died on the old homestead June 9, 1841. He and his wife had the following children: John Deming, Struman, Asa Jackson, Betsey Ann, Henry, William Smith and Martin Van Buren. After his death his widow married Nathaniel Callahan, on March 23, 1847, and they remained on the old farm where she died February 12, 1858, and he on July 20, 1855.

The deeds for the old Olney homestead were given to John Olney by the Government and are four in number, signed in 1831, 1832, 1833 and 1837. The first three bear the signature of Andrew Jackson, President of the United States, while the fourth was signed by Martin Van Buren.

William S. Olney was only seven years old when his father died, and after the death of his mother he and a brother bought the old homestead and in 1881 he became its sole owner. He had much of the energy and industry of his father and was a successful farmer and at one time owned 440 acres in Van Buren Township and 200 acres in St. Joseph County, Michigan. He was an honored resident of the county until his death October 21, 1915. He served one term as trustee of Van Buren Township and was one of the organizers and builders of the First Methodist Episcopal Church in Van Buren Township. He was a charter member of the church organization and he and his family connections were all prominent in the early days of Methodism in that locality.

William S. Olney married Delila J. Sidener. She was born October 2, 1839, a daughter of Nicholas and Margaret (Bussard) Sidener. Her parents were both natives of Fairfield County, Ohio, where her father was born December 3, 1811, and her mother June 27, 1817. They were married April 6, 1837. Nicholas Sidener had made his first trip to LaGrange County in 1835, buying 160 acres in Van Buren Township. After his marriage in Ohio he returned and settled on his land in section 30. Nicholas Sidener was a son of Nicholas and Nancy Sidener, the former born in Virginia September 1, 1773, and the latter in Pennsylvania in 1782. In the family of Nicholas and Margaret Sidener were the following children: Delila J., Henry, Samuel L., Willard, John, Mary, James E., Martha E. and Margaret E.

William S. Olney and wife had three children: Charles B., who was born June 30, 1859, and died May 15, 1873; Edward, born September 17, 1862; and one that was born October 27 and died November 28, 1873.

Edward A. Olney, the only living child of his father, acquired his education in the Scott School in Van Buren Township, attended high school at Sturgis, Michigan, and from early manhood has worked the home farm, which is owned by him and his widowed mother. On June 21, 1893, he married Anna Wisler. She was born January 20, 1874, in Lima Township of LaGrange County, a daughter of

Henry and Anna Lucetta (Nye) Wisler. Her father was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, November 19, 1826, and her mother in Ohio May 6, 1834. Henry Wisler when a young man went to Elkhart County, Indiana, and about 1869 settled in Lima Township of LaGrange County, where he spent the rest of his active life. He and his wife lived their last years in Michigan. In the Wisler family were children named W. R., Jesse F., Samuel L., Grace, who became the wife of Frank Clugg, Anna, and Sara, who married Sherman Malcolm.

Mr. and Mrs. Olney had one daughter, Lucetta Jane, who was born September 28, 1913, and died April 6, 1918, when in her fifth year. As their only child her death was a terrible sorrow to her parents, and as a baby she was widely known because for three consecutive years she had been awarded a bronze medal which was given by Woman's Home Companion in the LaGrange County baby contest as making the best score for a perfect baby. Mr. and Mrs. Olney have taken two daughters to rear at their home, Ruth Brownlee and Blanche. Mr. and Mrs. Olney are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Scott. He is a director of the Farmers State Bank of Shipshewana and a stockholder in the National Bank of LaGrange.

CORNELIUS V. JONES, who is now living retired at Angola, has played a conspicuous part in the affairs of Scott Township for many years, both as a farmer and a public official. He is a former trustee of that township, and has long been active in the politics of Steuben County.

Mr. Jones was born in Scott Township October 29, 1862, a son of Samuel and Sarah (Van Horn) Jones. His grandfather, Ziba Jones, was born in 1793, became a prominent settler in Licking County, Ohio, and married Flora A. Everett. In 1848 Ziba Jones brought his family to Steuben County and settled in section 8 of Scott Township. Before coming to this county he had experimented in the culture of silk worms in Ohio, losing his money, and was therefore in poor circumstances when he came to Indiana. He cleared up a tract of seventy acres of land, and renewed his prosperity sufficient to live in comfort during his last days. He died November 13, 1880. For over seventy years he was a member of the Methodist Church. His wife died in 1872.

Samuel E. Jones, who was one of eight children, all natives of Licking County, Ohio, was a young man when he came to Steuben County, and married there Sarah Van Horn, who was born in 1827. Ziba Jones started the first nursery in Steuben County. Samuel E. Jones died February 11, 1871, at the age of forty-seven. He was a republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He owned a farm of seventy acres, comprising the old Jones homestead in Scott Township, and lived on it until his death. His wife died in 1892. Their children were Elva, Sarah, twins that died in infancy; Cornelius V., Albert and Alice.

Cornelius V. Jones grew up on his father's farm. This old homestead is now owned by his brother and sister. He attended the public schools, also the Fremont High School, and in 1900 bought eighty acres near the old home place. He has found that sufficient to furnish him with plenty of work and opportunity to render good service as a farmer and citizen. He built a barn and added to the house, and continued general farming and stockraising until November, 1918, when he removed to Angola and bought a good home on Martha Street, where he lives retired, leasing the farm.

Mr. Jones is a republican. He was elected trustee of Scott Township in 1914, beginning his duties in



1915 and continuing in office four years. He has also served on the advisory board of Scott Township. He and his wife are active members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

January 22, 1885, he married Miss Mattie Merritte. She was born in Jamestown Township of Steuben County, January 15, 1861, a daughter of James and Susan (Whistler) Merritte. Her father was born in Morgan County, Ohio, February 22, 1832, and her mother in Pennsylvania February 3, 1832. Her mother came to Fremont, Indiana, in 1842 with her parents, Abraham and Sarah (Faylor) Whistler, who were pioneers in Jamestown Township, where Abraham died, his widow spending her last days with her son Enos in LaGrange County. James and Susan Merritte were married in LaGrange County, and then came to Steuben County and settled in Jamestown Township, where he followed farming until his death on September 13, 1906. His widow is now living with Mr. and Mrs. Jones. In the Merritte family were three sons and one daughter, Adelbert, Joseph, John and Mattie. Mrs. Jones' brothers all died in infancy or early childhood.

The one son of Mr. and Mrs. Jones is Vern Russell, who was born April 8, 1886. He attended public schools, graduated from the Fremont High School, took the scientific course in the Tri-State Normal College, graduating in 1909, and subsequently received the A. P. B. degree from the same institution. He has had a successful record as a teacher, having taught in Scott Township three years, at Flint three years, in Angola two years, and at Edgerton, Ohio. During his second year at Edgerton he resigned his school work to enter the railway mail service, where he is still on duty. Vern R. Jones married Alta Denman, of Jackson Township, Steuben County. She is a graduate of the Flint High School. Her parents, Arthur and Olive (Walsh) Denman, are farmers in Jackson Township.

CHARLES J. MASTERSON, who has an interesting personality, is a resident of Steuben County. He has spent many years in the service of the New-York Central Railroad and is widely known as a scientist. For over thirty years he has been a student of astronomy, and he is one of a notable group of men who without the aid or affiliation of any great endowed institution has contributed new knowledge and done much to advance general enlightenment on this subject. Mr. Masterson owns the largest telescope nearer than Ann Arbor, Michigan, and in addition to his other duties has employed much of his time in his own observatory as special instructor of astronomy to students attending the Tri-State Normal College at Angola. Perhaps an even more important feature of his scientific work has been his regular contribution, covering a period of about twenty-five years, of articles that have appeared in the Steuben Republican, and have done much to popularize this science.

Mr. Masterson was born at Orange, New Jersey, November 28, 1860, a son of Alfred and Annabella (Johnson) Masterson. His parents were natives of County Norfolk, England, and three of their children were born there, two sons dying in infancy. Their daughter Anna came with her parents in 1857 to the United States. The family located at Orange, New Jersey. In August, 1861, Alfred Masterson enlisted in the Seventh New Jersey Volunteer Infantry, and was killed at the battle of Williamsburg, Virginia, in 1862, when only twenty-six years of age.

Charles J. Masterson, the only child of his parents born in the United States, came with his mother in 1865 to Steuben County, Indiana. In 1869 his mother married John Barrett, of Angola, and she died on

January 28, 1914, at the age of seventy-eight. Her son by Mr. Barrett is John Barrett of Hillsdale, Michigan.

Charles J. Masterson grew up on a farm in Scott Township of Steuben County and acquired his education in the grammar and high schools of Angola. He has rounded out a service of twenty-two years with the New York Central Railroad. Mr. Masterson, who is unmarried, is a republican in politics and a member of the Congregational Church.

JERRY O. WIGGINS, who for the last ten years has lived retired in a comfortable home at LaGrange, was long identified with the farming interests of Johnson Township, and represents two of the oldest and most important families in the early and later history of LaGrange County.

He was born in Johnson Township January 12, 1870, a son of Nathan E. and Mary E. (Outcalt) Wiggins. His paternal grandparents were John and Lora Wiggins, who were very early settlers in Steuben County, Indiana, where they spent the rest of their lives. They had five children: Eunice, Henry, Nathan, Andrew and another son that died when about eighteen years of age.

Nathan E. Wiggins was born in Steuben County, grew up there, had a public school education and as a young man enlisted in Company B, of the One Hundredth Indiana Infantry. He went out from Steuben County and served more than three years in the Union army and was one of the faithful and courageous soldiers whose record belongs to the military history of Northeast Indiana. He was in Sherman's army on the march to the sea. After the war he returned to Steuben County and worked for John Seaburn for some time at monthly wages, and later bought a farm in Johnson Township, where he lived until his death in 1875, at the age of thirty-five. He was a republican in politics.

Mary E. Outcalt, who became the wife of Nathan E. Wiggins, survived her husband over forty years and died May 8, 1916. She was the mother of two children, Jerry O. and Lois, the latter dying at the age of eight years.

Mary E. Outcalt was of remote German ancestry, but the family was established in America three generations prior to the birth of her father. Her father, Jeremiah Outcalt, was born in Portage County, Ohio, in October, 1812, son of Scobey and Clara (Sabins) Outcalt, being one of their ten children. Scobey Outcalt was a teamster with the American army in the War of 1812. Later he and his wife moved out to Illinois in 1848 and died in that state. Jeremiah Outcalt first came to LaGrange County in 1839, and in 1846 settled at the village of Ontario, where he spent one winter in the cooperage trade. In the spring of 1847 he moved to his farm in Johnson Township, having purchased the land previously. He cleared and improved and erected substantial buildings, and was one of the useful and highly respected members of that community until his death on February 16, 1902. Jeremiah Outcalt married Elizabeth Irwin, who was born in 1808. They were married September 27, 1840. She died March 16, 1885. Her first husband was a Mr. Ingram, by whom she had two children: Frances Elizabeth, born in 1834; and Sarah Jane, born in 1830. The four children of Jeremiah Outcalt and wife were: Adalia and Charles Henry, twins, born in 1842; Mary E., born January 18, 1844; and Hortense, who was born in 1846 and died in infancy.

Jerry O. Wiggins was only five years old when his father died and he grew up in the home of his grandfather Outcalt. He acquired a public school education, and all his adult career followed farming.

He owns the farm of his grandfather Outcalt, and for a number of years had 189 acres in operation for crops and livestock. In March, 1910, he moved to LaGrange and bought a fine home on Hawpatch street, where he lives in comfort, leasing his farm lands.

Mr. Wiggins is a republican, is a member of the Town Board of LaGrange, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He married Miss Agnes Stone October 5, 1892.

**LAWRENCE N. KLINK.** While Mr. Klink has made his name and services known at Angola and over the surrounding territory as one of the leading undertakers, his own career has been only part of the honorable record made by his family in Steuben County since early pioneer days.

He is a grandson of Christian Klink, who was born in one of the German countries, and served five years and three months in the Napoleonic wars of Europe. Then when still unmarried he set out to find a new home in America, landing at Baltimore. According to the custom of the time he was "sold" for his passage money, and worked it out before leaving Baltimore. He then removed to Columbiana County, Ohio, and later to Seneca County in that state, and in 1848 established his home in Steuben County, Indiana. He was one of the early settlers of Salem Township, and acquired a tract of land which is now owned and farmed by his grandson, Chester C. Klink. Only three acres of his land had been cleared when he took possession, and he lived to see much of it in cultivation, and was surrounded with all the comforts of life when he and his wife died there. His first home was a log cabin, replaced later by a frame house, and in 1878 the old homestead was improved by its then owner, the father of Lawrence N. Klink, with a large two-story, fourteen room brick house, one of the best country homes in Steuben County.

Eli Klink, father of Lawrence N., was born in Seneca County, Ohio, October 25, 1844, and was a small child when brought to Steuben County. He was educated in the local schools, and became one of the successful farmers in his neighborhood. The last four years of his life he lived retired at Angola, where he died in 1909. He was nominally a democrat but on all important issues cast an independent ballot. Both he and his wife were devoted members of the United Brethren Church. He married Syrena Deller. She was born in Steuben County, Indiana, in 1850 and is still living at Angola. Her father, Nicholas Deller, and her mother, Mary Ann Deller, were among the early settlers of Steuben Township. Their first home was just south of the Mount Zion Church. Nicholas Deller died there and his widow spent her last days with Mr. and Mrs. Eli Klink. The latter were the parents of six children: Etta, wife of W. J. Huber, of Angola; Olen, who died in infancy; Ernest C., of Toledo, Ohio; Chester C., above mentioned as owner of the old homestead farm in Salem Township; Lawrence N.; and Zella, who died in infancy.

Lawrence N. Klink was born on the old farm in Salem Township May 15, 1882. He lived there **until nearly grown**, and supplemented the advantages received in the public schools by attending the Tri-State College. In December, 1902, he graduated from the Chicago College of Embalming, and the following two years he was in the furniture and undertaking business at Reading, Michigan. On September 1, 1904, he began his business and service at Angola, and has capably served this

community for fifteen years. Mr. Klink is a democrat in politics but has been too busy to concern himself with the responsibilities of public office. He is affiliated with the Masonic Order, the Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America at Angola, and is also a member of the Rotary Club. He and his family are members of the Congregational Church. May 15, 1905, Mr. Klink married Miss Mabel Abbott, of Reading, Michigan. They have two children: Lurene and Harry.

**HARVEY A. MOORE.** The leading business man of Avilla in Noble County is Harvey A. Moore, whose success is to be attributed entirely to his own energies and efforts. He started on a very modest scale and has not only acquired his present store and store building, but is also interested in a number of other affairs and is looked upon as a leader in every movement to improve and help forward his community.

Mr. Moore was born at Wawaka, Noble County, Indiana, November 17, 1877, son of Thomas and Sarah (Barnhart) Moore. His mother was a native of Williams County, Ohio, and in that county Harvey A. Moore spent most of his boyhood. He attended the public schools of Ohio. He gained his first business experience in that state, but in 1898 returned to Noble County, and with an exceedingly modest capital began selling merchandise at Avilla. He has since built up a large trade in furniture and is proprietor of that store and also a stockholder in a business that has stores both in Avilla and Auburn. Mr. Moore erected the Bank Block in which his own store is located and has considerable other interests in local real estate.

In 1897 Mr. Moore married Miss Byrd Repple. She is a college graduate and a very cultured woman. They have one daughter, Lorene, now attending high school at Avilla.

Mr. Moore is an active Mason, is past master of Avilla Lodge, and is also a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and Shriner at Fort Wayne. He is affiliated with the Elks at Kendallville. His name is widely known over Kendall County as a leader in democratic politics. He is now a member and president of the City Council of Avilla, and is also his party's nominee for membership on the Board of County Commissioners. Besides his holdings at Avilla he owns a good farm of ninety-six acres in Allen Township.

**EDWARD NOLL.** A history of the Noll family and that of Salem Township in Steuben County runs side by side for a period of eighty years. The Nolls came here in Indian times, and along with the development of a large acreage of wild land to cultivated fields they have exercised an influence over their community and furnished valuable service as capable mechanics and business men.

The founder of the family here was George Noll, who was born in Union County, Pennsylvania, in 1796, married Nancy Hall and lived in Stark County, Ohio, for many years. Nine children were born to them in that county, Nancy, Margaret, Elizabeth, Barbara, Catherine, Jacob, Henry, Samuel and Martin, and the mother died there. In 1839 George Noll, having married again, brought his family to Steuben County and bought land in section 11 of Salem Township. He lived there until his death in 1852. His first home was a log cabin. An Indian Trail ran near the house and the family saw Indians passing over that road nearly every day. It is recalled that salt then retailed at \$9 a barrel, though the wheat crop grown after much labor in clearing away the woods brought only 40 cents a bushel, and all grain



had to be hauled to market at Coldwater, Michigan.

Samuel Noll was born in Stark County, Ohio, in 1817, and had just passed his majority when he came with his father to Steuben County. His father being quite well advanced in years at the time most of the work of clearing up the land devolved upon him. He spent many long days chopping trees and clearing away the brush. He brought with him to Indiana a knowledge of the carpenter's trade, was a very skillful workman, and his services were in demand for making furniture and more particularly for fashioning coffins. Gradually, though he kept his home on the farm, he engaged in the undertaking business, and was in that work for about forty years, until the time of his death, which occurred in May, 1888. In Stark County Samuel Noll married Christina Flectling, a native of Alsace, Germany, where she was born in 1819, coming to America at the age of eight years with her parents. Samuel Noll and wife were active members of the Reformed Church, and in 1882 they were instrumental in building the New Trinity Reformed Church in Salem Township. Samuel Noll and wife had a family of eight children: John, Elizabeth, George Washington, William F., Edward and Caroline, twins; Samuel, who died in childhood; and Mary.

Mr. Edward Noll, who therefore represents the third generation of the family in Northwest Indiana, was born at the old home in Salem Township July 23, 1849. As a boy he attended the neighboring district schools and besides work on the farm learned the carpenter's trade and for about two years was a blacksmith. His mechanical genius has found expression not only in the varied work of the farm but as the operator of a threshing outfit, and he has been in that line of business for upwards of forty years and has worn out many outfits and has handled all the improvements in threshing machinery from the time of the old horse power apparatus. Mr. Noll and family are members of the Reformed Church.

In September, 1873, he married Chloe Arvilla Ransburg, a daughter of Leander and Harriet Lucinda (Spangle) Ransburg. Mr. and Mrs. Noll having no children of their own took into their home Ida May Farres when she was two years of age. This adopted daughter is now the wife of Clyde Allen.

Leander Ransburg, father of Mrs. Noll, was born in Frederick County, Maryland, November 6, 1819, a son of Christian and Catherine Ransburg. He settled in Salem Township of Steuben County in 1851 and spent the rest of his active life on a farm. His first wife was Rachel Mithour, and they had one daughter, Emeline. Harriet Lucinda Spangle was his second wife, and she was the mother of Chloe Arvilla, Edith Ella, Lewis Walter and Olive E.

GEORGE GORDON TALMAGE, M. D. Talmage is the name of an old and prominent family in Springfield Township, LaGrange County, where Dr. George Gordon Talmage was born December 20, 1869.

His father, Elisha Talmage, was born at Milton in Saratoga County, New York, in 1813, one of the ten children of Enos and Polly (Barber) Talmage. His parents were also natives of New York and of English descent. Elisha Talmage as a youth learned the carpenter's trade, and followed it for two years at wages of ten dollars a month. In the summer of 1836 he was working at Auburn, New York, and the following fall came west to Michigan and spent a short time in Lenawee County. He went back east by way of Canada, and in the spring of 1837 came to Indiana, settling in the fall of that year on

120 acres in Springfield Township. He paid \$500 for this land. He was a man of skillful industry and much enterprise and developed a good farm of 169 acres, where he lived for many years. One feature of his farm business was the manufacture of cider.

He married for his first wife Lucy Williams, a native of New York, who died in April, 1849. Their five children were Joseph, Harriet, Enos, Mary E. and Calista E. In October, 1851, Elisha Talmage married Jane Griffen. She was born at Spaxton, England, and came to this country in 1833 with her parents, Robert H. and Mary (Polman) Griffen. Elisha Talmage by his second wife had ten children: Lewis E., Isaac G., Charles E., Harvey H., Herbert J., Lucy L., Arthur F., Ernest E., George G., and Eva J. The oldest son of Elisha, Joseph W., served as a Union soldier, enlisting in 1861 in the Twenty-First Indiana Infantry, and soon afterward was transferred to the Twenty-first Heavy Artillery. In later life he donated the land for a church on his farm in Nebraska. Elisha Talmage and wife are both buried in the East Springfield Cemetery.

Dr. George G. Talmage attended the public schools of his native township, was a student in the Tri-State Normal at Angola and in June, 1901, graduated from the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Chicago. He had a busy country practice on Brushy Prairie until the spring of 1904, when he removed to Washta, Cherokee County, Iowa. He is a republican in politics. March 29, 1894, Dr. Talmage married Miss Laura E. Brown, of Springfield Township, where she was born April 10, 1875. She is the only daughter of Warren and Falona (Baxter) Brown, and member of a family whose career has been traced in detail on other pages. Dr. Talmage and wife had two children: Russell Brown Talmage, born November 4, 1900, was educated in the Springfield Township High School and graduated from the Fremont High School in Steuben County in 1918. At present he is engaged in farming on the old homestead, being a member of the fourth generation on this farm, known as the Brown Homestead. Ernest Erastus Talmage was born January 6, 1904, and is now a student in the Springfield Township High School.

DAVID ABURN is identified with the farming community of Perry Township in Noble County, has had a long and useful career, and has always lived up to the highest obligations and standards of good citizenship. His farm home is in section 32.

He was born in Darke County, Ohio, June 13, 1852, son of William and Catherine (Arnett) Aburn. His father was born in Montgomery County, Ohio, June 25, 1825, and his mother in Miami County of the same state, September 13, 1826. They were married in Miami County, then located in Darke County, and on August 9, 1860, left that section of Ohio to come to Indiana and settled in Noble Township of Noble County. On March 21, 1882, they transferred their home to the farm where their son David now lives. William Aburn and wife were people of the highest character and lived industrious and honest lives, and were very devout members of the Dunkard Church. In politics the father affiliated as a democrat. His wife died October 22, 1894, and he passed away on the old farm December 2, 1892. There were seven children and four are still living: David; Tobias, of Whitley County, Indiana; Harriet, wife of T. N. McNear, of Canada; and Margaret, wife of C. D. Betzner, of Perry Township.

David Aburn, who has never married, has spent most of his life in Perry Township, and acquired his early education in Noble Township. He owns

160 acres of land in section 32, and among other interests is a stockholder in the Citizens Bank of Ligonier. Politically he is a democrat, like his father.

CHESTER P. CRAIN, who was a member of one of the early families of Steuben County and achieved successful results in a business way there, was a native son of the county and spent practically all his life within its border. The fine farm which he developed is situated in Pleasant Township, and is now occupied by his widow and his son-in-law, Mr. George Saul.

Mr. Crain was born in Steuben County September 5, 1845, a son of Ezekiel W. and Rebecca (Demory) Crain. His parents came from Canada, where they were married in 1823, moving to Michigan in 1834, and in the spring of 1836 Ezekiel Crain came to Steuben County and bought land and built a log cabin, moving the family to the new home in the following December. Ezekiel Crain was a man of great influence among the early settlers, and died in Steuben County in 1871, his widow passing away in 1880. They had seven children: Abram, Orange, Nicholas, Richard, Elizabeth, who became the wife of William Carpenter, Benjamin and Chester Perry.

Chester Perry Crain grew up on the old farm where his widow now lives, had a public school education, and with the exception of one year in Kansas spent his life in Steuben County. After the death of his father he bought the homestead and had 120 acres. For about thirty years he made a specialty of the breeding of Red Polled cattle, and that business is still carried on by his son-in-law, George W. Saul. Mr. Crain was a democrat in politics, and he and his wife with their daughter and husband were members of the Christian Church at Angola.

January 23, 1873, Mr. Crain married Miss Susie Baker, a daughter of Edward and Susan (Sandall) Baker. Her parents came from England, were early settlers in Steuben County, and more extended mention of the family is made on other pages of this publication. Mr. Crain had one daughter, Elgie Melvina. She was born October 13, 1875, attended the public schools and the Tri-State Normal College, and on June 12, 1901, became the wife of George W. Saul. Mrs. Saul died May 12, 1915.

Mr. Saul was born in St. Clair County, Michigan, November 12, 1876, son of Leander and Catherine (Hoyer) Saul. His parents were natives of Williams County, Ohio, lived for several years in Michigan and from there came to Steuben County and now live in Salem Township. Mr. Saul's father is a republican and his mother is a member of the United Brethren Church. The six Saul children, all living, are Jennie, Nettie, George W., Ivan, Orran and Pearl. George W. Saul finished his education in Pleasant Lake High School. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Angola. He and his wife had one daughter, Troas Olive, born May 28, 1903.

ELDER WALTER SWIHART is one of the men of most varied interests in and around the village of Churubusco in Noble County. He has a fine farm, was vice president of the Farmers State Bank of Churubusco from the time it was organized until he resigned in 1919, has for a number of years been an elder in the Church of the Brethren, and some considerable part of his life he gave to educational work as a teacher.

Mr. Swihart was born in Wabash County, Indiana, July 21, 1864, son of Jacob and Clara (Gidley) Swihart. His father was born in Hancock County, Ohio, November 30, 1837. His mother was born in Muskingum County, Ohio, October 14, 1838. When Jacob Swihart was eight years old his parents moved to Wabash County, Indiana, and settled near Roann. He grew up there and had such limited advantages as the local schools could furnish. His wife was reared in Ohio, had a good education and was a teacher for several years. She and her husband were married near Roann and became farmers there. Later they moved to Whitley County, and in 1870 established a home in Green Township of Noble County, where they spent the rest of their days. Jacob Swihart died while visiting in Arkansas, February 22, 1898. His wife died in Noble County, April 29, 1899. Both were active members of the Church of the Brethren. They were the parents of seven children: John, of Elkhart County; Walter; Elizabeth, wife of Alvin M. Hire; Amy, wife of Arthur Gardner, of Elkhart County; Martha, wife of Amasa Cripe, of Elkhart County; Jesse, of Noble Township, Noble County; and Charles, whose home is in Arkansas.

Elder Walter Swihart grew up on a farm in Green Township, and besides the advantages of the district schools he attended the Ohio Northern University at Ada and was graduated with the degree Bachelor of Science. In the meantime he had begun teaching in country districts, and altogether put in nineteen years as an educator. Some of his teaching was done outside the state. In 1895 he went to Phoenix, Arizona, and taught school there and also at Glendale, in that territory, for a year and a half. In the fall of 1900 he went to Florida and was a teacher there two years. Another year he spent in New Mexico, and has also seen much of the state of Texas.

Elder Swihart married for his first wife Sarah Huber, of Elkhart Township, Noble County. She was born in that county, was well educated in public schools and in the Tri-State Normal at Angola, and also did considerable teaching. She died in August, 1902, the mother of three children: Huber, a high school graduate and a student at North Manchester, and also in a Bible school at Chicago, is now a farmer in Illinois; Lucile studied at North Manchester and in the Chicago Bible School and is now the wife of Rufus Sipe; and Calvin is a graduate of the Churubusco High School.

In 1903 Mr. Swihart married Minnie Miller. She died December 29, 1917, the mother of six children, named: Fairy, Faith, Ruth, Ernest, Robin and Donald. Both these wives were earnest Christian women and active members of the Church of the Brethren.

Mr. Swihart has been an elder in this church since 1904. In politics he is a republican.

Mr. Swihart, besides his many other interests, gives an active supervision to the work of his home farm, which comprises 164 acres.

WILLIAM H. CRONE has spent most of his life in Northeast Indiana, for many years was a practical farmer, still owns a large amount of land and in recent years has given his time and energies to the promotion of business and manufacturing at Wolcottville. He is interested in the manufacturing plant of the Centennial Stave Silo and Drain Tile Company at Wolcottville.

He was born in Allen Township of Noble County August 11, 1851, a son of John and Catherine (Switzer) Crone. His father was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, August 26, 1818, and his mother in Richland County, Ohio, February 23,



1820. They were married in Ohio in 1839, and from that state moved in 1849, settling in Allen Township of Noble County, Indiana. John Crone spent the rest of his life in Noble County as a farmer and was a highly respected citizen. He died in December, 1899, and his widow lived at Garrett, Indiana, until her death in February, 1907. Both were members of the Evangelical Church. John Crone served as a trustee of the church and in politics was a democrat. Of their twelve children five are now living: Barbara, widow of S. A. Rawson; John S., a farmer in Allen Township of Noble County; William H.; Amy R., wife of B. F. Stultz, of Elkhart, Indiana; and Laura, wife of George B. Tyler, living near Lisbon in Allen Township of Noble County.

William H. Crone grew up on his father's farm, attended district schools, and lived at home until he was twenty-one years old. On October 27, 1874, he married Laura J. Wilson. She was born March 21, 1853, daughter of Albert and Isabel Wilson.

After his marriage Mr. Crone bought a farm in Jefferson Township, and taking it in its native condition he cleared it up and had all under cultivation except fifteen acres. He remained there twelve years and then sold and moved to Florence Township of Noble County. Later he moved to the vicinity of Wolcottville; where he lived on a 200-acre farm until 1906. Since then his home has been in Wolcottville, and he had an extensive business there in buying and shipping live stock until recent years. He has been a director in the Silo and Drain Tile Company since its organization, and gives all his time during the summer seasons to selling silos. The last several winters Mr. Crone has spent in the South. Besides his other interests he has a two-third interest in 215 acres of land in Johnson Township.

Mr. Crone is the father of two children, Maude and John. The daughter is a graduate of the common schools and is now the wife of W. D. Fisher. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher had two children, and the one now living is Gerald W. John Crone is a graduate of the Avilla High School, attended the Tri-State Normal at Angola three years and is now a farmer in Johnson Township. He married Dora Whan-settler. The family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church and Mr. Crone is a democrat.

STEPHEN T. MCKEE. During the many years he spent in the farming community of Lima Stephen McKee was known for his progressiveness in everything he did and also for the energy which he applied to his undertakings and which brought him the abundant prosperity he now enjoys in his comfortable home at Howe.

Mr. McKee was born in Montour County, Pennsylvania, October 7, 1856, and has lived in LaGrange County since he was eight years of age. His parents were William and Nancy (Ellis) McKee, both natives of Columbia County, Pennsylvania, while their respective parents were born in Scotland and spent their last years in Pennsylvania. William and Nancy McKee brought their family from Pennsylvania to LaGrange County in the spring of 1865. They traveled by railroad as far as Sturgis, Michigan, and thence a horse drawn vehicle took them to a place a little north of Howe, where they arrived the first of April. William McKee bought a farm in Lima Township, and he and his wife lived there until their death. He had eighty acres, and improved it and made a good home. He and his wife were active Presbyterians. Their family consisted of six children: James, who died in Pennsylvania; Ellis; Oliver P.; Amandas, now deceased; Elizabeth, deceased wife of Washington Gilbert, and Stephen T.

Stephen T. McKee attended country schools in

LaGrange County and also the high school at Howe. As a young man he learned the trade of carpenter, but has used his skill largely to do his own building and repair work. He took up farming in Lima Township on his father's old place, later owned it, and increased its area to 120 acres. Mr. McKee equipped this farm for dairy purposes and developed one of the best Jersey herds in the township. His farm was also distinguished by having one of the first silos in that vicinity, and as a carpenter he constructed the silo himself.

Mr. McKee has lived retired at Howe since 1902. He is a charter member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Howe, is a Presbyterian, and has been quite active in local politics, serving as a member of the Township Advisory Board.

On November 4, 1896, he married Miss Annabelle Smith, a native of Howe and a daughter of John Smith, one of the best known citizens of LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. McKee have one daughter, Mildred E., who finished her education in a college at Marion, Virginia.

SAMUEL F. MUSSER, cashier of the LaGrange State Bank, has had a long and active career in LaGrange County, has been a farmer, merchant, traveling salesman and is a former county treasurer, an office he filled with thorough competence for two terms.

He was born in Clear Spring Township of LaGrange County, September 15, 1852, son of Daniel and Rebecca (Ritter) Musser. His parents were born, reared and married in Franklin County, Pennsylvania, and came to LaGrange County about 1845. They brought all they had with them in a one-horse wagon, and thus started with practically nothing in the woods of Clear Spring Township. Industry brought its sure reward, and in course of time he owned a good farm of eighty acres, well improved, and provided liberally for his family. The parents were members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he was a republican in politics. Of the seven children four are still living, Samuel F.; Maynard F., a mail carrier at LaGrange; Jennie, wife of Myron Nelson; and Alsie, a widow living at Battle Creek, Michigan.

Samuel F. Musser attended the district schools during his boyhood and also had a thorough training in all the duties of the farm. In 1876 he married Miss Eliza Cowley. For ten years they rented a farm and then moved to LaGrange, where Mr. Musser engaged in the implement business for eight years. Selling out he bought a farm, and afterward leased his land and traveled for an implement house three years. In 1896 he was honored with election to the office of county treasurer and took up his duties in January, 1898. He was in the courthouse for two successive terms, and in the meantime disposed of his farm and became one of the organizers of the LaGrange State Bank. He was formerly its assistant cashier before his promotion to the office of cashier. Mr. Musser has always been an active republican. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Howe, and he and his family are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Musser have two sons. Lee A. is a dentist with a good practice at South Haven, Michigan. Fred C. is a physician, and is well established in his profession in Detroit.

MELVIN C. MCGREW. It is over seventy years since the McGrew family came to Steuben County, and the name has been identified with practically all the history of development of this section of Northeast Indiana from the pioneering and log

cabin days to the era of modern transportation, improved highways, and unprecedented prosperity for the agricultural district.

A representative of this family, Melvin C. McGrew, is one of the leading farmers in Pleasant Township. He was born in Richland Township of Steuben County, February 16, 1852, son of Findley and Betsey (Sharrock) McGrew. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1809 and his mother in Morrow County, Ohio, in 1815. They were married in the latter state and in 1848 came to Steuben County and paid a dollar and a quarter an acre for land in Richland Township. Obviously it was virgin soil and did not have a single tree removed, and it was the task of Findley McGrew to clear it up and make a home. He had eighty acres, eventually well developed and improved, and the log house which was the first home of the family gave way to a good frame house. He was a very fine mechanic, a millwright by trade, and it was his practice to build, operate and own mills. He operated mills at Metz, on Fish Creek, one northeast of Butler and also one at West Buffalo, Ohio. He was one of the most useful citizens of the county in his time. He died in 1872 and his wife in 1870. He was a democrat, and they were members of the United Brethren Church. They had a large family, named Henry, Joseph, Constance, Sarah, Benjamin, Matilda, James, Emily, Susan, Melvin C., Ida and Ada, twins, and Findley.

Of these numerous children Melvin C. McGrew is the only survivor. He grew up on his father's place in Richland Township and lived there to the age of twenty-one, enjoying such advantages as the local schools afforded. Since then he has been farming. For two years he rented the Northway farm in Millgrove Township and in 1880 bought the place which he still owns and occupies. He has 112 acres, and all its building improvements represent his individual work and investment. He does general farming and stock raising, and the means he has acquired represents what he has put into life by his well directed efforts and judgment. He is a democrat, but has no official aspirations, has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for about twenty-one years and is a member of the Christian Church.

In 1874 he married Rachel Fast. She was born in Ashland County, Ohio, December 4, 1850, a daughter of Christian and Henrietta (Sowle) Fast. This is a well known family of Steuben County. Christian Fast, who was born in Pennsylvania in 1814, a son of Martin Fast, lived from early infancy in Ashland County, Ohio, where the Fast family were among the earliest of the families to settle, and in 1839 he married Henrietta Sowle, who was born in New York State in 1820. In 1852 Christian Fast came to Steuben County and acquired a tract of wild land in Pleasant Township and eventually owned 160 acres, well improved and valuable. He died in 1898. His first wife died in 1859, the mother of eight children: Joseph A., Rosanna, Francis Allen, Eli, Mary, Rachel, John A., Henrietta. Christian Fast married for his second wife Rhoda M. Wells, and they had three children, Ira, Orla and Laura. The old Fast farm in Pleasant Township is now owned and occupied by Mark Pogue.

Mr. and Mrs. McGrew have two children: Alida, born October 23, 1877, was educated in the public schools and the Normal School, was a teacher for several terms, and is now the wife of Harley Webb. They have two children, Hilda and Joyce. George

A. McGrew was born May 20, 1880, and also had a public and normal school education. He married Zora Spangle, and their family consists of Harold, Eilene, Marian and Wayne.

BERNARD PULLMAN has been a resident of Kendallville since he was seven years of age, and his successful position in business affairs is due to a concentration of effort along one line. He has always worked in the stone business, and is now proprietor of the Pullman Granite and Marble Works at Kendallville.

Mr. Pullman was born in Germany May 26, 1859, son of John and Elizabeth (Drasser) Pullman. His parents came from Germany in the spring of 1867 and located at Kendallville, where his father was a stone cutter and followed the trade many years with his son.

Bernard Pullman was educated in the common schools to the age of fourteen. Since that time he has been continuously identified with the stone business, spending four years in learning his trade and working as a journeyman four years. About 1881 he entered business for himself, and for over thirty-nine years has conducted the leading granite and marble works of the city and Northern Indiana.

Mr. Pullman married Ida M. Lash, who was born in Kendallville, a daughter of William Lash. She was educated in the public schools of that city. They have two children: Inez, a graduate of the Kendallville High School, is the wife of Rodell Ludlow, now residents of Dallas, Texas. Harold L., who attended high school, is now at home. He married Aileen Shamburger. Mr. and Mrs. Pullman have one grandson, Bernard P. Ludlow.

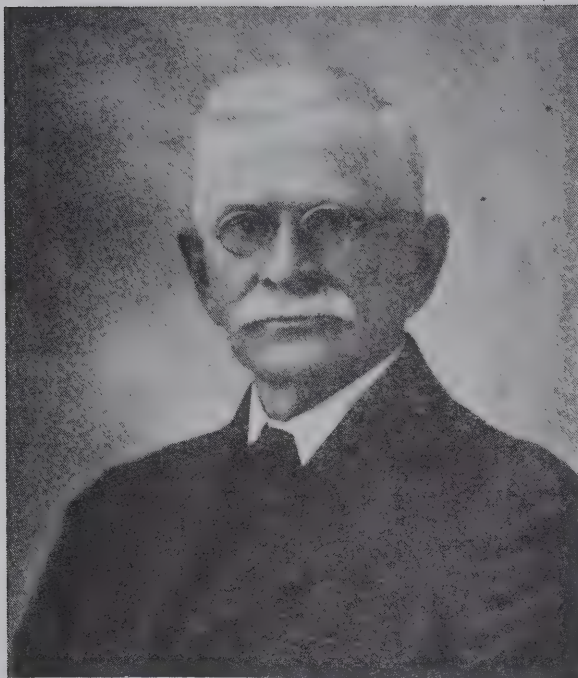
Mr. Pullman, besides his close attention to business, has also been interested in local affairs. He has been a member of the City Council, is a republican and is a prominent Mason, both in the York and Scottish Rite. He has taken thirty-two degrees in the Scottish Rite and is a member of the Lodge, Chapter and Commandery in York Rite, and has served as eminent commander of the Knights Templar. He is also a Shriner. He and his family are Presbyterians.

JOHN CRAIG SMITH. The name of John Craig Smith is associated with a high degree of prominence in business and civic affairs in LaGrange County. He is a resident of Van Buren Township and his family were among the earliest settlers of the county.

Mr. Smith was born in Lima Township December 22, 1857, a son of William and Esther (Craig) Smith. William Smith was born in Clark County, Ohio, January 10, 1822, one of the ten children of David and Elizabeth (Hurd) Smith, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Maryland. David Smith, of Irish descent, was a soldier in the War of 1812, was married in Ohio, and in 1833 brought his family to LaGrange County, Indiana, locating on a farm of 360 acres, where he lived until his death. He was an abolitionist in politics, one of the early temperance workers in the county, and was one of the first members of the Board of County Commissioners.

William Smith acquired a liberal education for his time and for twenty years taught school in winters, while the summers were spent in farming. He taught the first term of school in the new schoolhouse at Lima. He also represented LaGrange County in the State Legislature in 1855 and again in 1867. During his first term he cast the deciding vote for rechartering the State Bank of Indiana. During the second term he assisted in electing Oliver P. Morton, Indiana's war governor, to the United States Senate.





*Mr and Mrs John B. Smith*





For a number of years he was engaged in the lumber and agricultural implement business. He was a Mason and member of the Presbyterian Church, and died at Logansport, Indiana, May 4, 1901. In 1847 he married Estner Craig. She was born in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, in 1822 and died in 1866. She was the mother of three children: Senator B., Mary E. A. and John C. William Smith married for his second wife Kate Wood, who was born in LaGrange County in 1844. By that union there were two children, William D. and Ione C.

John Craig Smith was about eight years old when his mother died, and he grew up in the home of his maternal grandparents, John and Jane (Derr) Craig, who were early settlers of LaGrange County. He acquired a public school education, attended the graded schools of Lima, and since early youth his chief interests have been identified with farming. He is a republican in politics.

November 24, 1880, Mr. Smith married Emma L. Hinkle. She was born in Pennsylvania February 23, 1860, a daughter of Aquila and Mary (Boyer) Hinkle. The Hinkle family settled in LaGrange County in October, 1864. In 1872 Aquila Hinkle bought land in section 29 of Van Buren Township, where Mr. and Mrs. Smith now live. He first bought 120 acres and later increased his holdings to 180 acres. He divided this place among his children. Mr. and Mrs. Smith have since added seventy acres and now have 249½ acres. For several years Mr. Smith was a breeder of Jersey cattle, and is now practically retired from the heavier responsibilities of farming. He is a stockholder in the local elevator and shippers association at Howe.

Mrs. Smith's father died in November, 1914, at the age of eighty-one, and her mother passed away May 5, 1919, at the age of seventy-nine years and one month. Mrs. Smith was their only child.

The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Smith is Augusta, who was born in September, 1881. She is the wife of Charles F. Junod, member of an old and prominent family of LaGrange County. Mr. Junod was born in Van Buren Township, is a graduate of Knox College at Galesburg, Illinois, spent ten years or more with the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company at Milwaukee, part of the time being general agent for Nebraska, and in 1915 became connected with Kountze Brothers, bankers of national and international prominence at New York City. Mr. Junod is now vice president of the Atlantic National Bank of New York City. Mr. and Mrs. Junod have two sons, Charles Frederick, Jr., born April 10, 1911, and Robert Smith Junod, born August 25, 1913.

ROSS H. ABEL is the present trustee of Newville Township in DeKalb County. He is a man eminently qualified for the duties of this responsible office, to which is entrusted the management and welfare of the local schools and many other matters of direct concern to every resident of the township. Mr. Abel has been one of the prominent educators in Stark County for many years, has lived in the southern part of DeKalb County all his life, and is also identified with its rural interests as a farmer.

This is one of the oldest families of old Concord Township. His grandfather, George H. Abel, was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, February 21, 1808, the son of Damon and Sallie (Root) Abel. In 1828 he married Electa Hadsell, who was born in New York State. After his marriage he followed farming in Ohio until September, 1836, when he came to Indiana and entered 160 acres in Concord Township. He cleared up most of this land and lived an

active and useful life there until his death on May 10, 1874, being survived by his widow a number of years. They had a family of ten children, and several of the sons made honorable records as soldiers in the Union army.

Walter M. Abel, a son of George H. Abel, was born in Concord Township August 27, 1846, and served two years in the Civil war. Later he was at one time commander of his Grand Army Post, was a loyal republican in politics, and spent his business energies largely as a farmer. He died September 15, 1917. Walter Abel married Anna E. Nelson, who was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, March 30, 1853, came to DeKalb County when a girl, and is still living. She is a member of the Wesley Chapel of the Methodist Church. Walter Abel and wife had two children. The older is Lulu M., wife of Philip Carper of Jackson Township.

Ross H. Abel was born in Concord Township January 29, 1880, and lived at home attending district school at Spencerville and St. Joe, and afterward took normal and special courses in the Tri-State College at Angola and at Valparaiso. Mr. Abel has been a teacher in DeKalb County for eighteen years. He and his mother live together, and for a number of years he has had the practical operation of the ninety-five acres in the home farm. Mr. Abel was elected trustee of Newville Township November 5, 1918. He has been quite active as a republican.

GEORGE DAYTON SEARING, JR., in association with his father became a business man at Howe when he was hardly more than a boy in years, and has continued a useful service long furnished by members of his family in the undertaking and furniture business there. Mr. Searing has the distinction of having introduced the first motor hearse in LaGrange County, buying it and bringing it to his establishment at Howe June 5, 1916.

Mr. Searing was born at Lima, now known as the Town of Howe, October 12, 1879, a son of George D. and Sarah A. (Byram) Searing. His grandparents were Ichabod W. and Ruth (Upson) Searing, the former a native of New Jersey. From Mendon, New Jersey, the Searings came West and settled in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County in 1837. Ichabod Searing and wife had five children: Henrietta V., who is still living and makes her home with Mrs. Sarah Searing at Howe; Caroline, who was the wife of Joseph Upson; Mrs. Angeline Upson; Noah; and George D., Sr.

George D. Searing, Sr., was born in Greenfield Township March 31, 1847, spent his early life on a farm, and finished his education in the LaGrange County Collegiate Institute under Professor Patch. He was an early business man at the Village of Lima, where he opened a stock of furniture in the year 1870, and then engaged in the undertaking business, until his store was burned out, entailing a total loss. However, he continued in business and also did considerable writing of insurance. From 1880 until his death on August 8, 1914, he served continuously as a justice of the peace. He was a republican in politics, was affiliated with Howe Lodge of Masons and was a member of LaGrange Chapter of the Royal Arch. He was also a charter member of the Knights of Pythias at Howe. His widow, still living, is a member of the Methodist Church. They had two children, Anna R. and George D. The daughter is living at South Pasadena, California, widow of Henry A. Herman, who was killed at Long Beach, California, in December, 1917. Mr. and Mrs. Herman had three children: Dorothy, George and Margaret.

George D. Searing, Jr., graduated from the Lima High School in 1900. The following year he graduated from Clark's School of Embalming at Cincinnati, and had learned the undertaking business while working for his father as a boy. He was his father's partner from 1900 until 1914, and has since been active head of the business. For nineteen years he has held a position as notary public and he also carries on the insurance agency which his father established.

Mr. Searing is a republican, is a charter member of the Lodge of Masons at Howe and also a member of the Knights of Pythias. In November, 1907, he married Miss Marjorie Hoff. She was born in Kansas, a daughter of Enoch and Florence (Bartlett) Hoff, formerly of LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Searing have two children, Florence B., who was born November 28, 1908, and died in June, 1917, and Caroline A., born February 19, 1912.

ELI C. WALKER has been a prominent business man of Auburn for a number of years and consistent with his position in business is also the city's chief executive. His popularity in Auburn is very well shown by the result of his election to the position of city mayor. Although the opposing candidate was a prominent attorney and business man of wide experience, Mr. Walker received the largest number of votes ever cast for any candidate in this city. Assisted by a Council of excellent business men, Mayor Walker has given Auburn a splendid administration, of which the people are justly appreciative.

He was born in Stark County, Ohio, January 2, 1868, son of George W. and Caroline (Neidig) Walker. His father, who was born in Chester County, Pennsylvania, was two years old when his parents moved to Stark County, Ohio. He grew up there and was married to Caroline Neidig, who was born in that county. They lived on a farm in Stark County, Ohio, until 1880, when the Ohio property was sold and the family came to DeKalb County, Indiana, locating in Richland Township.

George W. Walker died there May 2, 1915, and his widow is still living. Both were members of the English Lutheran Church, and he was a veteran of the Civil war, having answered his country's call as a volunteer soldier. He was also a Master Mason and a republican in politics. Of a family of six children five are still living: Charles E. M., of Auburn; Maggie, wife of Frank Boren, of Richland Township; Jennie, wife of Bert Mochamer, of Auburn; Amelia, wife of Ezra Rohm, of Grant Township; and Eli C.

Eli C. Walker was twelve years old when brought to DeKalb County. He continued his education in the district school, also the Auburn High School and the Tri-State Normal at Angola. Many residents of this county remember gratefully his services as a teacher. He taught for fifteen years, eleven in the district schools and four years was head of the Corunna Graded School, which he organized.

He was married to Edith Chaney, who was born in Richland Township in this county. His wife possesses a marked religious character, which has been a determining factor in the lives of her husband and children, contributing not only to their happiness but also to any accomplishments to which they may have attained.

After his marriage he gave up school work and for a time was assistant cashier of the Thomas Exchange Bank at Corunna. In 1903 he moved to Auburn and became associated with the La Due & Carmer Company in the shipping business. While connected with this firm the family moved

to Fort Wayne, where they lived for three years. After returning to Auburn he and associates incorporated the J. M. Carmer Company, July 1, 1915. Soon after this Mr. Walker bought a controlling interest and continued to manage the corporation's affairs until he sold out May 14, 1919.

Mr. Walker has been quite active in politics and was elected mayor of Auburn in November, 1917, beginning his official term January 7, 1918. He is district steward of the First Methodist Episcopal Church of Auburn, and has served as superintendent of the Sunday school both here and at Trinity Methodist Episcopal Church, Fort Wayne. He has also served in many other lay capacities. Mr. Walker is a Scottish Rite Mason and a member of Mizpah Temple of the Mystic Shrine of Fort Wayne. He is also an Odd Fellow, and he and his wife are members of the Eastern Star at Auburn.

To his marriage were born three children: Victor O., who is a graduate of the Auburn High School and a Purdue University student, is employed as an engineer with the S. F. Bowser Company at Fort Wayne. He is married to Carrie Archer. Clement is a graduate of the Auburn High School and is still at home. He is associated with his father in the shipping business. Marie, the only daughter, died July 11, 1915, while a student in the Auburn High School.

JOHN M. CRAIN. It has been characteristic of the Crain family throughout their residence of more than three quarters of a century in Steuben County to be farmers, good citizens and people accustomed to assuming their share of all the responsibilities of community life. These characteristics belong to one of the younger generation, John M. Crain, who handles three separate farms and is one of the leading young stockmen and agriculturists of Pleasant Township.

His grandfather, Lucius Crain, first visited Steuben County from New York State in 1836, buying land in section 36 of Steuben Township. In September, 1837, he moved his family to this land, but the following year they returned to New York. He made permanent settlement in Steuben County in 1840, and lived here until his death on August 31, 1848. Lucius Crain married Paulina Frink.

One of their children was the late John M. Crain, Sr., who was born in New York State in 1834 and was a boy when the family came to Steuben County. He grew up in Otsego Township and later sold his place there and bought the farm where George Webb now lives, and finally the Pleasant Township farm where his widow resides. John M. Crain, Sr., died in 1891. He was a democrat in politics and his wife is a member of the United Brethren Church. John M. Crain married Rose Renner, who was born in Steuben County July 20, 1850, a daughter of John Renner, of another prominent family of the county. Mrs. John M. Crain had nine children: Irene, Paulina, deceased, Anna, Odesta, Ione, Beulah, Frances, John M. and Theodore.

John M. Crain, Jr., was born on the farm where his mother now lives in Pleasant Township on December 4, 1889. He grew up there, attended the public schools, and since early manhood has been successfully engaged in farming and stock raising. In 1915 he bought eighty acres in Pleasant Township. He also rents eighty acres of the Widow Moss of Angola, and has in addition the management of his mother's home farm. This gives him a large acreage, but he uses it profitably and efficiently and is one of the leading breeders in the



county of Belgian horses, Shorthorn cattle and Duroc Jersey hogs.

Mr. Crain is a republican. His wife is active in the Christian Church. He married in 1912 Frances Jones, of Steuben County. Their two children are: John, born March 17, 1913, and James, born May 30, 1917.

MRS. ELIZABETH CAMPBELL, of Perry Township, widow of the late Michael Campbell, is one of the interesting women of that section of Noble County, and has spent all of her long and useful life in one locality. The associations of her later years are bound up with those of her early childhood, as she has lived from birth on one farm, which incidentally is one of the oldest improved tracts of land in Perry Township.

Her late husband, Michael Campbell, was born near Lima, Ohio, January 8, 1849, and on leaving Ohio came to Indiana but soon went to Michigan, and about 1874 settled in Noble County, Ohio. On June 28, 1874, he married Miss Elizabeth Harper.

Mrs. Campbell was born March 19, 1850, and the house in which she now lives is truly a landmark of that country locality, since it was standing before she was born. She was a daughter of Solomon and Mary (Shobe) Harper. Her father, who was born in Fayette County, Ohio, November 7, 1809, was a son of Philip Harper. Solomon came to Noble County in November, 1831, when this section of Northern Indiana was a vast wilderness, and with only here and there scattered settlements. He entered land including the present homestead of Mrs. Campbell, and was a man of influence, of great business activity, and at one time owned 480 acres. His first home was a small log cabin, constructed in the midst of the woods. He lived in that locality for over forty years, passing away in 1873. His wife survived him until July, 1891. Solomon Harper was a democrat in politics. He and his wife had twelve children, only four of whom are now living: Z. E. Harper, of Perry Township; Harriet, wife of George Snyder, of Ohio; Mrs. Elizabeth Campbell; and Gideon, who lives in Ohio.

Elizabeth Harper grew up on the home farm and attended the nearby district schools. She is the mother of two children: Fannie, wife of William H. Smith, of Whitley County; and Homer, who is unmarried and lives at home with his mother. Mrs. Campbell owns eighty acres, and this land was part of the tract entered by her father eighty-five years ago, in 1834.

FRANKLIN J. MERRIMAN. When the history of the late war and the days immediately following it is written by the future generations a proper amount of credit is going to be accorded the efforts of the agriculturalists of this country, who through their willingness to work, their knowledge of their calling and their inherent patriotism made possible the relieving of the terrible famine conditions of Europe and the proper feeding of the people of their own land. Without the intelligent co-operation of these men the sacrifices of the soldiers might all be nullified, and therefore they will be accorded a very prominent place in the records of this marvelous epoch. Indiana is furnishing a number of such men, and one of them most certainly is Franklin J. Merriman of Steuben Township, Steuben County, a farmer by inheritance and preference.

Franklin J. Merriman was born in Scott Township, Steuben County, October 8, 1861, a son of Jerome Merriman and grandson of Rufus Merriman, one of the pioneers of Steuben County, who came here about 1835. He walked from Lima, Ohio, his sole possessions being an axe, an auger and a

gun, to Steuben County, and located on some land 1½ miles east of Angola, and clearing a small space on it erected a log shanty, which was in time replaced by a comfortable residence. On this property Rufus Merriman remained the rest of his life, and continued to farm. His wife bore the maiden name of Dolly Gale, and they had the following children: Henry, Loren, Jerome, Alvira and an infant daughter. The daughter Alvira married Franklin Cary.

Jerome Merriman was born in Pleasant Township, Steuben County, but became a farmer of Scott Township. When gold was discovered in California he was in the prime of life and excellent health, and made plans to take the trip across the plains, but the excitement probably brought about a condition that resulted in the development of tuberculosis, and he died of that malady in 1862. He was a man of many talents and was noted as a violinist. He was married to Laura Wickwire, a daughter of George W. Wickwire, and Franklin J. was their only son. Jerome Merriman was a Mason, and lived up to the highest conception of the ideals of that order.

After the death of his father Franklin J. Merriman was taken by his maternal grandfather, George W. Wickwire, with whom he lived until the latter's death in 1883, when Mr. Merriman went to Angola, and until the fall of 1913 carried on farming in its vicinity. He then moved on his present fine farm of 110 acres of land in Steuben Township, where he is engaged in general farming and stockraising, and has a good property, which he keeps in excellent order. His wife owns 120 acres of land in Oklahoma.

On July 3, 1895, Franklin J. Merriman was united in marriage with Ella Rowley, a daughter of James L. Rowley, and they became the parents of the following children: Jerome Rowley, who is one of the brave Steuben County soldiers, a member of the Nineteenth Observation Balloon Company; George Clem; and June Lois. Mr. Merriman belongs to the Knights of Pythias.

Mrs. Merriman is a granddaughter of Alva Rowley, who after some years spent in farming in Erie County, Pennsylvania, came west to Western Ohio, where he combined gunsmithing and shoemaking with farming. One of his sons, James L. Rowley, became the father of Mrs. Merriman, and he was born at Charlestown, Otsego County, New York, in 1818. His wife, Sabina (Miller) Rowley, was born in Cumberland County, Ohio, in 1836, a daughter of John and Rebecca (Carl) Miller. James L. Rowley attended the public schools of Erie County, Pennsylvania, and in young manhood came to Steuben County, Indiana, arriving here in 1836. After a couple of years spent at Angola he returned to Ohio, but in 1842 came back to Steuben County, and here rounded out his life. After his return he lived for a time at Angola, and then moved on a farm in Jackson Township. In the meanwhile he studied dentistry, and when he had perfected himself in that profession he went back to Angola, and was there engaged in an active practice for ten years. Owing to the partial failure of his eyesight he was obliged to abandon his practice, and so he went back to his farm of 141 acres, and there he died in 1898, his widow surviving him until 1913. Their children were as follows: Frank M., John J. and Ella, the latter being Mrs. Merriman.

Both the Merriman and Rowley families were established in Steuben County at a very early day, and their representatives have borne their part in the development of this region. They have been principally farmers, although a few have entered professional life, and many acres of valuable land

now being cultivated were cleared through their efforts. It is such families as these that make up the great backbone of Americanism, and during the late war proved their love of their country and the country of their forefathers by their activities in behalf of the Government and soldiers.

IRA B. WALB grew up in LaGrange county, spent his first years in railroad contracting work, but is now numbered among the very substantial and active business men of LaGrange, where he is treasurer and manager of the LaGrange Hardware Company.

He was brought to LaGrange County when an infant. His birth occurred at Grafton in Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, December 12, 1876, son of Reuben B. and Susanna (Norris) Walb. His father was a native of Berks County and his mother of Grafton, Pennsylvania. They were married in that state, where the father followed the teaming business for several years. They moved to LaGrange County, Indiana, in 1878, and located in Clay Township, where Reuben Walb bought the farm where he still lives. He has been a prosperous farmer there for over forty years, and has 160 acres under a perfect state of tillage and cultivation. He and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, and he is a republican. Their five children are all living: Ira B., being the oldest; Clyde A. is a well-known business man of LaGrange; Bertha P. is a graduate of high school and of a school in Chicago, and is now a deaconess at Chicago; Vera, wife of Irvin Cook, of LaGrange County; and Ray, a graduate of the LaGrange High School, and now managing the home farm.

Ira B. Walb was reared on his father's farm in LaGrange County and from the district school entered the LaGrange High School, of which he is a graduate. For a time he was a teacher and then went to work for the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad at Garrett, Indiana, and later as file clerk and assistant chief clerk in the general superintendent's office. He possessed too much initiative and enterprise to remain long under the confining discipline of a railroad office, and finally embarked his modest capital and experience and engaged in the dredging business in Arkansas and Missouri. He followed contracting work in those states for about five years. In 1914, returning to LaGrange County, he acquired a half interest in the LaGrange Hardware Company, and is now active manager and treasurer of the company. The firm does a large business, reaching out to all the communities of LaGrange County.

In 1912 Mr. Walb married Maude Self. They were married in the South, where her father is an extensive land owner, having about 1,500 acres. Mrs. Walb owns an interest in 100 acres in the South. They are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Mr. Walb is affiliated with the Lodge and Chapter of Masonry at LaGrange and in politics is a republican.

HARVEY WARREN CHASE MORLEY, editor of the Angola Herald since 1908, and founder and manager of the Farmers and Merchants Insurance Agency, Incorporated, at Angola, has had a much wider range of experience and service than falls to the lot of most men under forty-five.

He was born at Marshall, Michigan, February 26, 1876. His father, Jasper Morley, a son of Harvey Morley, before coming to Michigan lived at Wayland in Steuben County, New York, and during the Civil war was a member of the One Hundred and Eighty-Eighth New York Volunteers. The mother, Martha Lucelia Chase, was a daughter of Ira Warren Chase, also of Wayland, Steuben

County, New York, and a soldier of the Civil war, in which he saw service as a member of the One Hundred and Eighty-Ninth Volunteer Regiment. Through earlier ancestors she was eligible to membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Harvey Morley spent his boyhood days in a small village. He had good influences at home, but aside from the privilege of attending a district school in Ashland Township, Newaygo County, now Grant Postoffice, Michigan, the source of higher aspirations and larger benefits had to come from himself and his own efforts. At the age of fourteen years and four months he left home and went to Grand Rapids, Michigan. For a time he worked in the mailing rooms and carried morning papers for the Grand Rapids Herald. The editor of the Herald was William Alden Smith, now United States senator from Michigan. He also ran an elevator during the noon hour and from seven to eleven in the evening was elevator operator in the Hermitage Hotel. The manager of that hotel, John Moran, loaned him the money to attend the Grand Rapids Business College and obligingly waited for the last installment for several years. Thus young Morley was getting in touch with life, and particularly his early connection with the Grand Rapids Herald had a permanent influence on all his subsequent plans and endeavors.

In 1892 he went to Wayland, New York, the home of his ancestors, and lived with an uncle, working for his board. The winter of 1892-93 found him in San Francisco, working as office boy for his brother. He also spent a short time in the mailing room of the San Francisco Examiner. This was William Randolph Hearst's original newspaper. He also spent several months on the "Midway" at the California Midwinter Exposition, working with William N. Selig, then a magician, now the millionaire motion picture manufacturer. After a few months on the coast he was back at Grant, Michigan, but was soon on the road again, this time going to Fort Worth, Texas, where he sold tailor made clothing. Continuing his explorations of the Southwest, he reached the City of Mexico, and worked for a time on El Financiero Mexicana and the Mexican Herald. Mr. Morley went to Chicago in 1895, made a tour with his brother, demonstrating the then new X-ray machine, and after it burned, with the great Chicago Coliseum, where it was on exhibition, he returned to Michigan, worked on a farm at Bailey, and soon afterward became an employee of the Newaygo County Democrat at Newaygo. In October, 1898, he established the Independent at Grant, and conducted that and other Michigan newspapers for about ten years. He sold the Grant Independent in December, 1908, and then bought the Angola Herald.

The Angola Herald, established in January, 1876, has enjoyed a larger circulation, influence and greater prestige both as a newspaper and business proposition, it is generally conceded, during the eleven years under his ownership than at any other time in its history. As a newspaper man Mr. Morley has owned at various times, frequently two at a time, the Grant Independent, the Grant Herald, (consolidated with the Independent), the White Cloud Eagle and some years later the Star at White Cloud, which he sold for consolidation with the Eagle and the Newaygo County Democrat, these papers all in Michigan, and in Indiana the Albany Chronicle and the Ashley Times.

While at Grant, Michigan, Mr. Morley was in the insurance business, and soon after coming to Angola he resumed his relations with general insurance. In September, 1919, he brought about



the incorporation of the Farmers & Merchants Insurance Agency, with more than thirty of Angola's business men as officers and stockholders. The Agency now has the business of several former agencies consolidated, and is one of the most progressive concerns of its kind in Northeast Indiana.

Mr. Morley did some effective work as a civilian during the late war. He was chairman of the Steuben County War Chest, county chairman of the Four-Minute Men, county chairman of the Speakers Bureau in Liberty Loans, member of the executive committee of the Red Cross for Steuben County, member of the County Council of Defense, and in 1919 he succeeded Fred Snyder as county chairman of the War Savings Stamp Committee of Steuben County.

Mr. Morley is a sound democrat in his political views and affiliations, and is present democratic county chairman. He recalls with a good deal of satisfaction that the Village of Grant and the Township of Ashland, where he lived in Michigan, though normally republican two to one, gave him, as a democrat, good majorities several times for the offices of clerk and treasurer. In fraternal matters Mr. Morley confesses himself a "good 'jiner' but a poor lodge man." He is a member of the Odd Fellows, Elks, Knights of Pythias, Modern Woodmen of America and Red Men. Since its organization in 1914 he has been president of the Angola Rotary Club. Mrs. Morley and children are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

December 24, 1900, at Newaygo, Michigan, Mr. Morley married Edna Bonner Cox, daughter of Nichols and Eliza (Hartshorn) Cox, the latter a native of Findlay, Ohio. Her father came to America from England when a mere boy. Mrs. Morley was a teacher in the public schools of Newaygo County prior to her marriage. They have three children, Bayne Alvord, born April 24, 1903, Fred Warren, born June 14, 1906, and Esther Eliza, born March 20, 1911. The two older children are natives of Grant, Michigan, and the daughter, of Angola.

OSCAR H. TAYLOR. His long and active life Oscar H. Taylor has spent altogether in northeastern Indiana, where he has rendered service as a teacher and farmer, and for many years as a private banker at the Village of Hamilton.

Mr. Taylor was born in Franklin Township of DeKalb County, January 20, 1853, a son of John and Sarah A. (McEnterfer) Taylor. His parents were both natives of Stark County, Ohio, his father born in 1826 and his mother in 1832. John Taylor arrived in DeKalb County, Indiana, in 1846, with his parents, John and Elizabeth Taylor. The Taylor family bought 160 acres of wild land in Franklin Township, and in 1847 moved their home to this farm. The grandmother, Elizabeth Taylor, died there in 1863, and two years later John Taylor, Sr., went to eastern Iowa and later to Carroll County in the same state, where he died at the venerable age of eighty-seven. John Taylor, Jr., was twenty years old when he came to Indiana, and some years later he acquired eighty acres of the old homestead and also bought the interests of the other heirs in the remaining eighty. His individual labors largely contributed to the clearing of the land and he lived there, seeing his efforts prosper, until his death in 1902. His widow passed away in 1908. He was a republican without political aspirations, and his wife was a member of the United Brethren Church. Their children were: Oscar H.; Ellen, wife of John T. Wilcox,

of Edgerton, Ohio; and Ida M., wife of H. K. Leas, of Waterloo, Indiana.

Oscar H. Taylor spent his early life on the old homestead in Franklin Township. Partly by his own efforts he secured a good education, attending public and select schools, and later he entered the old Valparaiso Normal in the second year of its existence. He spent nearly three years in the normal, which is now the great Valparaiso University. He qualified as a teacher at the age of sixteen, and his first term was taught in the same school where he himself had been a pupil. Altogether he taught for eleven years, and in only four districts. He was also interested in farming, and in 1882 bought the Boyer farm in DeKalb County of 236 acres. He still owns that fine place, though for the past fifteen years his energies have been chiefly devoted to banking.

Mr. Taylor in 1905 bought the private bank of Oliver P. Learned at Hamilton. It is now known as the Hamilton Bank, but Mr. Taylor is its sole owner, his three sons having also been interested with him in its management.

Mr. Taylor is a republican, and during his residence in DeKalb County he filled the office of trustee of Franklin Township four years. He is a member of the Grange and his wife is a Methodist.

April 25, 1878, he married Miss Libbie Leas, a native of Steuben County and a daughter of John and Susan Leas. Her parents were early settlers in Steuben County, where her mother died in 1881 and her father in 1900. Mr. and Mrs. Taylor have three sons. John Leas, the oldest, was educated in the public schools of Franklin Township, DeKalb County, and at Valparaiso University, taking the full course in the department of business and commerce. He married Blanche Jacobs and has two sons, named Oscar A. and Willis H. Benna B. Taylor, who was educated similarly to his brother, married Edna M. Oberlin. They had one son, Harry P., who was killed in April, 1918, when five and a half years old. The third son, Russell H., graduated from the Hamilton High School and completed his educational training at Valparaiso University, and was a bookkeeper in his father's bank for about two years, when he joined the army and saw eight months of service in the ordnance department.

PERRY A. LONG. Some broad acres well cultivated constitute a fund of real prosperity in these modern times. One of the enviable men in this position in Noble County is Perry A. Long, who has the good fortune to live on a farm in Noble Township where he was born. This is situated in section 28, and during his own lifetime he has contributed much to its improvement and development as a high class twentieth century farm.

Mr. Long was born there August 9, 1867, son of Uriah and Lucinda (Zumbrun) Long, the former a native of Knox County and the latter of Montgomery County, Ohio. The Zumbrun and Long families moved from Ohio to Whitley County, Indiana, where Uriah and Lucinda grew up and were married. They then came to Noble County and settled in the midst of the woods in section 36 of Noble Township. Uriah was one of the industrious pioneers and in the course of years had the timber cleared away, the low ground ditched, and most of his acreage under thorough cultivation. He and his wife were members of the Church of the Brethren, and in politics he followed the republican party. There were nine children, the following of whom are still living: Jacob, of Fort Wayne; Perry A.; Julia, wife of Josiah Hazen; William, of Hillsdale

County, Michigan; and Sarah, wife of Judson Swihart, of Goshen, Indiana.

Perry A. Long as a boy attended district school, and learned in a practical manner the management of the farm, which he now owns. He completed his education in the college at Mount Morris, Illinois, and then returning home went to work on the farm.

August 19, 1892, he married Elnora Humbarger. She was born in Whitley County, Indiana. Since their marriage Mr. and Mrs. Long have lived at their present farm of eighty acres. He is also a stockholder in the Wolf Lake State Bank, is a republican; and with his family attends the Church of the Brethren.

He and his wife have six children: Herbert T., a graduate of the common schools, is married and lives in Whitley County; Elma, who finished her education in North Manchester College, lives at home; Domer, a graduate of the common schools; Martha, a high school graduate; and Hazel and Orville, both students of the common schools.

**JOSEPH J. CARPENTER.** The years 1917 and 1918 gave another red, white and blue flag to our country, and it is worthy to hang beside the Star Spangled Banner, for its service stars represent the spirit of this generation and the eagerness of our young men to offer their lives that liberty might continue. Proud indeed are the parents whose loyal young sons, utterly regardless of self, responded promptly to the call of their country and entered the service to fight during the struggle between democracy and autocracy. The Carpenter family of Steuben County sent three sons as volunteers in the great war, now ended, and their bravery is recorded on the pages of their country's history. These sons, Clair I., William B. and John W., are a credit to their parents, Joseph J. and Nellie J. (Barr) Carpenter, and Steuben County, as well as to the country which gave them birth.

Joseph J. Carpenter, their father, has been a resident of Steuben County, Indiana, since 1882, but he was born in Defiance County, Ohio, December 3, 1854, a son of John Carpenter, a grandson of Thomas Carpenter and a great-grandson of John Carpenter, the last named being a native of Virginia and the hero of an adventure with the Indians, the "Huns" of the American settlers of early days. While looking for his two horses wandering at will in the woods, John Carpenter was surprised by a band of Indians, who captured him and took him for a distance of 150 miles into the wilderness, across the Ohio River. While still several days' journey from the Indian village where it was proposed to offer him as a sacrifice, John Carpenter managed to escape, taking with him his two horses and the leather strap with which his hands had been bound the latter still being cherished as a valued heirloom of the Carpenter family. Making his way back through the dense forests, Mr. Carpenter reached the Ohio River just one-half mile from the point where the Indians had crossed with him a few days before, a somewhat remarkable feat, which showed that his knowledge of woodcraft was considerable. He was one of the pioneers of Marietta, Ohio, and it is supposed that his son, Thomas, born there in a rail pen, was the first white boy to come into the world on the north banks of the Ohio River. John Carpenter, the son of Thomas Carpenter and father of Joseph J. Carpenter, was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, and his wife, Sarah (Casey) Carpenter, was born in Jefferson County of the same state. After marriage they located in Defiance County, Ohio, and engaged in farming, and there he died in 1892 and she in 1904.

Their children were as follows: William, Hannah, Poe, Ellen, John, Donna, Joseph J. and Susan.

Following his marriage in 1882 Joseph J. Carpenter came to Steuben County, and for nine years thereafter he conducted a livery business at Pleasant Lake, but then sold it and in 1891 went back to Ohio. In the spring of 1897 he returned to Steuben County, and until February, 1908, was engaged in farming in Salem Township, but then sold his farm and went to Michigan, which state continued his home until December, 1909, when he moved to Virginia and made that his home for two years. Once more he made the change to Steuben County, and here he has since remained, being occupied with cultivating his forty-acre farm in Steuben Township, in section 22. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter have the following children: Claude L., Nina M. Clair I., William B. and John W. Mr. Carpenter is well known as a Mason and belongs to the local lodge of his order.

Clair I. Carpenter enlisted in the Canadian army as a No. 1 machine gunner, Fifty-Second Battalion, at Winnipeg, Canada, April 2, 1918, and sailed for England, landing at Liverpool. He was trained at Seaford, and took the six months' training for sniping and machine gun operation in four months, being sent to France July 10, 1918, with the rank of corporal. He went immediately into the line, and over the top on the morning of July 13, being in line service continuously until October 3, when he was wounded and gassed, with seventeen shrapnel wounds and burned with mustard gas, all at the same time, in the siege of Cambrai. The shell that wounded him killed five of his crew. Clair I. Carpenter is a well built, extremely intelligent young man, and has an enviable record as a soldier. In spite of his bravery, it is difficult to get him to talk about his achievements, but once his modesty is overcome he can relate his experiences very entertainingly, showing a grasp of conditions that is remarkable. He has some curious trophies taken from a German soldier whom he took prisoner. On December 2, 1918, he left the hospital, and he received his final discharge February 28, 1919.

William B. Carpenter enlisted in the Ninth Balloon Squadron, October 16, 1917, following which he was trained for two months at Fort Omaha, Nebraska, and four months at Newport News, Virginia, sailing from that port for France June 29, 1918, and arriving at Bordeaux, France, July 12, 1918. He had about three months' service at St. Mihiel and Argonne. Prior to his enlistment he was in Company B, Indiana National Guard, Infantry Division, and saw service on the Mexican border in 1916.

John W. Carpenter enlisted November 27, 1917, in the Aerial Squadron, following which he was trained for six months at the aviation field at San Antonio, Texas, and then transferred to the One Hundred and Fourth Engineers' Train. Upon his arrival in France he was put in a hospital for a few weeks, but is now a member of Company H, Fourth Engineers' Train, Fourth Division, Army of Occupation.

**CARL S. WILLARD**, assistant cashier of the LaGrange State Bank, is a lawyer by profession, and has been closely identified with the professional, public and business affairs of this county for a number of years.

He was born at Pleasant Lake, Steuben County, Indiana, February 15, 1877, son of Ransom J. and Susan (Horner) Willard, the former a native of New York State and the latter of Hancock County, Ohio. Ransom Willard came to Indiana when two



years old, and his wife came in early girlhood. After their marriage they settled near Hudson, Indiana, and two years later went to Kansas and on their return to Indiana settled at Pleasant Lake, where Ransom Willard was a builder and contractor. He also operated a chair factory at Pleasant Lake. He is still living at Ontario in LaGrange County. He saw eighteen months of active service as a Union soldier during the Civil war in the Seventy-Fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry. He has served as commander of his Grand Army Post and is a republican. He and his wife had three children: Ulysses, a graduate of high school and business college, now a bookkeeper for the State Bank of Lima, Indiana; Carl S.; and Lloyd E., agent for the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad at Nottawa, Michigan.

Carl S. Willard was seven years old when his parents moved to Ontario in LaGrange County, and he received his early training in public schools and later attended the LaGrange High School. For two years he was manager of the Home Telephone Company, and from 1911 to 1915 was County Auditor of LaGrange County. In the meantime he had diligently pursued the study of law and was admitted to the bar in 1915. He was associated with Sidney K. Gamard until the latter's death in November, 1916. After that he continued an individual practice until July 1, 1917, when he accepted his present post of responsibility as assistant cashier of the LaGrange State Bank.

In 1900 Mr. Willard married May E. Scott, who is a graduate of the Lima High School and for three terms was a popular teacher. They have five children: Ransom A., C. Dey, Joseph J., S. Louise and Pyllis M. The family are members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Willard is affiliated with Meridian Sun Lodge No. 76, Free and Accepted Masons, and is its present master and has filled that post for three years. He is also a Chapter and Council Mason and is past chancellor of the Knights of Pythias Lodge. In politics his affiliations are republican.

**DAVID M. LATT.** Members of the Latta family have been prominently identified with LaGrange County since pioneer days. A fine farm developed by them in the pioneer times is now owned and occupied by David M. Latta, located in Clay Township.

On this farm David M. Latta was born November 28, 1856. His grandparents were Ephraim and Diantha (McFadden) Latta, both natives of Pennsylvania. They migrated from Westmoreland County of that state about the year 1826 and located in Wayne County, Ohio. There he founded the town which he called Lattasburg, and their children there grew to manhood and womanhood. Their nine children were named William, Ephraim, David, Silas, John, Polly, Sarah, Mary and Tabor.

Silas Latta, father of David, was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, April 25, 1821, and it was when he was about five years of age that his parents migrated to Wayne County, Ohio. He grew to manhood there. In 1841 he was married to Sarah Franks, and in 1845, after a short sojourn in Ashland County, Ohio, they migrated to Clay Township, LaGrange County, Indiana. While living in a little log hut the first township election was held in their house, and in 1846 a few of the neighbors hired a teacher and a summer school was held in the barn on the place where they resided. December 9, 1847, they purchased title to their first actual home, the place of Levi Knott, which has remained in the family ever since. Silas Latta was a man of sterling worth to the public and held many prominent posi-

tions of trust and held an unexpired commission from Governor Ashbel P. Willard at the time of his death, March 2, 1860. His wife, Sarah Franks, was born October 9, 1821, in Bullrush Township, Hardy County, Virginia, and died May 12, 1906, at the advanced age of eighty-four years, seven months and three days. She was the sixth of twelve children. The first was born May 20, 1810; and the last one to pass away died May 21, 1910. Thus it will be seen the children lived 100 years and one day from the birth of the first to the death of the last. Her father, Isaac Franks, was born in Hampton County, Virginia, March 12, 1785, and died in his ninety-sixth year in DeKalb County, Indiana. Sarah (Harris) Franks, her mother, was born in Hardy County, Virginia, May 9, 1791, and died in her ninety-fifth year in LaGrange County, Indiana. Grandfather Franks was a veteran in the War of 1812. The Lattas annually hold a reunion in various parts of this and other states, with a membership of about 300. Mr. and Mrs. Silas Latta were among the founders of the Bethel Church of the Methodist Protestant denomination. Silas Latta and wife had eight children. Ephraim, the oldest, enlisted August 12, 1863, in the Seventh Indiana Cavalry, in Company H, served until mustered out at Austin, Texas, February 18, 1866, and died May 23, 1901; Isaac died December 22, 1913; Mary A. is the wife of Orlando Slack; Hannah is the wife of William Chrystler; John F. died April 12, 1912; William S. and David M. are both living; and Sarah Jane died May 6, 1912, the wife of Eugene Chrystler.

David M. Latta grew up on the home farm, attended the district schools, and for over forty years has been successfully farming the old homestead in Clay Township. He owns 115 acres, located in section 15, and for several years has divided the management of the farm with his son, who lives in a separate home nearby the old place.

March 27, 1889, Mr. Latta married Catherine A. Koontz, daughter of Harrison and Minerva Koontz. Their only child is Silas Harrison Latta, associated with his father in the management of the farm. Silas Harrison is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Shipshewana. He married Verna May Snyder, and they have two children, Catherine E. and Merna Ruth. Mr. David Latta and wife also reared from the age of two and a half years Nellie Harding.

**ROBERT G. RENNER**, a resident of Northeastern Indiana for over three quarters of a century, was a Union soldier in the Civil war, and two of his sturdy grandsons "went over the top" in the recent great World war. Mr. Renner has been a prominent citizen of the Hamilton community for many years, and is widely known as one of the pioneer prohibition advocates, having joined the party and having been closely affiliated with the cause for over thirty-five years, working in the interests of temperance when its advocates were subjected to a great deal of ridicule and violent opposition.

Mr. Renner was born at Lewisburg, Union County, Pennsylvania, July 25, 1839, a son of John and Julia (Bowersox) Renner. His father was born in Pennsylvania in 1803 and his mother in Germany in 1809. They were married in Pennsylvania and in 1843 came to Steuben County, Indiana, and settled in Otsego Township, in section 31. John Renner bought forty acres of land there, and with the exception of two years spent in DeKalb County he lived on the farm until his death in 1880. His wife died at the home of her son in Hamilton in 1892. John Renner was a democrat and a member of the Lutheran Church. They had



six children: James W., deceased; David H.; Robert G.; Margaret J., deceased; John P., of Angola; and Roseana.

Robert G. Renner was four years old when brought to the woods of Steuben County, and he grew up in a rather pioneer community, attending such district schools as were available and learning the lessons of industry on the home farm. He left home to join the Union army in October, 1862, enlisting in Company B of the Twenty-Ninth Indiana Infantry. He was in service until July 31, 1863. About a year after his release from the army he married, and six months later he took his bride to a farm in sections 29 and 30 in Otsego Township. He owned 105 acres there and improved it with good buildings and cultivated crops for twenty years or more. In 1882 he moved to the village of Hamilton in order to give his children better educational facilities. Since then he has owned much land in and adjoining that village, and still has six acres surrounding his home and nine acres just outside the village.

Mr. Renner was one of the two men in Steuben County who voted for the prohibition candidate, St. John, for president, thirty-five years ago. He has been a radical in that movement ever since, and no one has rejoiced more than he in the present nation-wide victory of temperance. He was affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

May 1, 1864, Mr. Renner married Miss Louisa Greenamyre. She was born near Wooster, Ohio, October 1, 1847, a daughter of Samuel and Caroline (Alberson) Greenamyre. In 1849 the Greenamyre family came to DeKalb County, Indiana, settling one mile west of Hudson. Her parents spent their last years at Butler, where her father died November 30, 1878, and her mother February 11, 1875. Mr. and Mrs. Renner have been married over fifty-five years and a number of their grandchildren are now mature men and women. Their oldest son, William, born February 5, 1865, is in the insurance business at Hamilton. He married Lucinda Lemen, and has four children, named Osyth, Harold, Gerhold and Grace. Samuel, who was born December 25, 1866, is a farmer in Michigan, married Catherine Brown, and they have a large family of children. Valma, Alma, Robert, Albert, Irma, Zoe, Helen, Charles and Roscoe, all still living except Charles. The sons Robert and Albert were both with the Expeditionary Forces in France and both were at the battle front and rendered active service, and Robert was a victim of a gas attack. John, the third son of Mr. and Mrs. Renner, lives at Hamilton and married Doll Bailey, but has no children. Effie, born December 13, 1872, is the wife of Will Helms, hotel proprietor at Hamilton. They have two children, Reba A. and Maurice. Charles, the youngest child, was born February 1, 1881, and married Anna Mortorff of Steuben County.

LOUIS EDWARD PENNER. Since he attained the years of discretion and manhood Louis Edward Penner has been devoted to the great and important business of farming. He owns a good farm in York Township of Steuben County, and is one of that locality's most substantial citizens.

He was born in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, December 5, 1870, but has spent all his life since early infancy in Indiana. His parents were Martin and Elizabeth (Drenning) Penner, both of whom are still living in Steuben County. Martin Penner was born in Maryland in 1837 and his wife in Bedford County, Pennsylvania, a daughter of John

Drenning. Martin Penner moved from Bedford County, where he was a farmer in 1872, to Steuben Township of Steuben County, and for many years was actively engaged in farming there. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church. Their children, nine in number, were Louis Edward, John, Kate, Clayton, Frank, Eula, Mabel, Clarence and Harry.

Louis Edward Penner acquired his early education in the district schools of Steuben Township and did his first independent farming in Jamestown Township. He sold his property there in 1911 and then bought ninety-six acres in sections 12 and 7 of York Township. For the past eight or nine years this farm has been the scene of his earnest activities and progressive labors as a farmer and stock-raiser. He has also acquired an adjoining twenty acres. Mr. Penner also follows the profession of auctioneer, and his services are in great demand in crying sales. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Fremont.

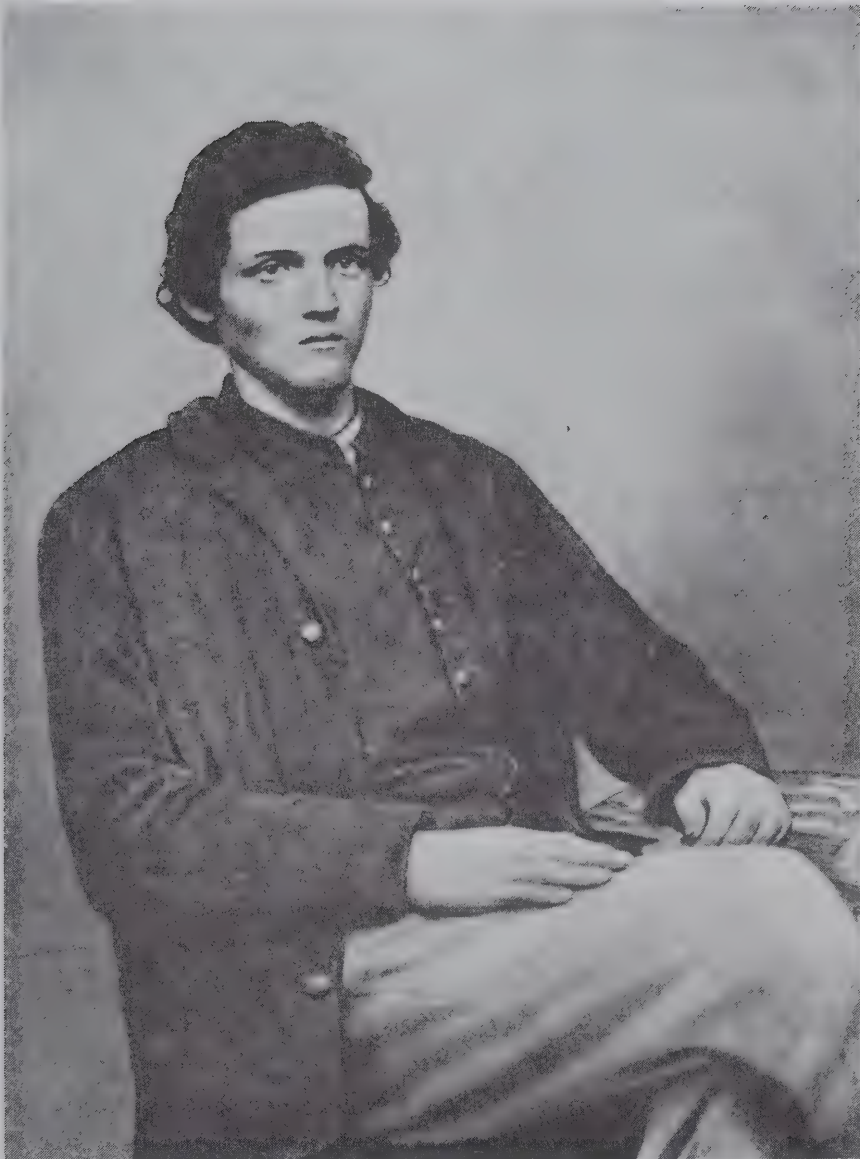
September 27, 1897, he married Miss Cora M. Warner, a daughter of George and Melissa Warner. They have five children, Wilbur, Frances, Roland, Clinton and Russell. The daughter Frances upon graduating from the eighth grade was awarded a gold medal for having the highest standing in her studies.

JOHN BARROWS. At a time when America is honoring its old soldiers with renewed affection and significance there is special appropriateness in the personal record of John Barrows, a veteran of the great Civil war who for over half a century since the termination of that trouble has been identified with the agricultural community of Steuben and LaGrange counties. But on account of physical disability he is now living retired in Millgrove Township, Steuben County.

Mr. Barrows was born in Vermont July 22, 1845, of old New England ancestors. His father, Brewster Barrows, was born March 15, 1805. On April 12, 1827, he married Rachel Barnard, who was born in Vermont August 28, 1806. Brewster Barrows, who was a son of Pero Barrows, came with his wife and seven children from Vermont in pioneer times. They had ten children at the time, but the three oldest daughters remained in the East and followed their parents several years later. Brewster Barrows settled in Millgrove Township, where he bought eighty acres of land, but about ten years later sold that place and moved to Greenfield Township in LaGrange County. He lived in Greenfield Township, where he owned 160 acres, until his death on November 17, 1882. His wife died September 9, 1874. The names of his children and the date of their births were: Hannah K., February 11, 1828; Mary J., January 5, 1830; Nathaniel, October 28, 1831; Harriet L., April 13, 1834; Martha L., June 6, 1836; Blake E., September 5, 1838; Angenette, January 27, 1841; Susan L., January 26, 1843; John B., July 22, 1845; and Amelia, April 11, 1848.

Mr. John Barrows was brought to Indiana when a small child, and he acquired some of his education at Orland but most of it in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County. He was four months past eighteen years of age when on November 22, 1863, he enlisted in Company C of the Twelfth Indiana Cavalry. He was with the army just two years to a day, receiving his honorable discharge on November 22, 1865. He went into the army about the time General Sherman was undertaking his great campaign around Chattanooga and Atlanta, and had the duty of acting as patrol, guarding Sherman's line of supplies from Nashville, Tennessee, to Huntsville, Ala-





*John Barrows*

Taken August, 1864, at Huntsville, Alabama





bama. His regiment patrolled all the country between Huntsville and Murfreesboro during the summer of 1864. Mr. Barrows was with his regiment in all its service until he was mustered out.

After the war he returned to Greenfield Township and devoted his time and energies to farming in this neighborhood until 1911, at which time, on account of physical disabilities, he retired to enjoy a well earned competence. Since then he has lived in Millgrove Township. He owns 252 acres, 160 acres in Greenfield Township which was his father's farm, and 92 acres in Millgrove Township adjoining it but just across the county line. Mr. Barrows is a member of the Grand Army Post at Angola.

On November 30, 1869, he married Maranda Gillmore. She was born November 1, 1850, daughter of Ambrose and Catherine (Khuns) Gillmore. To their union were born five children: William A., on November 11, 1870; George H., July 25, 1875; Effie, who was born December 7, 1880, and died December 18 of the same year; Harriett Pearl, born June 26, 1882, the wife of Benjamin Twichell; and Orley, born May 24, 1884.

**EARL TUTTLE.** While the call of the soil is recognized to be a powerful one, it is but seldom that it is strong enough to take a man from the triumphs of theatrical life, place him amid rural surroundings and keep him contented with his lot, still such things do take place, as is proven in the case of Earl Tuttle, now a prosperous farmer of Steuben Township, but formerly well known in the world of amusement. He is a native of his present township, having been born in section 28, Steuben Township, Steuben County, Indiana, November 8, 1866. Mr. Tuttle is a son of Chester V. and Tillie (Belles) Tuttle, and grandson of Lemmon Tuttle.

Lemmon Tuttle was born in New York State in 1813, and while still a boy was taken to Ohio by his parents. In 1838 he came to Indiana, and two years later settled in Steuben Township, Steuben County, where he entered fifty acres of Government land, to which he later added by purchase forty acres additional. At that time all of this land was in a wild condition, but, like the other pioneers of the region, he patiently went to work, broke the land, planted it, and continued to develop it as long as he lived. All of the buildings on the property were erected by him, and when he died in June, 1881, the farm was greatly enhanced in value. His wife, who bore the maiden name of Filora Gould, was born in Cayuga County New York, in 1818, a daughter of Kiah and Mehitabel (Sturges) Gould, and died December 25, 1880. Lemmon Tuttle and his wife had the following children: Lorana, Emeret, Chester V., Frank M., Alpha, Adesta, who died in 1880, and Sylvester, Arad and Byron, all of whom died in infancy. Lemmon Tuttle was an expert woodsman, and made his way on foot through the woods from Clyde, Ohio, to his destination in Indiana.

Chester V. Tuttle, son of Lemmon Tuttle and father of Earl Tuttle, was born in Steuben Township in July, 1847. In 1863 he enlisted in the Seventh Indiana Cavalry for service during the Civil war, and was assigned to the Department of the Mississippi, and participated in a number of the important battles of that front, proving himself a gallant and courageous soldier. At the close of the war Mr. Tuttle located at Pleasant Lake, Indiana, where he carried on a mercantile establishment for some years under the style of Chadwick & Company, and he also owned a fine farm of eighty acres of land in section 26, on which he resided, being one of the substantial men of Steuben Township.

His wife was born at Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and was a daughter of George and Caroline (Bridinger) Belles. Chester V. Tuttle and his wife had children as follows: Earl, Carl, Worthy and Harry. In 1888 Mr. Tuttle was elected treasurer of Steuben County, assuming the responsibilities of that office in 1889, and discharging them very capably for two terms. After the termination of his second term of office he retired to Pleasant Lake, where he resided until his death, which occurred December 7, 1902. His widow survives him and makes her home at Pleasant Lake. Mr. Tuttle was well known as a Mason and Odd Fellow.

Earl Tuttle attended the schools of Pleasant Lake, and from childhood exhibited such decided talent that he was encouraged to develop it, and when a young man he entered the amusement world as a member of the Holten show, playing baritone and violin. After one season with this organization he was with the Bentley show for two seasons, and then for the succeeding seasons traveled with the Bob Hunting circus. His next theatrical experience was secured with Josh Sprusbey's show, with which he traveled for three seasons. In 1901 Mr. Tuttle was married to Lula Cogswell, a daughter of George and Martha (Ritter) Cogswell, and settled on his present farm, and at the same time drove a mail route for one year. He then decided to give all of his time to the cultivation of his 135-acre farm, on which he carries on farming and stockraising, and his success has justified his choice, although those who realize his talents feel that his profession lost a valuable member when he returned to his inherited calling. Mr. and Mrs. Tuttle have two children, Sol A. and Chester. Mr. Tuttle is an Odd Fellow by inheritance and preference. From 1914 to 1919 he served very faithfully as assessor of Steuben Township, and deserves his standing as one of the capable and representative men of his native county.

**MATHEW C. HILTERBRANT.** While his neighbors in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County have known him for a number of years as a substantial and successful farmer and public spirited citizen, Mathew C. Hilderbrant as a matter of fact had many struggles and adversities to contend with as a youth.

He was born in Ashland County, Ohio, November 3, 1859, a son of Isaac and Lucinda (Critchet) Hilterbrant. His mother was born in Lucas County, Ohio, and died when only thirty-seven years of age. The father was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, in 1819, and as a boy of fifteen drove from Eastern Pennsylvania over the mountains to Ashland County, Ohio. He grew up there in the home of his parents, and remained a resident of Ohio until 1878.

On October 23, 1878, Isaac Hilterbrant, his wife having died in Ohio, arrived in LaGrange County, Indiana. All his children, nine in number, were born in Ohio. Four died in infancy and the others are: Mary, Mrs. Albert Stauffer, of New London, Ohio; Alma, Mrs. Will McConnell, of Detroit, Michigan; Frank, who when last heard from was in Escanaba, Michigan; Mathew C.; and Maggie, Mrs. Cornelius Andress, of Columbus, Ohio.

Mathew C. Hilterbrant was about eighteen years old when he came with his father to LaGrange County. He had in the meantime acquired a fair education in the common schools of his native state. His father located a part of the land now owned by his son, having twenty acres. The father and son came here with little capital, and they were greatly handicapped in the work of clearing the land and making a farm by reason of the absence of a woman

in the home. They did the housework and cooked their own meals in addition to clearing away the timber and brush and raising crops. There was considerable reward for their labors before the father died. He was a Lutheran in religious affiliations.

Mathew C. Hilterbrant remained on the home farm until his father's death and has since increased his holdings to 130 acres and has a complete group of modern farm buildings. For the past fifteen years he has done much in the way of live stock breeding and keeps full-blood Duroc Jersey hogs. Mr. Hilterbrant also engaged in the general lumber business in 1881, and for fourteen years he sawed, bought and sold lumber in Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan, though always keeping his home on the farm.

In 1885 he married Miss Mary L. Royer, who was born in LaGrange County, a daughter of Joseph Royer. To their marriage were born three children: Ralph B., who conducts a news stand at LaGrange; Mabel, who is Mrs. Hoyt Fuller and lives on the farm with her father; Madge, wife of Aaron Marker, a farmer of Bloomfield Township. Mr. Hilterbrant is a member of the Calvary Evangelical Church, and for many years has been affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

AMOS J. HOSTETLER, M. D. One of the most skillful physicians and surgeons of LaGrange County is Dr. Amos J. Hostetler, who has been in practice here for nearly twenty years. He has a large professional business in and around LaGrange and has also exerted himself as a citizen, particularly in auxiliary activities during the war.

He represents a very old American family. He is descended from Jacob Hostetler, who was born in 1704 and died in 1776. Jacob married a Miss Lorentz. Their son, John Hostetler, came to America at the age of three years, settling in Pennsylvania, where the families lived for many generations. John married Catherine Hetzler. In the next generation was a son also named John, who was born in 1752, near Hamburg, Pennsylvania, and married Barbara Miller. John Hostetler, third of the name, was born June 23, 1782, and died March 2, 1856. He married Magdalena Lehman, born October 18, 1787.

Moses J. Hostetler, grandfather of Doctor Hostetler, was born June 9, 1812, and died April 17, 1894. He married Elizabeth Mast, who was born May 1, 1822, and died August 9, 1889.

Moses M. Hostetler, father of the doctor, was born March 21, 1844, and died January 29, 1903. He married Mary Ann Mehl. During the father's lifetime the family lived in Holmes County, Ohio, and from there came to LaGrange County, Indiana, locating on a farm at Emmatown.

Dr. Hostetler was born in LaGrange County, May 2, 1867, and acquired his early education in the public schools, and he taught public school for six years. Later he took his medical course in Wooster University medical department, at Cleveland, Ohio, and in 1893 he graduated from the Indiana University medical department at Indianapolis, Indiana. Later he took post-graduate work in the Post Graduate School of Medicine in New York City, and for one term was an interne in an Indianapolis hospital. For twelve years he practiced at Shipshewana in LaGrange County, and has had a busy and successful career in the City of LaGrange since 1906.

June 30, 1888, he married Ella May Smith. Their only child, Mae, was born May 29, 1889, and died in infancy. Dr. and Mrs. Hostetler have taken two children to rear in their home. One is Alta Seybert, who after graduating from high school was a teach-

er and is now the wife of Ort Seigler. The second adopted daughter is Lucile Hostetler, a daughter of Doctor Hostetler's brother Milo. She is now a senior in the LaGrange High School.

Doctor Hostetler is a member of the official board of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a director in the State Bank of LaGrange and is affiliated with the Lodge, Chapter and Council of Masons, the Knights of Pythias, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Knights of the Maccabees and Woodmen of the World. In politics he is a republican. He has prospered in his profession and owns considerable real estate, including the building where he has his offices.

During the war Doctor Hostetler was chairman of the Advisory Board, also chairman of the Civilian Relief Committee, and a member of the LaGrange County Chapter of the American Red Cross. He is secretary of the LaGrange County Medical Society.

JOHN R. THOMPSON has spent his life close to the state line between Indiana and Michigan, and his grandfather settled in Steuben County more than half a century ago. His own career has been chiefly identified with banking, and he was one of the organizers and is now cashier of the First National Bank of Fremont.

He was born in Branch County, Michigan, December 19, 1889, a son of Alexander and Alice (Ellis) Thompson. His grandparents were William and Harriet (Ferguson) Thompson, who came from Ohio to Indiana in 1863. William Thompson died in 1890, at the age of eighty-one, and his wife in 1900. Their family consisted of Alexander, Mary, Hattie and John F. Alexander Thompson was born in Ohio in 1847, and was sixteen years old when brought to Steuben County. In 1865 he joined a company of Union soldiers and served until the close of the struggle. After the war he returned to Steuben County and married in Michigan Miss Alice Ellis, who was born in that state in 1858. He then settled on a farm near Ray, Indiana, and now lives on the farm his father selected in 1863. He is a republican and served as justice of the peace, and was formerly a member of the Presbyterian Church but is now affiliated with the Methodist denomination. He and his wife had six children: Effie, deceased; Madge; Irene; Ross A.; John R.; and Kenneth, deceased.

John R. Thompson was reared at the Village of Ray, attended public schools there, the Tri-State Normal College at Angola and acquired his early banking experience as assistant cashier in the Bank of Ray. He was there four years, and coming to Fremont he helped organize the First State Bank, and was its first cashier. Three years later he assisted in organizing the First National Bank of Fremont, in 1915, and has since been its cashier, and in that office has been mainly responsible for the growth and prosperity of this institution.

Mr. Thompson is a republican and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Fremont. September 5, 1917, he married Miss Ruth Vana-man, of DeKalb County. Their one son is named John R., Jr., and was born July 21, 1918.

EDWARD M. GEORGE, serving his second term as county assessor of Steuben County, has for many years been busied with farming and public affairs, and his record is one that appropriately belongs in this history of Northeast Indiana.

Mr. George was born in Steuben Township, three miles west of Pleasant Lake, September 20, 1862, only child of Sylvenus and Martha (Harpham) George. His paternal grandfather, Jerry George,



was a native of Ohio and settled in Steuben Township about 1852. He died in 1897, the father of a large family.

Sylvenus George, who was born in Ohio, grew up in Steuben Township and from early life was a farmer. He died in 1863, a few months after the birth of his only child, Edward. His wife, Martha Harpham, was born in Steuben Township, a daughter of John and Margaret (Gillanders) Harpham. John Harpham was born in Lincolnshire, England, in 1810, and came to the United States at the age of twenty-six. He married at Rochester, New York, in 1843, Margaret Gillanders, who was born in the north of Ireland in 1821 and came to the United States in 1841. The year of his marriage, John Harpham moved to Steuben County, locating in section 17 of Steuben Township. He acquired 110 acres and made one of the best farms of that locality. He had come west by steamboat as far as Cleveland and then made the rest of his journey to Steuben County by stage coach. John Harpham lived to a ripe old age. His children, seven in number, were Martha, Joseph, John, Mary Jane (who died in childhood), Samuel, Anna and George.

Mrs. Sylvenus George, after the death of her first husband, became the wife of Lewis Fifer. She died in October, 1910, the mother of five children by her second marriage: Elva, Lenora, John, Orlando and Jessie.

Edward M. George acquired his early education in the district schools of Steuben Township, attended high school at Angola, then taught school one year, and has made farming a source of his prosperity and his chief business since early manhood. He was a farmer in Otsego Township for several years, in 1895 moved to Steuben Township, 2½ miles southeast of Pleasant Lake, and in 1899 moved to his present place of 115 acres in section 7 of the same township. He also owns a farm of eighty acres in section 1 of Salem Township. He moved to Pleasant Lake in the fall of 1919, where he owns property.

July 3, 1884, Mr. George married Emma Avery, daughter of Jesse W. and Eliza (Shumaker) Avery, member of a well known family of Steuben County, one member of which is Seth S. Avery. Mr. and Mrs. George have two children. Dessie Dale married Leo Koons and has two children, Georgia and Virginia. Elsie May is the wife of Robert Slick, and their children are Clair, Louis and Dorothy.

Mr. George is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at Angola, also the Rebekahs, the Masonic Chapter at Angola, the Lodge of Moose and the Gleaners at Pleasant Lake.

His experience as a public official began as assessor of Steuben Township, an office which he filled faithfully for six years. In 1914 he was chosen county assessor, and his first term deserved his re-election, which came in 1918.

**WILLIAM H. FREED.** Members of the Freed family came from Ohio to Northeast Indiana at the beginning of the Civil war, and have been among the progressive citizens and farmers of Steuben County. William H. Freed has been a hard working and industrious farmer in Steuben Township the greater part of his life.

He was born in that township July 22, 1861, a son of Anthony and Elizabeth (Bender) Freed and a grandson of Peter Freed. His grandfather was born in Pennsylvania and his father in Stark County, Ohio. Anthony Freed came to Steuben County early in 1861, a few months before the birth of his son, and bought the farm that his son Joseph now occupies. He cleared up a large part of the land, owned 130 acres, and died there in 1882. His widow

survived until 1905. They were members of the Mennonite Church. Their children were eleven in number, named Peter, Nancy, Adaline, Angeline, William H., Daniel (who died in childhood), Lauretta, John, David, May and Joseph.

William H. Freed acquired his early education in the public schools of Steuben Township and then worked on the home farm until he was past his majority. In 1884 he married Della Sunday, daughter of Andrew and Mary Sunday, of a family whose record in Steuben County is elsewhere recorded.

After his marriage Mr. Freed bought the twenty acres adjoining the old homestead and has since added forty acres, and for twenty years has worked hard to cultivate and improve the land and has put up all the buildings. He is a member of the United Brethren Church.

Mr. Freed and wife have four children: Nellie, Harold, Ralph and Lucile. Harold married Arlie Lininger. Nellie's first husband was Lewis Frederick, and by that marriage she had two children, Opal and Aline. After the death of Mr. Frederick she became the wife of Earl Sams, and has one daughter, Ida.

**FRED W. HARRIS** was born in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County November 8, 1866. He grew up there to years of manhood, and after nearly a quarter of a century of successful homesteading and other business activities in the State of Nebraska he returned to his native county to renew his associations with the old community. For the past ten years he has owned a substantial farm property in Lima Township, and is well satisfied to regard Northeast Indiana as his permanent home.

Both his parents and all his ancestors lived in England for generations. His father was Thomas Harris and his grandfather, William Harris. William Harris and wife spent all their lives in England. Thomas Harris married Anna Wheeler, whose father, Henry Wheeler, came to America at the same time with Thomas and Anna Harris and is remembered by some of the old settlers of LaGrange County, where he had a farm of forty acres in Greenfield Township. He was a blacksmith by trade and conducted a shop on his farm.

Thomas Harris and wife were married in England and came to America in August, 1866, going direct to the vicinity of Brighton in LaGrange County. Thomas Harris was first employed on the farm of William Anderson. He had become versed in the various arts of farming and animal husbandry in England, and was especially skillful in the shearing of sheep. He had won several prizes in competition in his native country. As LaGrange County fifty years ago was the center for a considerable sheep industry, he had abundant opportunity to practice his art there. For twenty-five years he rented the Crandall farm in Greenfield Township and also farmed other land nearby. Thomas Harris and wife finally left LaGrange County and joined their children in Nebraska, where he died in 1916 and his wife in 1918. They had five children, all still living, named: J. Sidney, Fred W., Lula, Charles and Frank, the last two twins. The first two are residents of LaGrange County, while the others are in Nebraska.

Fred W. Harris acquired his early education in LaGrange County. He was twenty-one years of age when he and his brother Sidney started for Nebraska. They identified themselves with a comparatively pioneer community at Ansley in Custer County. He took up a homestead of 160 acres on the prairie, proved up and developed that as a farm and made it his home for twenty-two years. Eventually he had 240 acres. His brother Charles afterward joined him, as did also their father, and the

three of them together owned 720 acres in one body. Their improvements were high class and in later years they did an extensive business raising and feeding stock.

Mr. Harris, though absorbed in his business in Nebraska, kept in touch with his home community back in LaGrange and in 1892 returned to Indiana and in February married Miss Kate Fair. She was born in Bloomfield Township, daughter of Noah Fair, member of one of the best known families of the county. Mr. Harris took his bride back to the farm in Nebraska. In 1894 he and his wife and son returned to visit Indiana, and chose the old fashioned prairie schooner as their means of return rather than a railroad journey. They drove all the way to Indiana, and in 1895 they went back to Nebraska in the same vehicle, taking along Mr. Harris' parents. Mr. Harris remained in Nebraska until 1910, when he sold out his property there and bought the 160 acre farm in Lima Township where he lives today. While in Nebraska he held offices in his school district and as road supervisor, and has been a road official in LaGrange County. He still retains his affiliation with the Modern Woodmen of America at Ansley, Nebraska.

Mr. and Mrs. Harris have four children: Walter T., Lulu M., Sidney H. and Ruby M., all in the home circle. The son Walter was a soldier during the World war.

JOHN HEATON RERICK was born near Dayton, Tippecanoe County, Indiana, February 4, 1830, at the farm home of his parents, Henry and Juliana Rerick. Henry Rerick was a native of Cayuga County, New York, and pioneering later into Indiana, was married in Tippecanoe County to the daughter of Isaac Lamb, who became one of the pioneers of Saint Joseph County, whither Henry Rerick and his family followed in 1835 and made their home on Sumption's Prairie. Henry Rerick was the son of John Rerick, born in New York State in 1783, and who died in the United States service at Fort Niagara in the War of 1812. John Rerick was the son of Henry Rerick, of American birth and English descent, born in New York State in 1737.

John H. Rerick was reared in the pioneer clearings. He taught school in Saint Joseph and Elkhart counties after he was fifteen years of age. He studied at South Bend in preparation for the medical profession and entered the class of 1853 in the medical department of the University of Michigan. In the year of his graduation he was married to Elizabeth Green. He began his practice at Fort Wayne in 1854, the year of the cholera epidemic. A son, Louis, was born to him there, but both mother and child died within the year. Leaving Fort Wayne, he began the practice at Elkhart and was married there, May 1, 1856, to Marianne, daughter of Rowland and Elizabeth (Defrees) Devor. In the fall of 1859, Doctor Rerick and his wife and eldest child located at LaGrange, their home thereafter. In 1860 he became associated with Howard M. Betts in the drug business in addition to his practice.

He was one of the four delegates of Allen County to the anti-Nebraska convention at Albion which nominated Samuel Brenton for Congress in the old Tenth District, and he was one of the organizers of the republican party which followed, and aided in the election of Abraham Lincoln. When Lincoln called for troops Doctor Rerick drew up the first enlistment paper in LaGrange County. He enlisted and drilled with the Dawson Company, Thirtieth Regiment, and was commissioned by Governor Morton as assistant surgeon of the Forty-Fourth Regiment. At camp in Fort Wayne he examined all the men for enlistment in that regiment. He was with

the regiment throughout the war and was promoted to surgeon, with the rank of major, and for some time was brigade surgeon. He rendered distinguished service on the field in the great battles of Shiloh, Stone River and Chickamauga. At Stone River he worked on the field under fire until overcome with exhaustion, and the effects of this caused him great suffering during the remainder of his life. His name is mentioned in the roll of honor of the battle of Chickamauga. After a service of over four years Doctor Rerick returned to LaGrange and resumed his practice, but his health was broken. In 1857 he bought the LaGrange Standard, which, except for an interval, 1869 to 1872, he continued to own until his death. He was nominated for county clerk by the republicans in 1868 and was elected and reelected in 1872. During the Harrison administration he was postmaster at LaGrange.

He was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church from boyhood and active in Sunday school work. He was a pioneer in the anti-saloon movement, and active in every phase of that reform. He made many addresses in this and adjoining counties on various community topics. He was one of the founders of the Northern Indiana Editorial Association. He compiled and published rosters of the soldiers of the county and saw to it that stones were provided for the graves of the dead. In 1880 he published a history of the Forty-Fourth Regiment. From 1882 to 1887 he was the partner of J. S. Conlogue in the ownership of the Kendallville Standard. He was one of the founders and president of Island Park Assembly in the years of its fame. After many years of usefulness Doctor Rerick passed away January 21, 1911. He was survived until the next year by his wife and their three sons, Rowland Henry, John Defrees and Carl Hubert, are still living.

FRANK W. BAKER, a farmer in comfortable circumstances near Angola in Pleasant Township, represents a family that has been identified with Northeast Indiana since about 1850, most of the time in Steuben County.

Mr. Frank W. Baker was born in Pleasant Township February 16, 1866, a son of Edward and Susan (Sandall) Baker. His parents were both natives of England, his father born in 1821 and his mother September 24, 1826. They were married January 21, 1847, and the first two of their children were born in England. April 11, 1850, they took passage at an English port and on the 14th of May arrived in New York City. Their first settlement was in LaGrange County, Indiana, and they had their home at Appelmanburg about eight years. Edward Baker then bought a farm from Philo Nichols in Jackson Township, near Otter Lake, later sold that and in 1865 moved to Pleasant Township of Steuben County. Here he bought eighty acres, cleared it up and for a time his family lived in a log house. Edward Baker spent his life usefully and honorably, and died with the respect of a large community in 1909. His wife passed away May 4, 1899. He was a republican voter, remained true to the faith of the Church of England, while his wife became affiliated with the Christian Church at Angola. They had seven children: Mary Jemimah; Mary Ann, who died in La Grange County at the age of four years; Susie, widow of Chester Crain, of Steuben County; Naomi, wife of James North, of LaGrange County; Mary, widow of Alexander Halstead; Edward James, of Jackson Township in Steuben County; and Frank W.

Frank W. Baker grew up on his father's farm in Steuben County, acquired a good education in



the local schools, and on reaching manhood, having no capital and no land of his own, he went to work as a farm hand. His first purchase of land was fifteen acres. Later he bought forty acres in Jackson Township, and successive years have brought him a slowly accumulating prosperity. In 1906 he acquired seventy-two acres two miles west of Angola, where he lives today. This farm was formerly owned by his wife's father, Jacob Wolf. Mr. Baker is doing a good business as a general farmer and stock raiser. He is a republican in politics and attends the Christian Church. He is affiliated with the Odd Fellows Lodge at Angola.

July 3, 1892, Mr. Baker married Miss Loma Wolf. She was born in Steuben County January 9, 1870, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth (Menges) Wolf. Her parents were both born in Ohio, and were married in 1866, after they came to Steuben County. They settled in York Township, where Jacob Wolf had eighty acres, and on selling this property moved to Kansas and spent six years in the Sunflower state. Returning to Steuben County, he located in Steuben Township, rented a farm for a time, and then bought the farm in Pleasant Township. Mrs. Baker's mother died in 1906, at the age of sixty-four, and her father is now eighty-three years of age. In the Wolf family were four children: Cora A., wife of Peter Crowl; Mrs. Baker; Alice, who died in 1894; and Peter, living in Michigan.

Mr. and Mrs. Baker have four accomplished daughters. Blanche L., the oldest, born October 4, 1894, is a graduate of high school and the Tri-State Normal College, had a teacher's license for three years and taught school, and is now the wife of Ray D. Hosack. Lola Alice, born September 9, 1897, also took the high school and Tri-State Normal courses. Cora Gladys, born July 18, 1902, is a student in the Angola High School, as is also the youngest daughter, Mildred Berdina, who was born March 10, 1904.

**LEWIS RITTER.** In several localities of Steuben County the name Ritter has been impressed by many years of residence, active participation in community effort and the improvement of land and homes.

One of the old Ritter farms is in Steuben Township, now occupied by Lewis Ritter, who was born on the farm April 22, 1880. He is a son of Jacob and Mary (Lucas) Ritter and a grandson of Joseph and Eva Ritter. Joseph Ritter came to Steuben County from Ohio at an early day. He and his wife, Eva, had nine children: Andrew, Corleus, Thomas, Hiram, Jacob, Maria (who died in childhood), Della, Ellen and Nettie. After the death of his first wife Joseph Ritter married Mrs. Welthy Lucas, and by that union had one child, George.

Jacob Ritter, who was born in Ohio March 20, 1855, married Mary Lucas, who was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, January 19, 1858, a daughter of Samuel and Welthy Lucas. Jacob Ritter when a young man began farming the old homestead where his son Lewis now lives, and was busily engaged with his work there until 1906, when he and his wife moved to Angola and are now retired residents of that city. They are members of the Methodist Church. They have two children, Lewis and Gary. Gary married Byrd Erwin, and their family consists of Garold, Velma and Virginia.

Lewis Ritter acquired his early education in the schools of Steuben Township and when a young man farmed for two years near Fox Lake, lived in Angola a year and a half, and in March, 1907, succeeded his father as manager of the old homestead. He rents the place of 120 acres and is rap-

idly making his way to independence and prosperity as a farmer and stockman.

December 14, 1901, Mr. Ritter married Maude Erwin, a daughter of Edward and Eliza (McIntiver) Erwin. They have two children, Marcellus and Irene. Mr. Ritter and wife attend the United Brethren Church.

**CAPT. LAWRENCE GATES,** an honored veteran of the Civil war and one of the organizers of the First National Bank of Angola, was born in Germany April 25, 1839, and received his early education there and then came to America. He arrived at Angola in 1853 and had some further education in the schools at Nevada Mills in Steuben County. He worked as a clerk in Angola until 1862, when he volunteered in Company H of the Seventy-Fourth Indiana Infantry. For his meritorious service he was promoted to first lieutenant and later to captain, and served until May 15, 1865. He was in the battles of Chickamauga, Missionary Ridge and in the Atlanta campaign. Two weeks after the fall of Atlanta he lost a leg during a railroad wreck. After the war Captain Gates engaged in the dry goods business at Angola, and was one of the local business men who organized the First National Bank. He held the post of director as long as he was content to serve. In recent years he has busied himself with a fire insurance agency. He is a Republican and cast a vote in 1860 for Abraham Lincoln and Oliver Morton. He was first city clerk of Angola after the incorporation of the town. He is a past grand patriarch of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and he and his family are members of the Christian Church.

In 1865 he married Miss Martha Sowle, of Steuben County. She died in 1868. On March 28, 1869, he married Miss Tina M. Elya, who was born in Steuben County in 1849. They have four children, three of whom are living at Cleveland and all are married. Their names are Milla, Fred C., Harry L. and Louis A. Milla is the wife of Dr. W. H. Lane, who served in the Medical Corps with the rank of captain in France.

**LLYOLL E. ALSPAUGH.** Members of three generations of the Alspaugh family have been factors in the life and affairs of LaGrange County for over fifty years. Llyoll E. Alspaugh owns one of the good farm homes of Greenfield Township and has spent practically all his life in that township.

He was born there August 6, 1873, a son of Peter and Martha J. (Swihart) Alspaugh, both natives of Ohio, and a grandson of Philip and Mary Ann Alspaugh. His grandparents were born in Pennsylvania, lived in Southern Ohio for some years, and in the fall of 1854 settled on a farm in Johnson Township, LaGrange County, south of Valentine. This farm is now the Charles Wolf farm. Philip Alspaugh cleared up and improved that place and lived there until his death in August, 1880. His widow survived him to a ripe old age and died at the home of her son Peter. Peter Alspaugh was one of six children, Matilda, Catherine, Reuben, Peter, Edward and Oliver, all now deceased. Reuben lost his life while a Union soldier in the Civil war. Peter Alspaugh was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, April 21, 1841, and was thirteen years of age when he came to LaGrange County. He had a common school education, and at the age of twenty, on October 14, 1861, he enlisted in Company H of the 44th Indiana Infantry. He was a participant in the battles of Fort Donelson, Pittsburg Landing, siege of Corinth, Perryville and Stone River. At Stone River, also known as Murfreesboro, he was wounded in the leg on Decem-

ber 31, 1862, and was granted his honorable discharge September 9, 1863. On November 11, 1866, he married Miss Martha J. Swihart, daughter of Daniel and Sarah Swihart, whose connection with LaGrange County has been noted at length on other pages. In 1868 Peter Alspaugh bought eighty acres in Greenfield Township. He had previously lived on a rented farm on Pretty Prairie. He increased his farm to 150 acres, and improved it with good buildings. He died March 25, 1913, at the age of seventy-four. His first wife died February 3, 1881, aged thirty-five. She was an active member of the Methodist Church. Their two children were Luila, who was born February 6, 1869, and died in May, 1888, and Llyoll. In 1883 Peter Alspaugh married Phoebe E. Hand.

Llyoll E. Alspaugh attended school in the country districts and also at Howe, and lived at home with his father until he was twenty-eight years of age. He came to his present farm in the fall of 1901, and owns a hundred eighty acres devoted to farming and stock raising. He has done much to improve the property, increase the fertility of the soil, and the farm has probably doubled in value under his ownership.

Mr. Alspaugh and family are members of the Progressive Brethren Church. He married, September 17, 1901, Miss Lena Sigrist, a native of LaGrange County and a daughter of A. H. Sigrist. Mr. Alspaugh's father helped organize the creamery at Howe and Mr. Alspaugh is still interested in that local industry and is also a stockholder in the Pretty Prairie Telephone Company. He has the old Bible of the Alspaugh family, dated 1649.

CHARLES H. SHEETS, one of the progressive men of Steuben County, divides his time between farming and acting as agent for the Standard Oil Company at Angola, maintaining his residence in this city. He was born at Millersburg, Monroe County, Ohio, March 27, 1858, a son of Henry Sheets and grandson of Henry Sheets. The elder Henry Sheets was born in Bavaria, Germany, came to the United States in 1835, and located at Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he became a tool dresser and maker, having learned the blacksmithing trade in his native land. He remained at Pittsburgh the remainder of his life. Henry Sheets was married to Mary Stovell, also a native of Bavaria and they had the following children: Michael, Jacob and Henry.

Henry Sheets, the younger, father of Charles H. Sheets, was born in Bavaria, Germany, December 25, 1834, and consequently was only a baby when his parents came to the United States. He was reared at Pittsburgh, where he attended the public schools. In 1854 he was married to Magdeline Peters, a daughter of Jacob and Elizabeth Peters, and they became the parents of the following children: William, who is a farmer of Pleasant Township; Charles, whose name heads this review; Tillie; Elmer, who is a farmer of Pleasant Township; Herman, who married Elsie Wood, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and has two children, Magdeline and Elsie Lucille; Fred, who is a merchant of Crooked Lake, Indiana; and Eugene, who lives at home, owns twenty cottages on Crooked Lake, and about the same number of boats, operating the Long Beach Resort. In 1860 Henry Sheets came to Steuben County, Indiana, and located on a farm in Steuben Township, where he was engaged in farming for five years, but left it to locate on his present farm in Pleasant Township. In 1893 he retired and moved to Angola, where he and Mrs. Sheets lived in comfort until the death of the latter July 3, 1916, when Mr. Sheets returned to the farm and now makes his home with his children.

Charles H. Sheets grew up in Pleasant Township, and was accorded the advantages offered by its schools and the Angola High School. Until 1884 he was engaged in farming in conjunction with his father, but in that year came to Angola, where he established himself in a transfer business, and also carried the mail to and from the trains. In connection with his transfer business he dealt in ice, and his operations were extensive. During 1900 he invested in ninety acres of land opposite the Angola Fair Grounds, adding to this farm until he had 180 acres of land, and he also owns sixty-six acres of land in another part of Pleasant Township. From the time he bought his land until the present Mr. Sheets has superintended its operation, hiring the necessary men to do the work, and is a breeder of high bred, fine wool sheep, and handles and feeds a large amount of other stock. In 1904 Mr. Sheets sold his transfer and ice business, as his other interests had become too heavy for him to continue it. Since April 11, 1887, he has been the representative at Angola for the Standard Oil Company.

On November 17, 1887, Mr. Sheets was united in marriage with Emma L. Longabaugh, a daughter of Joseph Longabaugh, a native of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, who in 1862 came to Angola, Indiana. A tailor, he worked at his trade upon first coming to Angola, but within a few years started in the mercantile business in connection with a tailoring establishment. Still later he sold these two lines of business and was engaged in handling produce until his death in 1894. Joseph Longabaugh was married to Miranda Milner, a native of Columbiana County, Ohio, who died April 23, 1915. They had the following children: Emma L., who is Mrs. Sheets; Lena, who married Robert Shephard; Mary, who married Martin Miser; William A.; and Elizabeth, who married Robert Rae. Mrs. Longabaugh was a consistent member of the Christian Church.

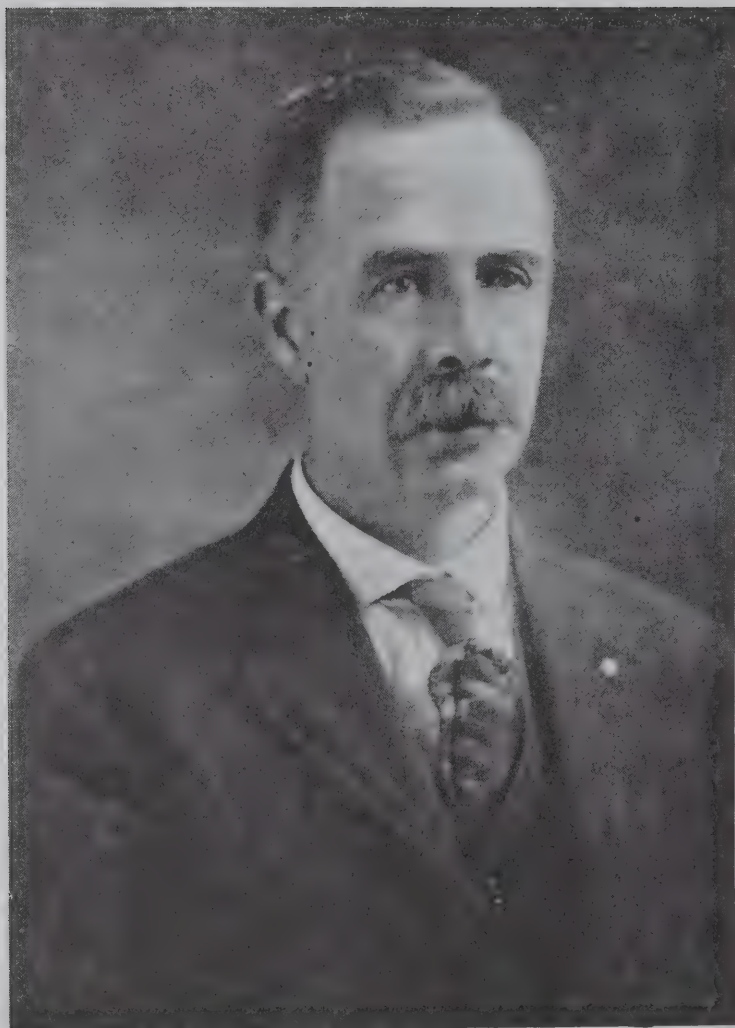
Mr. and Mrs. Sheets have one son, Henry Harcourt, who was born January 24, 1902. He is now attending the Angola High School, and is a very bright pupil. Mrs. Sheets belongs to the Congregational Church. In his fraternal relations Mr. Sheets maintains membership with the Knights of Pythias. He is recognized as the very soul of probity and uprightness, and in all of his ventures he has maintained a high standard of business ethics, which won for him unqualified confidence and thorough respect.

WILBER H. HILL is one of the men who have made a success of farming in Noble County, and the success with which he has managed his private affairs has gained him the confidence and respect of his fellow citizens and brought him into active relations with county affairs. He is now serving as one of the county commissioners, representing the Northern District in Noble County.

Mr. Hill resides on his farm in section 17, Wayne Township, two and a half miles northwest of Kendallville. He was born in the same township May 19, 1860, son of Nicholas and Mary (Kinney) Hill. His father, a native of Wuertemberg, Germany, came with his parents to the United States at the age of seventeen. At that time they located on a farm in Wayne Township of Noble County, and the grandyarents spent all their lives there. Many Kinney was born in Ohio and came to Indiana before her marriage. Nicholas Hill and wife had nine children, six of whom are still living: Mary, unmarried; Avilla C., wife of William Wright, of Kendallville; Orange L., on the old homestead in Wayne Township; Wilber H.; Charles R., of Rich-







*S. M. Gash, M.D.*



mond, Indiana; and Albert S., a farmer in Wayne Township.

Wilber H. Hill grew up on the home farm, attended the common schools and lived with his parents until he was twenty-one years of age. In 1882 he went to Michigan, and was in that state five years, part of the time in the lumber woods and also employed in salt works. On March 18, 1886, he married in Noble County Carrie L. Hunt. Mrs. Hill was born in LaGrange County, July 1, 1865.

After their marriage they lived a year in Michigan and on returning to Noble County took up farming as renters. For fifteen years they rented land, and at the end of that time, in 1902, they bought their first farm, seventy-two acres, paying \$800 down. Since then their prosperity has much increased, and in 1917 they bought another place of 120 acres, and now have a complete and highly improved farm.

Mr. and Mrs. Hill have three children: Archie, born September 11, 1889, is a graduate of the Huntington Business College, is married and lives on a farm in Wayne Township; Ralph D., a graduate of the common schools, married Leota Loucks, and they live with his father; and Cecelia, who is now in clerical work for the Government at Battle Creek, Michigan.

Mrs. Hill is an active member of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Wayne Center. Fraternally he is affiliated with Kendallville Lodge No. 276, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is also a member of the Royal Arch Chapter and Council, and is a Knight of Pythias and a Maccabee. In politics he is a republican, and besides his present office as county commissioner, to which he was elected in 1916, he served four years as trustee in Wayne Township.

ALVA J. KIMMEL, M. D. The esteem for Dr. Alva J. Kimmel at Hudson is easily understood, being based upon more than three decades of careful, efficient and skillful work as a physician. He has been more than a professional man, has been a kindly neighbor and sympathizing friend to the community, and has earned many rewards besides those expressed in material terms.

Doctor Kimmel was born at Fostoria, Seneca County, Ohio, June 9, 1857, a son of Michael and Rebecca (Longnecker) Kimmel, and grandson on the paternal side of Jacob M. and Elizabeth (Mowery) Kimmel, and on the maternal side of Michael and Catherine (Fisher) Longnecker.

Rebecca Longnecker was born in Seneca County, Ohio. Michael Kimmel was a native of Somerset County, Pennsylvania, grew up there and when about eight moved to Wayne County, Ohio, and some ten years later to Seneca County. He was a soldier in the Civil war, having enlisted in the spring of 1862 in Company K of the One Hundred and First Ohio Infantry. He served a little less than a year, being discharged on account of disability caused by typhoid fever. In 1870 he brought his family to Milford Township of LaGrange County, Indiana, bought a farm and lived in that township until his death in 1883. His widow is still living. The old farm in LaGrange County is now owned by Doctor Kimmel. This farm contains 100 acres, and Doctor Kimmel proposes to make it his home when he retires from the burden of professional life. Doctor Kimmel was the oldest in a family of seven children, the others being Harriett Catherine, deceased; Cecelia Ann, who died in her infancy; Emma J.; Noah E.; Mary Anna, deceased; and Charles W.

Alva J. Kimmel was thirteen years old when he

came to Indiana. In the meantime he had attended schools at Fostoria, Ohio, and he took his medical work in the Miami Medical College, now the Medical Department of the University of Cincinnati. He was graduated with the M. D. degree in 1886, and in the same year located at Hudson, where all his work as a professional man has been done. His practice has extended all over the community surrounding Hudson. Ever since the Wabash Railroad was built at that point he has been consulting and local physician and surgeon for the railroad and for a quarter of a century has served as health officer of Hudson.

Doctor Kimmel married Sarah Luella Cox, a daughter of Andrew and Barbara Ann Cox. They had two children, Vesta Bell, wife of William I. Lower, and Arthur A., who met his death by drowning at the age of seventeen.

Doctor Kimmel is affiliated with the Steuben County Medical Society and the Indiana and American Medical associations, and is a charter member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Knights of Pythias at Hudson.

SAMUEL M. EASH, M. D. LaGrange County and particularly the community around Shipshewana has a great deal of respect for and confidence in the abilities and experience of Dr. Samuel M. Eash as a physician and surgeon. He has practiced medicine at Shipshewana for nearly thirty years and in that time has made himself a factor for real influence and service in the community.

He was born in Newbury Township, LaGrange County, March 9, 1864, a son of Levi and Mary (Yoder) Eash. He is a grandson of John and Elizabeth (Harshberger) Eash, both natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. John Eash was a Pennsylvania farmer, in 1845 moved with his family to Holmes County, Ohio, and after farming there until 1859 made his home in Newbury Township of LaGrange County. He lived in that township until his death. His children were ten in number, named Carolina, Susan, Mary, Dora, Elizabeth, Levi, Jacob N., Joseph N., John M. and Isaac N. The only one now living is Isaac.

Levi Eash, father of Doctor Eash, was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, December 13, 1839. His wife, Mary Yoder, was born in Holmes County, Ohio, a daughter of Yost and Nancy (Hostetler) Yoder. They were married in Holmes County and they came to LaGrange County at the same time as John Eash and family. Levi Eash spent a long and active career as a farmer. He was the first member of the Mennonite Church to hold an office in LaGrange County, filling the position of assessor of Newbury Township six years. In March, 1882, he moved to the LaGrange County Farm as its superintendent, and was with that institution until his death on December 12, 1883. His widow survived him until July, 1916. They had a family of seven children: Amanda, wife of Christian S. Eash; Nancy, who is the wife of Simon C. Yoder and lives in Oregon; Catherine, deceased wife of Samuel T. Kauffman; Susan, who married Abner Yoder and lives in Oregon; Samuel M.; Mary Jane, who is the wife of Levi D. Yoder and lives in Oregon; and Lewis Franklin, present deputy sheriff of St. Joseph County, Indiana.

Dr. Samuel M. Eash received his first instruction in the Davis schoolhouse in Newbury Township and later attended the LaGrange High School. When only a boy he made up his mind to become a physician, and with a steady purpose toward that end he acquired the means for his education by teaching school for five years. In 1888 he graduated from the Medical Department of Wooster

University at Cleveland, Ohio, and did his first practice at Shore in Newbury Township. The winter of 1880-90 he spent at Topeka, Indiana, and since February, 1890, has carried the burdens of a successful physician at Shipshewana. He is a member of the County Medical Society and the Indiana State Medical Association, is affiliated with the Lodge of Odd Fellows at Shipshewana and the Masonic Lodge at LaGrange.

November 24, 1889, Doctor Eash married Amanda Schrock, a daughter of Jesse and Susan (Luke) Schrock. They have two children, Irma and Charles S. Charles was commissioned a second lieutenant of infantry on August 11, 1918, later was transferred to the field artillery, and was in active training with that branch of the army at the time of the signing of the armistice. Since the war he has continued his studies in the Indiana State University at Bloomington.

**ALBERT EVERITT.** While the life experiences of Albert Everitt have not covered a great deal of territory, his life has been no less useful and purposeful. He is one of the successful farmers of Otsego Township, a man of high standing in his community, is a member of a good family himself and has some bright and promising children growing up to share in the work of the world.

Mr. Everitt was born on the farm which he now owns September 14, 1874, a son of Elias and Margaret (Teegardin) Everitt. He is a grandson of Jacob D. and Betsy (Bush) Everitt. Jacob D. Everitt was born February 27, 1807, and died May 30, 1852, and his wife, Betsy, was born February 12, 1806, and died December 16, 1868. They were married in Erie County, New York, December 30, 1828, and settled in Trumbull County, Ohio. Elias and Margaret Everitt were natives of Ohio. They were married February 14, 1861, and about 1864 came to Steuben County and settled in the woods of Otsego Township, clearing up land until they had a large farm of 230 acres. Elias Everitt was twelve years old when his father died in Allen County, Ohio, and he made the best possible use of his individual resources and opportunities. He died June 29, 1902, at the age of sixty-four. The mother lost her life in 1911 in a railroad accident at Hamilton, Indiana, at the age of sixty-five. Her parents were Aaron and Katie Ann (Thorpe) Teegardin, who were numbered among the pioneers of Otsego Township. Aaron Teegardin died in 1895 and his wife in 1808. Elias Everitt was a democrat in politics and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He and his wife had six children: Frank, deceased; Walter, who owns part of the old homestead; Jasper; Charles, deceased; Albert; and Nina, deceased.

Albert Everitt grew up on the home farm and secured his education in the nearby country schools. He owns 112 acres of the homestead and has done much to improve and increase its facilities as a good farm. He built a grain and hog house and has shown a great deal of intelligence in managing his business as a farmer. He is a democrat and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

November 10, 1897, Mr. Everitt married Miss Leona Degaugh. She was born in Wexford County, Michigan, July 20, 1881, a daughter of Frank and Clara (Mabie) Degaugh, who later became residents of Richland Township, Steuben County. The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Everett are: Arden, born May 28, 1899; Paul, born August 8, 1905; Orpheus, born May 15, 1911; and Evelyn, born January 3, 1917.

**ARTHUR WELLINGTON STONER,** a farmer of Bloomfield Township, LaGrange County, spent twenty

years as a homesteader and farm developer in the State of Minnesota, but was born and reared in LaGrange County and represents some pioneer names in the history of the county.

He was born in Bloomfield Township in 1860, a son of John and Maria (Martin) Stoner, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of New Jersey. His maternal grandfather, Daniel Martin, came from New Jersey to Indiana at a very early date and acquired a tract of raw land in Johnson Township, on the banks of the lake always afterward known as Martin Lake. He cleared and improved a farm, and both he and his wife died there. John Stoner came to LaGrange County when a young man. He was a local Methodist minister, was a farmer and also active in local affairs. He served at one time as a trustee of Clay Township. He and his wife had two children: Arthur W. and Andrew Elmer. The latter died in 1881.

Arthur Wellington Stoner grew up on his father's farm and had good educational opportunities. He left the LaGrange High School six months before graduating on account of an affliction of the eyes. Afterward he followed farming in the county until 1891, when he went out to Pipestone County, Minnesota, and acquired 160 acres. He located there in 1892 and went through all the processes of developing new land in a new community and laid the basis of his prosperity while in the Northwest. He improved his farm with good buildings, lived there twenty years, and as a citizen was chairman of the School Board and a justice of the peace in his township.

Mr. Stoner sold his Minnesota farm and on November 20, 1912, returned to LaGrange. In the previous August he had bought the farm he now owns in Bloomfield Township, comprising eighty acres. He is still active as a farmer.

In 1903 Mr. Stoner married Miss Anna Belle Dewater. She was born near Fawn River, Michigan, a daughter of Roswell Dewater and Pheba A. (Upson) Dewater, early settlers of Johnson Township, LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Stoner have two children: Thelma Marie and Doris Audra. Both are still at home. The family are members of the Methodist Church.

**EDWARD MILLIS,** a venerable LaGrange citizen, has spent more than three quarters of a century in this county, and the record impressed on his early memory pertains to affairs of the decades of the forties and fifties.

He was born in Talbot County, Maryland, February 6, 1831, son of Levin and Ruth (Leonard) Millis. His parents were also natives of Maryland. Their three children were Margaret Ann, Edward and Ann Catherine. By his first wife Levin Millis had five children, named John Wesley, Elizabeth, Levin, Lydia Ann, and Sarah Esther.

In 1837, when Edward Millis, was six years old, the family moved to Wayne County, Indiana, and two years later settled in Springfield Township of LaGrange County, where Levin Millis lived on a farm until his death on August 2, 1840. His wife died March 9, 1874.

Edward Millis had only the advantages of the schools near home and those were of a pioneer type. He learned the duties of farming and found in that his chief vocation. March 28, 1855, he married Eleanor M. Griffin. She was born in Niagara County, New York, July 6, 1835, daughter of Robert and Mary (Pollman) Griffin. Her parents were both natives of England, her father coming to this country in 1820 and her mother in 1834. The Griffin family settled in LaGrange County in 1841, and the following year moved to Steuben County, where



Mr. Griffin died the same year. His widow passed away in 1856. Edward Millis in 1856 bought a farm in Clay Township of LaGrange County, sold it after four and a half years and returned to Springfield Township, where he acquired seventy acres. By subsequent additions he became owner of 210 acres in sections 23 and 24. In 1879 he left the farm and went to LaGrange for the purpose of giving his children better school advantages. In 1882 he moved back to the farm, but in 1886 bought property in LaGrange and was a resident of that city until the death of his wife in 1896. Then for a time he made his home partly in town and partly in the country and on May 12, 1897, he married Mrs. Catherine Ryan, widow of Robert Ryan. They then lived on the Ryan farm for seventeen years, until Mrs. Millis passed away in 1914. Since then Mr. Millis has returned to LaGrange and has acquired other property in the county seat. He is a republican and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

The children by his first marriage were five in number, the oldest dying in infancy. Emma E. died at the age of three years. Frank E. Millis was born November 20, 1860, graduated from the LaGrange High School in 1881, from DePauw University in 1887, and spent one year as an instructor in Johns Hopkins University and in 1893 was awarded the Doctor of Philosophy degree by Cornell University. He became a well known educator and for several years he was also connected with the Astronomical Department of the Federal Government. He died August 1, 1903. In 1891 he married Mary Lockwood, a native of Petersburg, Michigan, where she was born December 8, 1862. Frank E. Millis and wife had five children: Louise, who died February 6, 1919, at the age of twenty-six, the wife of Guy Duncan and the mother of two children, Jean and Mary; Edward, born July 28, 1894, who served as a first lieutenant on the Mexican border and went overseas early in 1917 and served in France until 1919; Rowland, born August 21, 1896, who became a second lieutenant and was in about the same service as his brother; Harold, born October 7, 1900, died at the age of seven years; and Frances, born February 5, 1904.

Marion M. Millis, the fourth of Mr. Millis' family, was born September 14, 1862. She is the widow of Charles H. Gravit, of a family elsewhere referred to in this publication. Lois M. Millis was born May 3, 1864, and on December 22, 1886, became the wife of Wilbur Main. They now live at Auburn and have two children: Hazel, born April 16, 1888, wife of Nathan Hord and the mother of two children, Mildred, born September 24, 1909, and Emile, born May 19, 1913; and Frank, born April 9, 1894, married Irene Cramer.

RALPH OUSTERHOUT is the present county clerk of Steuben County. He was called to his duties at the court house in Angola as a result of the election of 1916, and for many years has been identified with the progressive farming section of Salem and Jackson townships.

He was born in Salem Township October 4, 1857, a son of John N. and Sarah (Haines) Ousterhout. His father was born in Richland County, Ohio, in October, 1825, and his father died the same year. In 1843 he and his brother James came to Steuben County and bought 160 acres in Salem Township. In the spring of 1851 John N. Ousterhout moved to Iowa, bought a farm and worked at his trade as a carpenter. His first wife, Nancy Hammond, died in Iowa, leaving two children, Sarah A., who married John Slick and now lives in Michigan, and

Samuel E., of Elkhart, Indiana. John N. Ousterhout returned to Steuben County in 1853, and after selling his land in Salem Township engaged in saw-milling. He sold his mill in 1857, then bought land in Salem Township, and in 1859 bought the farm where he spent the rest of his busy career, in section 34 of Jackson Township. He improved this land from the wilderness condition.

This farm, now owned by Ralph Ousterhout, has a building upon it which is one of the interesting relics of pioneer days. The white wood comprising the frame timbers was originally in what was known as the Block Church, built by the Methodists in section 3 of Jackson Township and used by that denomination and the Presbyterians many years as a house of worship. John N. Ousterhout bought the building in 1860 and remodeled it as his own home. John N. Ousterhout was elected justice of the peace of Jackson Township in 1860 and later was again elected and served three terms in that office. He was a first lieutenant in a local militia company known as the Flint Legion during the Civil war. In politics he was an active republican.

His second wife, Sarah Haines, was born in Pennsylvania in 1829, daughter of Thomas Haines, who came to Steuben County in 1843. She was the mother of six children: Viola, wife of Adelbert R. Wood, of Salem Township; Ralph; Cora, wife of Loren W. Clay, of Angola; Sarah V., wife of W. Scott, of Pontiac, Michigan; Lillie M., wife of William Morrison, of Salem Township; and Alta, who is unmarried and lives with her brother Ralph. John N. Ousterhout died January 5, 1901, and his wife on January 8, 1902. He was affiliated with the Masonic Order, being at one time master of the lodge at Salem and afterward a member of Flint Lodge.

Ralph Ousterhout grew up on the home farm in Jackson Township, attended the public schools, and now owns the old homestead of 160 acres, and also fifty acres in Salem Township. He is a successful farmer, and it was his record as a good business man and capable citizen that caused the people of Steuben County to repose their confidence in him when they elected him county clerk in 1916. He is a member of the Masonic Lodge at Flint, the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias at Salem, and the Lodge of Moose at Angola. He attends and supports the Congregational Church at Angola. Mr. Ousterhout is unmarried.

AMRO AVERY. Good and desirable mental qualities are not the only inheritances which are handed down from father to son, for very often the second generation shows a decided inclination for the calling of the first, and adopting it achieves commendable success. In no line of activity is this more clearly marked than in that of farming, for here this love of the soil comes down through many years, and survives the entrance into other work, bringing men back into the rural regions after years spent in the more congested communities. It is fortunate that this is true, especially at this critical period in the world's history when as never before there is such a crying need of food. The men of America are responding patriotically in this direction as they have in all others, and the rich farming lands of Indiana, as of those of the other states of the Union, are bringing forth banner crops under the capable and experienced direction of some of the best agriculturalists of the country. One of these representative citizens of the northeastern part of the state is Amro Avery of Steuben Township, Steuben County, born in this township

August 1, 1857, a son of that estimable man, the late Jesse Whitcomb Avery.

No history of this region would be complete without extended mention of Jesse Whitcomb Avery and his wife, Eliza (Shumaker) Avery. Jesse Whitcomb Avery was born at Big Island, Marion County, Ohio, February 18, 1833, and died at his home in Otsego Township, Steuben County, Indiana, April 28, 1912, aged seventy-nine years, two months and ten days. He was the only son of John H. and Maria (Whitcomb) Avery, and the only child to survive, the other one, a daughter, dying in infancy. When a little child he was brought to Otsego Township by his paternal grandmother, Mrs. Sarah (Fall) Avery, who arrived in this neighborhood in the fall of 1836. He had the misfortune to lose his mother when he was two years old and his father when he was but five. The Avery family was of English descent, and was established in this country many years ago. His grandfather, on the maternal side, Major Benjamin Whitcomb, was a resident of the American Colonies prior to the Revolutionary war, in which he served with distinction, and because of those services Jesse Whitcomb Avery was entitled to a life pension from the Government, but never received it.

The paternal grandfather of Jesse Whitcomb Avery was Samuel Avery, and after his demise his widow, Mrs. Sarah (Fall) Avery, came to Marion County, Ohio, from Maine, bringing her son, John Hutcherson, and her three daughters, Amanda, Dolly and Sarah, and in 1836 the little party came still further west to Steuben County, Indiana, Mrs. Avery's little grandson, Jesse W., then being one of its members. After her arrival in Steuben County Mrs. Avery was married to George Quick, and they had two sons, Avery and Henry. She was a sister of the mother of Aaron Taylor, another representative man of Steuben County. Of the daughters of Samuel and Sarah (Fall) Avery, Amanda Avery was married to Alexander Britton, and they had two daughters, Betsy and Emily; Sarah Avery was married to John K. Van Fleet, and they had eight children, Joshua, Samuel, John, Elizabeth, Anna, Ruth, Malvina and Thomas; and Dolly Avery was married to David Chard, and they had the following children: George, Sarah, Susan, Amanda, Lydia and Rhoda.

The father of Jesse Whitcomb Avery, John Hutcherson Avery, after the death of his first wife, Maria (Whitcomb) Avery, when she was only twenty-five years of age, from dropsy superinduced by child birth, married her sister Louisa, and when he passed away in 1840, of spasmodic colic at his home in Marion County, Ohio, she inherited his money, his son receiving as his share an outlawed quitclaim deed to real estate in Dearborn Township, Kennebec County, Maine, and the west half of section 18, township 36 north range 14 east, Steuben County, Indiana.

On February 19, 1854, Jesse Whitcomb Avery was married to Eliza Shumaker, born in Hardy County, West Virginia, December 5, 1833, died November 19, 1915, aged eighty-one years, eleven months and fourteen days, at which time she was the only survivor of the nine children born to her parents, Michael and Elizabeth (Myers) Shumaker. These children were as follows: Lydia, who married John Baker; Sarah, who married first John Mills and second Henry Secoir; John, who married Amanda Chard; Katie; Rosana; Amanda, who married Aaron Taylor; George, who married Katherine Lininger and later Mary Bland; Eliza, who married Jesse W. Avery; and Betsy, who married Henry Secoir after the death of his first wife, her sister Sarah. As will be seen by these records the Avery

and Shumaker families intermarried in several instances. Michael Shumaker, father of Mrs. Avery, had a brother, John Shumaker, and he had five children, namely: Margaret, Rachael, John, James and Harvey. His sister, Mrs. Mary (Shumaker) McClain, had two children, George and Dorcas. Mrs. Elizabeth (Myers) Shumaker, mother of Mrs. Avery, died in Steuben County, Indiana, in 1863.

The Shumaker family moved from West Virginia to Licking County, Ohio, and then in 1845 started for the Rock River in Illinois, but Mr. Shumaker was taken ill when the little party reached Steuben County and died a few days later in a little log schoolhouse in which refuge had been taken. This cabin was on the farm now owned by Frank Jackson, but then the property of Peter Russell. With the death of the father the Shumaker family abandoned their project of reaching Illinois, and located in Steuben County. For many years all the children had to work hard, the daughters performing many tasks usually left for the men of the family, but they seemed to flourish under their labors, and grew up strong and healthy. Mrs. Avery was noted for her strength, endurance and the rapidity with which she would drop corn, being able to keep up with the horse, a somewhat unusual accomplishment. She dug ginseng and other roots for medicinal purposes, picked berries and of course was an expert in all household tasks. While thus making herself so useful, she did not neglect her mental development, but whenever the opportunity offered would walk  $2\frac{1}{2}$  miles to school held in a log cabin, and oftentimes in the evening would walk back in order to participate in the spelling matches held in those days, at which she was many times the champion.

She and Jesse Whitcomb Avery were schoolmates, were born in the same year, and were sweethearts from childhood. They began their married life on the farm his father had entered from the Government many years before, and lived on it until he died, a period of nearly sixty years. On it their seven children were born and reared to useful maturity. These children were as follows: Edward, Amro, Seth S., Mary, who is deceased, Emma, Lida and Jesse Whitcomb, who is also deceased. Very domestic in her tastes, Mrs. Avery was wrapped up in her husband, her children and her home, never leaving the latter during the last nine years of her life, although her children and grandchildren endeavored to make her an honored inmate of their several family circles. She possessed numerous desirable womanly qualities, being cheerful, good natured, charitable, just and forgiving and never showing, and probably but seldom feeling, anger. Her life was a beautiful one, and she exemplified in it the highest of Christian characteristics. Her husband was a fitting mate for her and he, too, set an example his descendants can do no better than to emulate. Although left an orphan at so tender an age and thus bereft of a father's watchful care, he grew up possessed of the highest ideals, and shaped his life according to them. In the training of his children he insisted upon the importance of education and character building, and practiced honesty, sobriety and fair dealing as well as taught these virtues. For forty-seven years he was an honored member of the order of Odd Fellows, belonging to the lodge at Angola, and when he died this fraternity had charge of the funeral services, of which C. W. McCord was the officiating clergyman. He was laid to rest in Circle Hill Cemetery, and when in 1915 his aged wife went to join him in the better land, her remains were placed by his side in the same "City of the Dead." It is a very interesting fact that these family records are com-



piled from the recollections of Mr. and Mrs. Avery by their son Seth S. Avery, who put them in definite form while his parents were still in possession of their faculties, during 1905.

Growing up in a Christian household under the tender and wise guardianship of his parents, Amro Avery attended the district schools of Otsego Township, and later the Angola High School. For several years after attaining his majority he was engaged in farming in Otsego Township, and then went into Steuben Township and carried on the same calling for two years. Moving to York, Ohio, he was engaged in a mercantile business at that place, and then returned to agriculture, which he followed in Steuben Township on rented land. In 1916 he bought sixty-five acres of land in Steuben and Otsego townships, which is well improved, his residence being in the former township, but the greater part of the land is across the township line in Otsego Township.

In 1890 Mr. Avery was united in marriage with Clara McMillan, a daughter of John McMillan, and she died October 13, 1917, leaving him one daughter, Hazel M., who was born February 23, 1894. Another daughter, Neva May, died in infancy. Mr. Avery has inherited in addition to his love of farming other desirable qualities from his admirable parents, and has so lived his life as to be a credit to them and their training. He is held in respect in his neighborhood as a man of integrity and high principles, and he deserves the prosperity to which he has attained. Through her ancestor Maj. Benjamin Whitcomb, Miss Hazel M. Avery is eligible to the Daughters of the American Revolution, and she can proudly trace back to Mrs. Polly (Whitcomb) Sappington and Mrs. Stephen Kent, daughters of Major Whitcomb and sisters of Mrs. Maria (Whitcomb) Avery, her paternal great-grandmother.

CHARLES H. KEPLINGER has been a resident of LaGrange County over half a century, and more than thirty years ago he became an independent land owner and farmer and has ever since been progressively identified with the community of Greenfield Township.

Mr. Keplinger was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, July 12, 1857, a son of Elias and Emily (Hoverstock) Keplinger. His father was born in Virginia in October, 1815. The Keplinger family moved to Lima, LaGrange County, in the fall of 1865 and Elias Keplinger bought fifty acres in that township. Later he bought seven acres more and had a complete small farm of fifty-seven acres, where he lived out his productive years and died in 1899. He was a republican in politics. His first wife died soon after coming to LaGrange County, the mother of Catherine, Mary, Charles, and Etta. Elias Keplinger married for his second wife Lydia Middaugh, but had no children by that union.

Charles H. Keplinger was eight years old when brought to LaGrange County, and he grew up and acquired his education in Lima Township. He had little capital to start with, but subsequently he bought fifty-six acres in Greenfield Township and has since increased his holdings to seventy-six acres, representing one of the good general farms in that locality. He has remodeled the house and added to the barn and has a complete equipment for all his needs. Mr. Keplinger is a republican in politics.

In 1886 he married Miss Clara B. Swihart, who was born in Greenfield Township May 3, 1860, a daughter of Daniel and Sarah (Summers) Swihart. This is one of the old and prominent families of LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Keplinger have one son, Raymond C., who was born June 13, 1897.

He attended public school at Brighton, and married Anna Brown and has one daughter, Freda Juanita.

ORLEY BARROWS, a son of the veteran Union soldier and retired farmer, John Barrows, whose career is sketched on other pages, is one of the successful younger farmers of Steuben and LaGrange counties. His farm lies along the line between these two counties, his residence being in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County.

He was born in the same locality May 24, 1884, and acquired his education in Greenfield Township and also in Millgrove Township. He learned farming under his father and in 1906 took up an independent career, renting the old homestead. He now has the responsibility of a large place of 270 acres, and does a successful business as a general farmer and stock raiser.

In 1904 he married Ella Fair, a daughter of Christopher and Amanda Fair. Their children are Weir, Omar, Emril, Archie, Axson and Ronald.

JUDGE EMMET A. BRATTON, whose long services as a lawyer and judge make him a conspicuous figure in the history of Steuben County, was born in Williams County, Ohio, July 16, 1855, a son of Ira and Deborah W. (Thomas) Bratton.

His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania, his father, born March 12, 1829, and his mother December 23, 1831. Ira Bratton was a son of James and Isabella Bratton, his mother dying in Pennsylvania. James and Hannah Bratton, the latter his second wife, moved to Northwestern Ohio in early days and entered Government land in Williams County. He located there in 1842, and lived on his land until his death in 1860. By his first marriage he had four children, George W., who lived until about ninety years of age, died in Nebraska; Keziah, Caroline and Ira. James Bratton was an anti-slavery democrat and a Presbyterian.

The maternal grandparents of Judge Bratton were Moses and Prudence (Worthington) Thomas, who on moving from Pennsylvania first located in Crawford County, Ohio, and in 1842 also established homes in Williams County, where they lived until the death of Moses in 1848 and the death of his wife in 1878. The latter was a Quaker, while Moses was a Methodist.

Ira Bratton acquired his early education in the public schools of Pennsylvania and Ohio, was a farmer by occupation and died on the old Williams County farm of his father July 18, 1882. His widow afterward came to Angola. They were members of the Presbyterian Church but in Angola she became affiliated with the Congregational Church. Their children were: Alcinus, an attorney at Hastings, Nebraska, and for twenty-five years city clerk; Judge Emmet A.; Clara T., wife of M. M. Gawood, of Angola; Jennie, deceased, wife of F. L. Hoverstock; Elvada, wife of D. C. Kimmel, of Flint, Michigan; Della M., wife of George M. Ryder, of Oklahoma; Alma L., wife of F. L. Powers, of St. Paul, Minnesota.

Emmet A. Bratton grew up on his father's farm in Ohio, attended one term of high school in Angola, became a teacher and through his own efforts paid his way for two years in Hillsdale College. He then returned to Angola and studied law in private offices and in 1880 entered the University of Michigan, graduating from the law department in March, 1881. He then formed a partnership with Stephen A. Powers under the name Powers & Bratton. After 1884 he was associated with D. R. Best under the name of Best & Bratton. In the early years of his practice he served as deputy prosecuting attor-

ney and then for two terms was elected prosecuting attorney, also served as city clerk and treasurer, and in other local positions of trust. In 1893 Charles A. Yotter became a member of the firm, and as Best, Bratton and Yotter it continued until 1904. In that year Mr. Bratton was elected circuit judge, and gave an efficient administration of his duties on the bench until 1910. In January, 1911, he resumed practice in partnership with William E. Heckenlively, under the name Bratton & Heckenlively, which still continues.

Judge Bratton is affiliated with the lodge, chapter and council of York Rite Masons, is a member of both branches of Odd Fellowship, a member of the Knights of Pythias and of the Christian Church.

February 14, 1883, he married Miss Della Rice, a native of Steuben County and daughter of a prominent physician, Dr. Cornelius D. Rice. Mrs. Bratton died January 27, 1914. On August 23, 1917, Judge Bratton married Jennie M. Golden.

Judge Bratton has three children. Arla, who finished her education in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola, was formerly a teacher and is now the wife of Ben L. Averill, of Painesville, Ohio, and the mother of two daughters, Virginia B. and Mary Lou. Lulu Bratton, who graduated in music at the Tri-State College, taught school and is now the wife of Paul G. Preston and has two sons, Wendell Arthur and Robert Asher. Rev. Mr. Preston has served as chaplain at the Marine Barracks at Paris Island, South Carolina. The son of Judge Bratton is Cornelius Rice. He is a graduate of high school and the Tri-State College and served a year and a half in the Medical Corps with the army.

**PETER R. DIRRIM.** Dirrim is one of the names that occur most frequently in the annals both early and modern of DeKalb County and also of parts of Steuben County. Peter R. Dirrim, a native of DeKalb County, has spent the greater part of his life as a practical farmer on the old Dirrim homestead in Otsego Township of Steuben County.

He was born in Franklin Township of the former county October 12, 1851. He is a son of Isaac and Eleanor (Wycoff) Dirrim, and a grandson of Richard Dirrim. Various members of the Dirrim family are referred to elsewhere in this publication. Isaac Dirrim was born in Stark County, Ohio, and his wife was a native of that state, a daughter of Peter Wycoff. Isaac Dirrim came to DeKalb County and located in Franklin Township, in the same community where his brother William H. Dirrim lived. He cleared a farm, put up buildings, and in 1858 moved to the place now occupied by his son Peter in Otsego Township of Steuben County, where he acquired about 200 acres. He was a successful farmer and stock raiser and a man of good influence in his community. He was a member of the United Brethren Church. He and his wife had a large family of eleven children: Elizabeth, who died unmarried; Sarah, deceased wife of Joseph Oberlin; Liza Ann, who was married to Alfred Kepler; Hannah, deceased wife of David W. Oberlin; Eveline, who married George H. Casper; William Cyrus, who spent his life in Kansas; Lovina, wife of Hiram Enzor; Peter R.; Martha, deceased wife of Benjamin Myers; Mary E., who first married James Hagerty and later E. A. Prawl; Ida Frances, deceased wife of Frank Albright.

Peter R. Dirrim received his education in the public schools of Otsego Township. He began assisting his father on his present farm in section 35 when a youth, and during his individual management and ownership has erected all the substantial buildings on the land. He owns 130 acres, twenty-

two of which are in Franklin Township of DeKalb County.

February 24, 1872, Mr. Dirrim married Hannah Myers, daughter of James and Sarah (Slentz) Myers. Her father was also one of the early settlers of Franklin Township. Mr. and Mrs. Dirrim have three children: Cyrus B., Frank Eugene and Birt. Frank Eugene married Mabel Henselman and has five children, named Carrol, Alice, Clarence, Donald and Harold. Birt is one of the progressive young farmers of this part of Indiana, owns sixty acres of land in section 1 of Franklin Township, and also handles his father's farm. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias. Birt Dirrim married Audra V. Dirrim and has one child, Cecil.

**EDWARD T. HARDING**, member of one of the earliest families to locate in LaGrange County, was born in Lima Township September 7, 1852, son of Micajah and Lydia (Kellehan) Harding.

His father was born in New York State November 20, 1812, a son of Micajah and Betsey Harding, who were very early settlers of Lima Township. Micajah Harding, Jr., arrived in LaGrange County September 7, 1832, and settled on a farm in Lima Township, on Lima Prairie, where he lived until his death in 1854. He married Lydia Kellehan, who was born in Greene County, Ohio, November 7, 1814, and her parents settled in Van Buren Township of LaGrange County. She died in 1880. They had eight children, named Stephen, John, who died in infancy, Wesley, who died at the age of seventeen, Sylvester, Louisa, Lucy, Edward and Rebecca.

Edward T. Harding grew up in Lima Township, had a public school education, and for three years owned a farm of forty acres in Springfield Township, after which he returned to Lima Township and worked the old homestead and in 1886 moved to his present place, where he has since farmed. For twenty years he has made a practice of putting up a large supply of ice. He also owns four cottages on Twin Lakes, these cottages being on his farm. Mr. Harding is a republican in politics.

In 1874 he married Miss Ella Schultz, a daughter of Daniel and Elizabeth (Ruhl) Schultz, who came to LaGrange County in 1868 from Erie County, Pennsylvania. Her father was a carpenter by trade, and while living on a farm in Lima Township put up many houses around Lima. He died in 1893, at the age of eighty-one, and his wife in 1908, aged eighty-six. Mr. and Mrs. Harding had four children: Clyde, who is married and has a daughter, Gladys May; Leroy, who died when two and a half years old; Jesse, who has three daughters, named Gwendolin, Erma and Greta; and Robert, unmarried.

**OTIS L. BALLOU** is one of the oldest members of the LaGrange County bar and has enjoyed many of the best dignities and honors of his profession.

He was born in Saratoga County, New York, August 31, 1849, a son of Pardon D. and Catherine (Bonesteel) Ballou. The family is of French origin, and all the Ballous in this country trace their origin to two brothers who came to the American colonies many generations ago. Otis L. Ballou was reared from early boyhood in the home of his parents in Ashtabula County, Ohio. He graduated from the Kingsville Academy in 1868. On February 28, 1869, he married Julia M. Curtis. Only recently, in 1919, they quietly celebrated the golden wedding anniversary marking fifty years of marriage companionship.

The year of his marriage Mr. Ballou, accom-



panied by his wife and his parents, moved to LaGrange County. Here for several years he combined farming and teaching school. He was also diligently studying law, having access to the library of Andrew Ellison. He was admitted to the bar in 1872 but did not begin actual practice until June, 1875. In 1878 he formed a partnership with George A. Cutting. He has now rounded out more than forty years of work as a lawyer, and his career has been marked with many successes both as an advocate and as a counsel.

Mr. Ballou has always been a democrat in his political affiliations. He has lived in a republican county, yet as a young man he served as county commissioner, and for nine years as a member of the School Board, the longest consecutive term enjoyed by any citizen of LaGrange. When Judge J. D. Ferrell died court was in session, and according to the law the county clerk, county recorder and county treasurer had the duty of selecting and appointing a judge to fill the immediate vacancy. Otis L. Ballou was the recipient of that honor, and as the appointment came from republican county officials he regards this as the greatest honor he has ever received. He held the office until the governor filled it by appointment of Francis Dewitt Merritt. Judge Ballou was presidential elector of Indiana in 1802 and in the electoral college the vote was cast for Cleveland and Stevenson. He was also a member of the State Senate in 1913 and 1915 and has served one term on the Board of Town Trustees. He owns a good farm in LaGrange County and valuable business and residence property in LaGrange. He spends a considerable part of his time in the country, supervising his farm interests, yet he is still actively engaged in the practice of the law.

Judge and Mrs. Ballou had three children, Par-don D., Katie M. and William C.

**LORENZO BURCH.** A successful career makes its impress upon the manner and character of the man himself, and the stranger on meeting Lorenzo Burch would soon have revealed to him some knowledge of the fact that Mr. Burch has earned his right to live and enjoy all the prosperity that surrounds him at his good and thriftily managed farm in Otsego Township.

Mr. Burch was born in the same township April 9, 1867, and represents a family of pioneers in Steuben County. His grandfather, Chester Burch, was born in Vermont March 22, 1810, a son of Oliver and Anna Burch. He grew up in New York and in 1831, in Ohio, married Polly Davis, who was born in Washington County, Ohio, April 4, 1812. Chester Burch came to Steuben County, Indiana, in 1837, and joined the few other early settlers in Otsego Township. He acquired eighty acres in section 10, and lived there until his death on January 26, 1879. He was a very active member of the Disciples Church.

One of his seven children was Halbert C. Burch, who was reared in Otsego Township, served over three years as a Union soldier in the Civil war, and was killed in November, 1872, by being thrown from a wagon. He married Mary Rhinehart, who lived to the age of seventy-two.

Lorenzo Burch was a son of Halbert and Mary Burch, and was only five years old when his father died. He attended public school in Otsego and York townships, and at the age of sixteen began his career of independent farming. At the age of twenty-one, having inherited twenty-three acres in section 11 of Otsego Township, he took possession and started in to build up his modest fortune. How

well he has done his work is seen in his present farm of over 202 acres, nearly all of which he has bought from time to time out of the proceeds of his labors. He has improved his land with excellent buildings and carried on a diversified farming and stockraising business. His home is in section 12 of Otsego Township.

In 1888 Mr. Burch married Mina May Corey, daughter of George and Elizabeth (Teagarden) Corey. Mr. Burch has three daughters and several grandchildren. Ethel, his oldest daughter, married Alva Myers, and her children are Howard, Merl, Raymond and Donald. Edna is the wife of Glenn Rozell, and she has two children, Charles and Mildred. Fern married Etta Sewell and has a son, Kenneth Earl. The mother of these daughters died December 28, 1916. Mr. Burch married for his present wife Mrs. Mary Everitt, daughter of Calvin Fee. Mr. Burch is a member of the Christian Church at Metz and is fraternally identified with the Knights of Pythias, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Rebekahs and Pythian Sisters.

**GEORGE W. GILBERT**, now living retired in Pleasant Lake after many years of steady industry as a farmer, represents one of the oldest and most honored families of Steuben Township in Steuben County.

His grandparents, Samuel and Fanny (Crawford) Gilbert, came from Ohio to Steuben County, Indiana, arriving March 19, 1842, only a few years after the first settlers had located in the wilderness here, and Samuel Gilbert bought 320 acres of wild land in section 20 of Steuben Township. He was born in Genesee County, New York, in 1799 and his wife was a native of Vermont. From New York they removed to Lorain County, Ohio, and from there to Indiana. Samuel Gilbert was in advanced years when the Civil War came on, but in 1862 he made arrangements to enter the Union army, had enlisted, but before being mustered in died suddenly of heart disease. He and his wife had children named Chauncy; John; David S.; Lester; Samuel, Jr.; Cornelius; and Lucy. The last named married Calvin Powers.

John Gilbert father of George W., was born in New York State and married Ortensia George, a native of Ohio. John Gilbert came to Steuben County about 1845 and located on a farm adjoining the Village of Pleasant Lake, on the bank of Long Lake. He lived there the rest of his life and died more than thirty years ago. He was the owner of 120 acres. He and his wife had four children, James, George, Vina and Sherley.

George W. Gilbert, who was born in Pleasant Lake August 10, 1852, grew up on his father's farm, attended school in Pleasant Lake and Angola and after his education was completed he lost no time in taking up his vocation as an agriculturist. He followed farming steadily until 1912 and since then has lived retired in Pleasant Lake. Mr. Gilbert became owner of 235 acres of rich and fertile soil in Steuben Township. In addition to the responsibilities of his farm he served five years as trustee of the township. He is a member of the Baptist Church and is a Mason in fraternal affiliations.

In 1877 he married Sarah Gaylord, a daughter of David W. and Jane (Serle) Gaylord. Five children were born to their marriage: Gertrude; Charles, who married Gertrude Ransburg and has three children, named Roger, Elizabeth and Lawrence; Donald, who is a first lieutenant in the American army and in the spring of 1919 was still with the Expeditionary Forces in France; Gaylord, who is also a first lieutenant and who served as chief of

the Military Police at Louisville, Kentucky; and Gerald, who is a member of the United States Marines.

HENRY C. ELSNER was one of the prominent merchants, business men and public-spirited citizens of LaGrange for many years, and when he died in 1918 he had a worthy successor in his son, Fred H. Elsner, who is now the responsible manager of the large Elsner store, one of the landmarks in the business district.

The late Mr. Elsner was born in Holstein, Germany, October 15, 1866, and was in his fifty-second year when he died. His parents were Joachim and Dora Elsner, and he was one of a number of children. Two of his brothers are still business men at Sweet Springs, Missouri, and he also was survived by a sister and brother at Kiel, Germany.

He had a splendid preparation for a business career, attending the common schools and also a German university. He came to the United States in 1882 and joined his brothers Frederick and Christian in a general merchandise business in Missouri. He was a resident of Sweet Springs in that state for a number of years, but in 1902 came to LaGrange, Indiana. His first location was a room now occupied by N. A. Balch, but about twelve years before his death he became owner of the Rose white brick block on South Detroit Street, and equipped his store with a splendid stock of dry goods, clothing and shoes. He sold the clothing and shoe departments six or seven years before his death, and the H. C. Elsner store is now an exclusive dry goods business.

He was baptized a Lutheran, but after coming to America became a member of the Christian church. He was a Knight Templar Mason at Kendallville, and he and his wife were active in the Eastern Star at LaGrange.

Besides his wife and son Fred H., he was survived by two daughters, Erna and Adell, both public school teachers. His son Ralph died in California several years ago.

The appreciation in which this sterling citizen was held is concisely told in the columns of a LaGrange newspaper issued after his death. From this article the following well deserved tributes are taken:

"Mr. Elsner was a strong man intellectually, with the polish of education and travel. He had traveled in every civilized country in the world and was a student and a reader, the classics being his favorites, and he was modest in his manner and conservative in his statements. He never intruded his friendship, but those who came within the circle of his liking found him a most interesting and entertaining companion and a loyal comrade.

"He was intensely interested in public affairs, helpfully partisan in most things, and in politics a republican. He was a member of the LaGrange Board of Education one term of three years, and filled the place with credit to himself and benefit to the community. He was one of the organizers of Corn School Week. He was its vice president from the beginning until elected secretary, holding the latter position until illness compelled his retirement. In this office he was succeeded by his son Fred.

"He was successful in business, progressive in spirit, always a willing contributor in time and money to the interests of his town and county. He was gifted in extemporaneous speaking. LaGrange has lost many strong men in the last four or five years, but no one will be missed more than this man. He was constructive in all that he said and did, charitable in his judgment, a willing worker in community enterprises, tender and true in his family

relations, loyal in his friendships and unflinching in his quiet but assured religious faith."

Fred H. Elsner was born in Sweet Springs, Missouri, July 4, 1892, and was about nine years old when his father came to LaGrange. He finished his education in the local public schools, and had the benefit of thorough training and wide experience to equip him for his present responsibilities as manager of the H. C. Elsner store. He spent four years with Marshall Field & Company of Chicago, later for two years was with a large retail store at Muskogee, Oklahoma, the Graham-Sykes Company, and was also connected with Walker Brothers, a large retail store at Salt Lake City. A year or so before his father's death he returned to LaGrange to take active charge of the business, and is its general manager.

December 29, 1914, he married Hildegard Heiner. They have one son, William Henry, born October 8, 1917. Mr. Elsner is affiliated with Meridian Sun Lodge No. 76, Free and Accepted Masons., LaGrange Chapter No. 102, Royal Arch Masons, Kendallville Council, Royal and Select Masters, and also with the Knights of Pythias. In politics he is republican.

ANDREW ROBE WYATT, M. D. Since September, 1888, Doctor Wyatt has practiced as a physician and surgeon in the City of LaGrange. He is one of the best known professional men in LaGrange County, and while devoted to the strict routine of his professional duties his interests have been identified with everything affecting the welfare and progress of his community.

Doctor Wyatt was born in DeKalb County, Indiana, a son of John and Sarah Jane (Robe) Wyatt. His father was born in Maryland April 4, 1811, and his mother in Indiana October 31, 1820. John Wyatt when a boy went to Ohio, and later with his parents, Nathan Wyatt and wife, moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, where Nathan and wife spent their last years. John Wyatt entered land in 1836 in DeKalb County, and lived there until his death seventy years later, on July 28, 1906. His wife passed away January 28, 1888. He was a strong and ardent republican in politics, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Protestant Church. His wife had two brothers, James Theodore and John Robe, both ministers of the Gospel with the Methodist Church. The former preached the first sermon ever preached at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and the latter was a minister near Indianapolis. Another brother, William Robe, was murdered by the Knights of the Golden Circle during Civil war times. Still another brother, Andrew Robe, went to Texas and when the war came on served as a surgeon with the Confederate army.

Dr. Andrew Robe Wyatt grew up on the old homestead and had a public school education, attended the Spencerville High School, taught school for several years, and was graduated from the Indiana Medical College in 1882. He practiced at Spencerville with Doctor Hull for a few months, for a year and a half lived at Cedarville in Allen County, and for five years practiced at Rome City. For twenty-eight years Doctor Wyatt had his offices in the Lazarus Rose Building at LaGrange and finally moved just across the hall from his former quarters. Doctor Wyatt was a medical representative on the local board during the World war and examined about 1,700 volunteers and drafted men in the county. He is a member of the LaGrange County Medical Society, the Northern Tri-State Society, the State and American Medical associations. He is a Royal Arch Mason, member







*Albert Preston Mary Jane Preston*



of the Knight Templar Commandery at Kendallville, and he and his wife are active members of the Methodist Church and the doctor is now and has been for twenty-five years a member of the board of trustees.

March 16, 1882, he married Ella Snyder, a native of DeKalb County and a daughter of Lewis and Malinda (Dickerhoof) Snyder. Doctor and Mrs. Wyatt have one child, Grace Pauline, widow of G. C. Nichols.

Doctor Wyatt has always been an ardent republican in politics. He was formerly a member of the LaGrange School Board with Judge Ferrell and Judge James Drake. He has been a member of the Library Board since it was organized and one of the men chiefly responsible for that institution. For several years he also served as county and town health officer.

Doctor Wyatt gave a great deal of attention to operative surgery and performed many very difficult and critical abdominal operations with a high percentage of success. He had the distinction of performing the first abdominal operation ever performed by a local physician in LaGrange County.

**GUNTHER C. NICHOLS.** In a lifetime measured by few years Gunther C. Nichols possessed the activities, the kindly thought and charitable action of which there is no adequate human measure and which can only deserve and merit grateful memory of the generation which he served.

Mr. Nichols was born on English Prairie in Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, March 21, 1876, son of Charles G. and Ella (Burnell) Nichols. Of his parents and other members of the family sufficient is said on other pages. Gunther C. Nichols was graduated from the Lima High School and was also a graduate of the University of Illinois. His career was largely made up of banking experience. After coming home from university he entered the State Bank of Lima, now Howe, an institution owned by him and his brothers. Upon the organization of the LaGrange State Bank in October, 1903, he was elected cashier and performed the duties of that office until his death on May 26, 1917.

In November, 1906, he married Grace Pauline Wyatt, a daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Andrew R. Wyatt of LaGrange. To their marriage was born one daughter, Margaret-Ellen Nichols. Mrs. Nichols was born at Cedarville in Allen County, Indiana, but has spent most of her life in LaGrange. She is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and of the Western Seminary for Women at Oxford, Ohio. She is a member of the Presbyterian Church and Mr. Nichols was one of its most active supporters and a trustee of the congregation. He was a member and treasurer of the town school board, and was in his third consecutive term at the time of his death. He was also treasurer of his Lodge of Knights of Pythias, was treasurer of the Masonic Chapter, was a member of the Eastern Star, was secretary and treasurer of the LaGrange Creamery and Ice Company, and was treasurer of the Corn School Week, a local institution in which he took great pride and which he did much to make successful.

Mr. Nichols was a beautiful example of the unselfish and public spirited citizen. Modest and unassuming in his personal demeanor, he found means of entering into the lives of other people and the community in a spirit of helpfulness that was perhaps inadequately appreciated until his death brought a vivid realization of the value he represented to the community. He was the type of man who said little and did much. He was thoughtful,

considerate, generous and his career, though brief, was the expression of a continuous purpose of high mindedness.

**ALBERT PRESTON.** Ever since he came out of the Union army after the Civil war Mr. Preston has devoted his time and energy to farming and livestock raising. For more than forty-five years he has been a resident of LaGrange County, and still lives on his farm near LaGrange, though practically retired from its responsibilities.

The people of Northeast Indiana have reason to appreciate the sterling patriotism of the Preston family. For generations they have been men of deeds and solid industry, but have been equally valiant fighters in times of national need. Albert Preston was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, May 25, 1840, a son of James Preston, whose mother was a McClean, a descendant of the McCleans who made the first survey, later known as the Mason and Dixie line. James Preston was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, December 9, 1809. He brought his family to Indiana in 1853 and died in LaGrange County about 1890. His first wife was Mrs. Mary A. (Matthews) Preston, who was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, April 1, 1816. They were the parents of twelve children, several of whom died in infancy or early childhood. Those to reach mature years were: John M., who was a Union soldier two and a half years and is now deceased; Mary, deceased; Seymour, who served for four years in the Civil war and is still living; Albert whose record as a soldier will be noted below; Samuel, who was in the war one year and is now deceased; James McClean, who was for four years a Union soldier, rose to the rank of colonel and was a member of the staff of General Gross and later became prominent as a pioneer in Nebraska; Amanda and Nancy, both still living.

James Preston married for his second wife Mrs. Eliza (Matthews) Gould. By her first husband she had a son, Henry Gould, who was a Union soldier two and a half years. Thomas Preston, a son of James Preston by his second marriage, is still living.

While on the subject of the military record of the family it will be interesting to note the descendants of James Preston who took part in the recent World war. Their names are: Cecil Preston, Kenneth Blodgett, Harry Preston and Maynard Preston.

Albert Preston came to Indiana with his father in 1853, and had an active part in the work of the home farm in Bloomfield Township until 1859. In the meantime he attended the common schools. In 1859 he began an apprenticeship in the carpenter's trade with John Q. Reed of LaGrange. For several summers he worked as a carpenter and continued schooling in the winter. He was just about twenty-one years of age when the Civil war broke out. A few months later he put down his tools and in August, 1861, enlisted in Company G, of the Thirtieth Indiana Infantry. He was mustered into service September 24th and was with his regiment in some of the sternest fighting of the war in the Mississippi Valley. He was in the battles of Shiloh, Corinth, Stone River, Chattanooga, and early in the campaigns through Northern Georgia was wounded at Rocky Face, May 9, 1864. On account of this wound he was detailed as a commissary sergeant at General Gross' brigade headquarters and remained on that duty until mustered out at Indianapolis September 29, 1864. Thus for three continuous years he assisted in the mighty task of preserving the Union.

On December 14, 1864, a few weeks after leaving the army, he married Miss Mary J. Moor. She was born in Trumbull County, Ohio, July 15, 1842, only child of Andrew B. and Jane L. (Thomas) Moor. Her father was also a native of Trumbull County, while her mother was born in Wales.

Mr. Preston brought his family to his present farm in Bloomfield Township in 1871. He has been a sheep feeder for thirty years, and until he retired from farming about nine years ago he operated on the average about 150 acres. He and his wife are members of the Presbyterian Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Preston had five children. Effie M., widow of David Canine, taught school for many years and she and her only son, Albert Preston Canine, reside at Crawfordsville, Indiana. Francis A. Preston, formerly a traveling salesman who now lives in Cleveland, Ohio, married Frances Allison, of Indianapolis, and their two children are Elizabeth and Judith. Alice L. Preston is the wife of Dr. William Cook, of South Bend, and is the mother of two daughters, Mary and Lois Josephine. Mary Isabelle Preston died September 30, 1877, aged three. The fifth of the children is Lois, widow of John H. McKibben, and she has two children, Eloise and Frank Preston.

THOMAS S. WICKWIRE has been a lawyer, banker, business man, farmer and identified with so much of importance in the affairs of Angola and Steuben County that the present generation at least need no introduction to his name and career. The Wickwires are in fact a prominent old-time family of Steuben County. His father was a big man of affairs in his day and the son has done much to broaden and increase the associations with the name.

Mr. Wickwire was born in the Benjamin Brown Building on North Main Street, at the corner of the Public square, in Angola, January 30, 1854, and is a son of George W. and Rebecca (Hanna) Wickwire. His father married for his first wife Loretta Lemmon. George W. Wickwire arrived in Indiana and joined the pioneer community of Steuben County in 1835. His first place of settlement was three and a half miles east of Angola, where he secured a tract of Government land. As his fortune increased he invested in other land until at the time of his death he owned about 3,000 acres. He did a large business buying and selling land, chiefly on his own account. His first wife died while on the farm east of Angola, the mother of three children, Laura, George R. and Loretta A. George W. Wickwire then married Rebecca Hanna, who was a native of Ohio. By that union there were seven children: Catherine, Thomas S., Lydia Josephine, Charles W., Garry N., Nellie Maud, and Wilma W. George W. Wickwire, who was born in New York State in 1815, became a whig in political affiliation, later a republican, and prior to the Civil war was a strong anti-slavery man. He was a charter member of Angola Lodge of Masons and also a charter member of the Royal Arch Chapter and one of its first officers.

Thomas S. Wickwire received his early education in the public schools of Angola, including high school, and took up the study of law in a local office. Three years later he entered DePauw University at Greencastle, Indiana, and graduated in the law course in 1892. A member of the bar since 1890, he practiced in Ashley as well as Angola, but has found many important business interests competing for his time as a lawyer. He served about twenty years as deputy prosecuting attorney. Mr. Wickwire owns a fine farm of 160¾ acres in section 17 of Pleasant Township, and he has made that a model place in the agricultural environment of

Steuben County. His own residence at Angola is probably the finest house in the city. It is constructed of cobblestone. He also owns store buildings at Ashley and a cottage on the banks of Crooked Lake.

Mr. Wickwire has long been one of the leading republicans of Steuben County. He served as a member of the State Senate through the three sessions of 1905, 1907 and 1908. He was author of the bill to preserve the lakes of Indiana from drainage. He also secured the passage of a law abolishing all bucket shops in Indiana. Mr. Wickwire was a delegate to the Republican National Convention in 1908.

In Masonry he is affiliated with the York Rite at Angola and with the Scottish Rite Consistory at Indianapolis, is a Mystic Shriner, a member of the Knights of Pythias at Angola, and is a past noble grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows.

Mr. Wickwire organized the Angola Bank, which was later reorganized as the Angola Bank and Trust Company. He also founded the Ashley Bank and was its president, and the Ashley Building and Land Company, of which he was also president.

December 16, 1877, Mr. Wickwire married Miss Lizzie Craig, of Steuben County. She died in 1879. After her death Mr. Wickwire left Steuben County and spent two years in the Northwest. During that time he helped build the Northern Pacific Railroad, and was also employed in the removal of the Indians from the Little Missouri River and Yellowstone River. He also spent some time in California before his return to Steuben County. In 1884 he married Miss Martha Meese, of Van Wert, Ohio.

ALFRED A. WADE, SR. A resident of La Grange County over fifty years, Alfred A. Wade, Sr., is widely known not only for his activities as a business man and citizen, but also for the notable record made by his children in various professions and pursuits. From the standpoint of continuous work and service, Mr. Wade is one of the oldest merchants in the county.

He was born in Yorkshire, at Leeds, England, August 11, 1849, a son of Richard and Sarah (Williamson) Wade. His father was born in Yorkshire July 3, 1823, and his mother in Leeds, where she died when a young woman. The grandfather was John Wade, who spent his life in England, but three of his brothers, Richard, Robert and Thomas Wade, came to the United States and were pioneers of Northern Indiana about 1832. Richard Wade, father of the La Grange County merchant, after the death of his wife brought his family to America, lived at Palmyra, New York, for one year, and then came West to White Pigeon, Michigan, where he had his home for six years, and in 1865 located at Mongo, Indiana, where he engaged in the tailoring business. In 1886 he moved to Lima, where he died May 19, 1892.

Alfred A. Wade, Sr., spent a considerable portion of his early boyhood at White Pigeon, Michigan, where he attended public school. He was fifteen years of age when he came to Indiana, and for a short period he was a student in the Orland Seminary. He began his experience as a merchant in 1873 with the firm of Wade & Hawk. In 1882 he bought out his partner, and continued the business until August 17, 1885, when he removed to Lima and has been a merchant there continuously for nearly thirty-five years. Mr. Wade is a charter member of Howe Lodge No. 698, Free and Accepted Masons, and has been secretary of the lodge since it was organized. He also became a charter member of Lima Lodge No. 142, Knights of



Pythias, when it was organized in 1886, and for over twenty years has been its master of finance. He and his family are all members of the Episcopal Church.

On September 8, 1874, Mr. Wade married Emily Eleva Chase. She died January 15, 1884, the mother of three children: Richard L., who died in infancy; Frank C., a physician at Howe, Indiana; and Alfred A. Jr., also a physician practicing at Howe.

March 19, 1885, Mr. Wade married Miss Sarah Eliza Hawk, daughter of Christopher Louis and Sarah J. (Wyckoff) Hawk, of a prominent and widely known family in Northeast Indiana. Mr. and Mrs. Wade became the parents of four children.

Roscoe H., the oldest, was born April 14, 1886, was educated in the Howe Military School, graduating in 1906, and in 1909 graduated in the law department of the Indiana State University. He spent nine years as collection and sales manager of the Rumely manufacturing business of LaPorte, Indiana, and is now in the New Business Department of the Continental Guarantee Corporation of New York City. He married Birdella Daggs, of Kansas City.

Sarah Elizabeth Wade, who was born September 3, 1888, is a graduate of the Howe High School, took music and art courses in the Thomas Normal Training School of Detroit, Michigan, and for one year taught at Eaton, Indiana, three years in the Howe High School and one year at Rome City. She is now the wife of Leroy Edwin Zuck and they have three sons named Edwin Wade, Paul Daniel and John Alfred.

Roderic Paul Wade, born January 4, 1891, is a graduate of the Howe Military School and finished his work at Harvard University in 1913. For five years he was an instructor in the Howe Military School, and in June, 1918, joined the aviation branch of the American army, sailed on July 31st, landed in England August 15th, and on August 24th was sent to Scotland, where he was assigned duties until the armistice. December 1, 1918, he sailed for home, reaching this country on the 11th, and was discharged December 28th and reached home the 30th. On January 19th, 1919, he went to work as correspondent for the Guaranty Banking Corporation of Chicago, and now has charge of the Department of Discounts.

Anna E. Wade, youngest of the children, was born May 19, 1893, and is a graduate of the Howe High School and of the University of Indiana with the class of 1914. She taught one year at Sturgis, Michigan, three years in the Howe High School, and the last year was principal. Since June, 1918, she has had charge of the department of restricted funds, and has been staff assistant to the Comptroller at the Red Cross headquarters in Washington.

ALFRED A. WADE, M. D. Since he began practice at Howe in 1909 in partnership with his brother, Dr. F. C. Wade, Alfred A. Wade, Jr., has accepted and utilized the larger opportunities presented to a man of first class ability in his profession.

He was born at Mongo, Indiana, February 9, 1883, son of Alfred A. and Emily Eleva (Chase) Wade. When he was three years old his parents moved to Howe, where he attended both the public schools and the Howe Military School, of which he is a graduate with the class of 1903. In the fall of 1905 he entered the Detroit College of Medicine, graduating in 1909. He has since taken post-graduate work in Harvard University and Boston. In 1909 he formed his present partnership as Drs. Wade & Wade.

Doctor Wade is a republican, is affiliated with

the Masonic Lodge at Howe, the Scottish Rite bodies at Fort Wayne and the Mystic Shrine, and is also a member of the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America at Howe. August 31, 1911, he married Miss Zelta Venita Beecher, a daughter of Dr. Arthur C. Beecher of LaGrange. They have three children: Ainsworth Carlton, born June 25, 1912; Frank Chase II, born August 28, 1914; and Alice Vivian, born August 7, 1916.

HEWLITT DAVIS. In the substantial development of LaGrange County since 1837 no one family has taken a more active or useful part than that of Hezekiah Davis, and in Hewlitt Davis, president of the Farmers State Bank at Shipshewana, is found a worthy representative of this sturdy old stock.

Hewlitt Davis was born in Newbury Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, July 2, 1871, in which township his grandparents, Amos and Susannah (Lieb) Davis, had settled on land secured from the government in 1837. While Grandfather Davis developed and improved his land, he was recognized as a leader among his pioneer neighbors because of his superior education and upright character, and they put him in authority as a judge of court. It is recorded of him that he was one of the founders of the Presbyterian Church here, was a strong advocate of temperance and one of the pronounced abolitionists of his day. His death was occasioned by a fall. His widow survived into advanced age. They had ten children, namely: Mahala, Nancy, Asenath, Elizabeth, Sarah, Margaret, Mary, Hezekiah, Joseph L. and James.

Hezekiah Davis, father of Hewlitt Davis, was born in 1825 in Fairfield County, Ohio, and was twelve years old when he accompanied his parents to LaGrange County, Indiana, where he spent his entire subsequent life. He became a man of importance, not only because of business capacity, but on account of his sterling traits of character, which led him to use his wealth in furthering many worthy enterprises, and, when bearing the responsibilities of public office, to labor conscientiously for the public welfare. His first farm was secured in Newbury Township in 1851, to which he added until at the time of his death, in 1891, he owned 1,400 acres and was an extensive feeder of stock. He was the founder of the town of Shipshewana in 1888, and in 1889 he organized a private bank and continued its president until his death. For twenty years he was a county commissioner and was president of the board at the time the courthouse was built, and it was largely due to his business capacity that the county was not unduly taxed. In the early days when religious bodies desired to meet the only available places would be in the houses of the members or in the small buildings provided as schoolhouses. This condition made such an appeal to Hezekiah Davis that he not only built two churches, mainly at his own expense, but insured the salary of a preacher for the first year. He had been reared a Presbyterian but in later life became a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1851 Hezekiah Davis was united in marriage to Sarah R. Reynolds, who was born in 1832 in St. Joseph County, Michigan, the first white child. Her father, Samuel Reynolds, located in that county with his family in 1831, but later removed to Indiana and settled first in Newbury and afterward in Springfield Township, where he and his wife died in 1877. The Reynolds children were as follows: John, Charles, Samuel, Frank, Sarah, Lottie and Mary Jane, the last named becoming the wife of Joseph L. Davis, brother of Hezekiah Davis. To Hezekiah Davis and his wife seven children were

born, namely: Emma, Samuel G., Eugene, Niles, Warren H., Leonora G. and Hewlitt. The principles of the republican party found a strong advocate in Hezekiah Davis.

Hewlitt Davis attended the public schools and after completing the high school course at Le-Grange he entered a business college at Toledo, Ohio, where he completed a commercial course. He then became associated, in 1893, with his mother in the conduct of a private bank, he being cashier and his mother president, which relationship continued until Mr. Davis organized the Farmers' State Bank in October, 1907, of which he has been president ever since.

On June 1, 1911, Mr. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Carrie L. Rogers, who is a daughter of Thomas and Sarah Rogers, respected residents of Shipshewana, and they have two children: Sarah R. and Herbert R. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Davis owns 800 acres of fine land in Newbury Township, on which general farming and stockraising is carried on. In his political identification he is a republican and proud of his American citizenship.

SIDNEY SLABAUGH, representing one of the old and substantial families of Noble County, has acquired a good home in the agricultural district of Perry Township, and is one of the leading men of influence and action in that locality. His home is in section 15, a mile and a half north of Ligonier.

He was born on his father's farm in the same township and county May 5, 1871, son of Christian E. and Catherine (Bowsher) Slabaugh. Of his father, who is still a resident of Noble County, more is said on other pages. Sidney was the oldest of four children, and has spent practically all his life in Perry Township, where he acquired his education in the local schools. He lived at home and helped work the home place until twenty-one, and then entered into a formal arrangement of salary and other working conditions with his father, which continued for three years longer.

On November 8, 1894, he married Lillie Sackett, who was born in LaGrange County, Indiana, a daughter of Stephen Sackett. Mr. and Mrs. Slabaugh after their marriage engaged in farming in Perry Township, and have lived on several different places. Finally they bought sixty-two acres included in their present home and also ninety acres further north in the same township. Mr. Slabaugh is a general farmer and stockraiser and has other business interests, including stock in the Citizens Bank and the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator in Ligonier. He is a democrat and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

CHANCY DAVID STUKEY. Three generations of the Stukey family have played their part well in Greenfield township, LaGrange county. As farmers they have made virgin soil productive, have cleared and improved, and carried on their diversified interests with profit to themselves and credit to their community.

Chancy David Stukey represents the second generation of the family and was born in Greenfield township February 10, 1864. He is a son of Christian and Sarah (Schrock) Stukey, the former a native of Ontario, Canada, and the latter of Ohio. The paternal grandfather Stukey was the founder of the family in Canada, and after his death there his widow married again and with her son Christian and three of his brothers and sisters moved to Ohio. Christian Stukey was educated in Ohio, and when a single man came to Clinton township, Elkhart county, Indiana. There at the age of twenty-

eight he married Sarah Schrock, whose father, Peter Schrock, was a minister of the Mennonite church and died in Ohio. Christian Stukey was born November 7, 1825, and about 1858 he located in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County. He bought 88 acres in section 14. This land had some improvements. In the spring of 1864 he moved to the 160 acre farm where his son Chancy now lives. He continued his industrious career on that land until death. He and his wife had three children Elizabeth, who died as Mrs. Ely D. Yoder. Adeline, wife of Daniel Agley, of Greenfield Township; and Chancy David.

Chancy David Stukey attended the country schools, graduating from the Lima High School in 1888 and for two years was a teacher in his home township. After his marriage he bought a farm near the old homestead, remained there eleven years, and since then has owned and occupied a farm of 160 acres which his father did much to improve. He has remodeled some of the substantial buildings put there by his father. His sons, constituting the third generation of the family, are actively associated with him in farming, and together they own another 160 acres and are engaged in the business of raising full blood Shorthorn cattle and Belgian horses.

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The late Henry J. Platt as a business man adhered to a routine of absolute integrity in all his transactions, and that was only a reflection of his generous character. He was a Knight Templar and Scottish Rite Mason, a member of the Mystic Shrine, and was also affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and the Modern Woodmen of America. For several years he was a member of the Board of Town Trustees of LaGrange, and during that official service he worked without ceasing in behalf of permanent paving for the city streets. Both he and his wife were active members of the Presbyterian Church.

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born, namely: Emma, Samuel G., Eugene, Niles, Warren H., Leonora G. and Hewlitt. The principles of the republican party found a strong advocate in Hezekiah Davis.

Hewlitt Davis attended the public schools and after completing the high school course at LeGrange he entered a business college at Toledo, Ohio, where he completed a commercial course. He then became associated, in 1893, with his mother in the conduct of a private bank, he being cashier and his mother president, which relationship continued until Mr. Davis organized the Farmers' State Bank in October, 1907, of which he has been president ever since.

On June 1, 1911, Mr. Davis was united in marriage to Miss Carrie L. Rogers, who is a daughter of Thomas and Sarah Rogers, respected residents of Shipshewana, and they have two children: Sarah R. and Herbert R. Mr. and Mrs. Davis are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church, Mr. Davis owns 800 acres of fine land in Newbury Township, on which general farming and stockraising is carried on. In his political identification he is a republican and proud of his American citizenship.

SIDNEY SLABAUGH, representing one of the old and substantial families of Noble County, has acquired a good home in the agricultural district of Perry Township, and is one of the leading men of influence and action in that locality. His home is in section 15, a mile and a half north of Ligonier.

He was born on his father's farm in the same township and county May 5, 1871, son of Christian E. and Catherine (Bowsher) Slabaugh. Of his father, who is still a resident of Noble County, more is said on other pages. Sidney was the oldest of four children, and has spent practically all his life in Perry Township, where he acquired his education in the local schools. He lived at home and helped work the home place until twenty-one, and then entered into a formal arrangement of salary and other working conditions with his father, which continued for three years longer.

On November 8, 1894, he married Lillie Sackett, who was born in LaGrange County, Indiana, a daughter of Stephen Sackett. Mr. and Mrs. Slabaugh after their marriage engaged in farming in Perry Township, and have lived on several different places. Finally they bought sixty-two acres included in their present home and also ninety acres further north in the same township. Mr. Slabaugh is a general farmer and stockraiser and has other business interests, including stock in the Citizens Bank and the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator in Ligonier. He is a democrat and is affiliated with the Modern Woodmen of America.

CHANCY DAVID STUKEY. Three generations of the Stukey family have played their part well in Greenfield township, LaGrange county. As farmers they have made virgin soil productive, have cleared and improved, and carried on their diversified interests with profit to themselves and credit to their community.

Chancy David Stukey represents the second generation of the family and was born in Greenfield township February 10, 1864. He is a son of Christian and Sarah (Schrock) Stukey, the former a native of Ontario, Canada, and the latter of Ohio. The paternal grandfather Stukey was the founder of the family in Canada, and after his death there his widow married again and with her son Christian and three of his brothers and sisters moved to Ohio. Christian Stukey was educated in Ohio, and when a single man came to Clinton township, Elkhart county, Indiana. There at the age of twenty-

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Mrs. Phoebe (Hays) Platt was born in Johnson Township, LaGrange County, October 9, 1859, a

daughter of David and Lydia (Ferguson) Hays. Her parents were both natives of Pennsylvania. Her father was born in Washington County June 30, 1813, and her mother on September 18, 1816. They were married in Ohio April 18, 1839, and in 1853 came to LaGrange County, buying a farm near Oliver Lake. About 1874 they moved to LaGrange, where David Hays was connected with the grain firm of Wills & Clugston and manager of the elevator. He died at LaGrange July 2, 1881, at the age of sixty-eight. His widow survived him until December 13, 1904. Soon after her death the old Hays homestead in LaGrange was sold. David Hays was a republican, and while living in Johnson Township served as township trustee and later was a member of the school board at LaGrange. He had become affiliated with the Presbyterian Church at the age of eighteen and for twenty-five years was a ruling elder. He and his wife were charter members of one of the churches of that denomination in LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Hays had eight children: Mary Jane, who died in childhood; William, who died during the Civil war; Crosby, who died at Tacoma, Washington, in 1890; Sarah Ellen, who died in 1912, the wife of Isaac Van Kirk; Levi Ferguson; Robert F., who died in 1902; Phoebe Ann, Mrs. Platt; and Alice A., who died in infancy.

ORLO R. WERKER is one of the younger generation of farmers in Noble County and has assumed many of the responsibilities and burdens carried by his father for so many years. He lives on the old Werker homestead a mile west of Kimmell and three miles east of Cromwell.

He was born on that farm August 21, 1892, son of Yanguolph and Clara A. (Schlabach) Werker. His father was a native of Germany and his mother was born in Ohio. The Schlabach family have long been prominent in Noble County, locating there in 1860. Yanguolph Werker and wife were married in that county and were the parents of seven children: Charles; William, of Iowa City, Iowa; Melvin L., of Kimmell; Wallace, of Sparta Township; John, of Montana; Orlo; and Harvey, of Fort Wayne.

Orlo R. Werker has spent all his life on the old homestead, and as a boy attended the district schools. He married Effie E. Naggart, who was also born in Sparta Township. They have two children: Georgia Y. and Lewis R. The family are members of the Sparta Christian Church.

Mr. Werker is affiliated with Cromwell Lodge No. 408, Knights of Pythias, and is a democrat. He is making a success as a farmer and stockraiser, and has the management of 120 acres.

JOHN J. KAUFFMAN. As the present county assessor of LaGrange County, for many years a merchant, public official, business man and farmer, John J. Kauffman will be readily recognized as one of the best known citizens of this part of Northeast Indiana.

He was born near the city of Johnstown, Pennsylvania, July 27, 1856, a son of Jacob and Susan (Miller) Kauffman, both natives of Pennsylvania. His grandfather, Jonas Kauffman, left that section of Pennsylvania and with some of his family settled in Kent County, Michigan, about 1864. Jonas lived there until his death about six years later. His first wife had died in Pennsylvania, and he married for his second wife Martha Miller, who died about 1885. The maternal grandfather of the county assessor was Jacob Miller, a native of Pennsylvania, who came to Newbury Township of LaGrange County in 1864 and died there in 1874.

Jacob and Susan Kauffman moved from Pennsyl-

vania in 1863, when their son John J., was seven years old, and located on a farm in Newbury Township of LaGrange County. Jacob Kauffman was a blacksmith by trade. In 1873, after ten years of residence in LaGrange County, he moved with his family to Cedar County, Missouri. He and his wife had fourteen children, ten of whom reached manhood and womanhood, and nine of them went to Missouri. He lived in that state until his death in 1897, at the age of sixty-three. His wife died in Missouri in 1891, at the age of sixty-eight. Both were members of the Brethren Church.

John J. Kauffman acquired his early education in the public schools of LaGrange County. He was eighteen years old when the family went to Missouri, and he lived there with them about two years. He then returned to LaGrange County, and was the only member of the family to come back to Northeast Indiana. Mr. Kauffman has a brother, Joseph, living at Tacoma, Washington. His brothers Eune and Charles are successful fruit ranchers near Selma in Fresno County, California, and both are married and have families. Another brother, Moses, is living near Preston, Kansas. The only sister is Mrs. Joseph Reitz, of Kansas City, Missouri. Two other brothers, Henry and Amos, are residents of Cedar County, Missouri, Henry owning part of the old homestead. Jacob and Levi both died about 1901, Jacob leaving a large family, while Levi was unmarried.

In 1883 Mr. John J. Kauffman established the first store at Shore, Indiana. He was in business there about four years, then for two years merchandised at LaGrange, and in 1889 went to Shipshewana, where he was a successful and leading business man until 1909. In that year he bought a farm in Clay Township, where he has since resided. From November 15, 1897, to November 1, 1902, Mr. Kauffman was postmaster of Shipshewana. The incumbent of that office was selected by popular vote among the patrons of the office, and Mr. Kauffman was preferred among four candidates. He was elected county assessor in 1918.

Mr. Kauffman married Florence A. (Sparks) Merriman, daughter of Thomas Sparks, one of the early settlers of Newbury Township, who married a Miss Nelson. Mrs. Kauffman's parents moved out to Oklahoma when the Cherokee strip was opened in the early '90s, and they lived there until their death, the mother in 1908 and the father in 1911. Mr. Kauffman has a son, John C. Kauffman, who is a farmer near Chenoa, Illinois, and is married and has three children.

Since about 1894 Mr. Kauffman has been an auctioneer by profession. For some years he was also a traveling salesman, for two years representing the Deering Harvester Company.

CHARLES A. KUNCE is senior member of the firm Kunce & Minnick, automobile dealers and garage proprietors at LaGrange. Mr. Kunce has been a farmer, business man and public official in LaGrange County for many years, and is one of the best known citizens of Northeast Indiana.

He was born near Helmer in Salem Township of Steuben County February 5, 1874. His father, the late George R. Kunce, was born in Huntington County, Indiana, August 23, 1842, son of Henry and Susanna (Rhemes) Kunce, the former born in Pennsylvania August 20, 1805, and the latter in the same state June 28, 1807. Henry Kunce was one of the pioneer settlers of Huntington County, Indiana, going there from Perry County, Ohio. He and his wife had a family of eleven children: John, born April 18, 1827; Andrew, born February 7, 1829; Julia Ann, born December 20, 1830; Jacob,



born April 15, 1833, and was killed as a Union soldier in 1863; Elizabeth, born August 3, 1835; Henry, born February 11, 1838, served with his brother Jacob in the Civil war and afterward returned home; Thomas, born May 26, 1840; George R., born August 23, 1842; Emanuel B., born February 10, 1845; Amos W., born May 19, 1847; and Sussanna E., born December 7, 1850.

George R. Kunce grew up in Huntington County, and with his brothers shared in the toils and labors of a pioneer farm. He was noted for his physical strength and was a man of great industry all his life. September 29, 1864, he enlisted as a private in Company F of the Garrison Guards, which was an unassigned part of the 32d Regiment of Indiana Infantry. He was on military duty until discharged May 8, 1865. In 1872 George R. Kunce settled in Steuben County and in 1879 moved to LaGrange County, and lived in Springfield Township until his death on September 2, 1919. In 1887 he bought forty acres of land in that township, and on January 18, 1890, bought an additional fifty-two and a half acres. His first wife was Hattie Smith, and the one child of that union, Della, is now Mrs. Cornell, of Huntington, Indiana. His second wife, whom he married in 1872, was Amy Glasgo, who was born in Ohio and was reared from childhood in Steuben County. She died in Kansas. She was the mother of two children: Charles A.; and Lottie, now Mrs. Chalmers of Larned, Kansas. In 1881 George R. Kunce married Savilla (Bumpus) Paulus. There were no children of that marriage, but his wife had a daughter by her first husband, now Mrs. Maud Hockensmith, of Huntington.

Charles A. Kunce was five years old when his father moved to Springfield Township, LaGrange County, in 1879, and he grew to manhood and lived in that township until he was thirty-four. Then for several years he engaged in farming but in 1908 left the farm and became a merchant at Brushy Prairie. He was in business there about two and a half years, when he sold out, and on July 3, 1911, came to LaGrange and engaged in the livery business. He continued furnishing a high class livery service from the county seat until 1916. At that date he entered the garage business and in 1917 sold his livery. From 1916 for one year he had the agency for the Overland car. For the past two years his firm has been local distributors for the Ford cars. The business was first the LaGrange Auto Company, its partners being B. S. Walters, R. N. Walters; G. Latty and Charles A. Kunce. Later Long & Price bought all the interests except those of Mr. Kunce, and the firm then became known as the LaGrange Sales and Service Company. Mr. Kunce sold his interest during his candidacy for sheriff of LaGrange County. He was appointed deputy sheriff under Charles A. Minnick, his present partner in business. Later he and Mr. Minnick bought out the automobile business and the firm is now Kunce & Minnick.

Mr. Kunce is a republican and has wielded considerable influence in local politics. He is a member of the Ancient Order of Gleaners.

February 14, 1897, he married Effa Galloway. She was born at Auburn in DeKalb County September 8, 1875, a daughter of Samuel T. and Matilda J. (Wyatt) Galloway. Her mother is a sister of Doctor Wyatt of LaGrange. Her father was born in Ashland County, Ohio, July 27, 1846, while her mother was born in DeKalb County April 15, 1849. Samuel T. Galloway was a son of Thomas and Mary A. (Tarney) Galloway, the former a native of Scotland and the latter of Ohio. Thomas

Galloway and seven brothers came from Scotland and settled in Ohio, Thomas locating in Ashland county, where he married and where he lived until his death about 1878. His widow spent her last years in Ashland County, Ohio. Mrs. Kunce's maternal grandfather was John Wyatt, a pioneer of DeKalb County who entered government land and became widely known as a farmer and public spirited citizen. He died in 1906, at the venerable age of ninety-five. Mrs. Kunce's father went to DeKalb County when a young man, was married there, and for a number of years was a carpenter and contractor living at Auburn. Later he established his home at Orland, where he continued in the contracting business, and subsequently was a farmer in Jackson Township of Steuben County. March 20, 1902, he came to LaGrange and bought the Cloverdale Feed Barn, continuing that business for several years. He also built a fine home at LaGrange and did other building in and around that city. Mr. Galloway died in 1916 and Mrs. Kunce's mother is now living at South Bend. Mrs. Kunce was one of eight daughters, six of whom are still living: Mintie, wife of Howard Adams; Vinnie B., wife of Joseph Wehrly; Effa, Mrs. Kunce; Mamie, who died at the age of seven months; Lena, wife of Charles Munger, of Los Angeles, California; Beulah, who died when eight years old; and Bertha and Bernice, twins, both living with their mother at South Bend.

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Kunce are three in number. Glada Marie, born in March, 1899, graduated from the LaGrange High School in 1918, and is now continuing her studies in Purdue University. Samuel, who was born December 15, 1902, is a senior in the LaGrange High School. The youngest of the family is Margaret, born October 9, 1909.

CHARLES R. STAGE represents one of the older families of Noble County. His grandfather came here in pioneer times and acquired and developed a large amount of new and raw land. Charles R. Stage is still living on part of that original homestead, three and a quarter miles northeast of Ligonier.

He was born there November 13, 1866, a son of Theron D. Stage and a grandson of Benjamin F. Stage. The grandfather was a native of Ohio and on coming to Indiana entered land from the Government and gradually increased his holdings until he owned about 800 acres. He died in Perry Township at a good old age, honored and respected. In politics he was a whig. Theron Stage was born and reared on the old Stage homestead in Noble County and spent all his life there. He died at the age of fifty-one. He was a republican and was honored with several township offices.

Charles R. Stage was the only son of his parents. He acquired a good education in the district schools and the Ligonier High School and for several years lived in Chicago, where he was employed and was also in business for himself. He returned home at the death of his father, and has since been owner and manager of the farm. He has done much in improving the grades of livestock and is a breeder of the Polled Aberdeen Angus cattle, his herd being headed by Sergeant of Angelhurst. He also has good grades of Holstein cattle and other stock. Mr. Stage is a stockholder in the Farmers' Co-operative Elevator in Ligonier.

In 1893 he married Miss Edith Cochran, who was born and reared in Perry Township, a daughter of William A. Cochran. They have two children: Glenn T., who is now attending school at Ligonier;

and Eleanor, who was born in 1910. Mr. Stage is a republican in politics.

CHARLES S. NICHOLS from the standpoint of experience and service is the second eldest banker of LaGrange County. For about a quarter of a century he has been identified as cashier and president with the State Bank of Howe.

He is a member of an old and prominent family of the county. He was born November 14, 1865, at the Nichols homestead in Greenfield Township. The property is still in the family. His parents were Charles G. and Ella (Burnell) Nichols. His paternal grandfather, Drusus Nichols, was born in Connecticut and at an early day came to Indiana and became owner of the Mongo Mills and Distillery and was also a merchant there. Charles G. Nichols was born in Connecticut in 1838, and was the only child of his parents. He was well educated, at first at Mongo, later at Notre Dame University at South Bend, and finally in the LaGrange County Collegiate Institute. He was a man of extensive interests, represented by 400 acres of land in Greenfield Township. He specialized in the breeding and raising of road horses. For many years he was township assessor and for one term county assessor. In politics he was a republican, and he and his wife were active in the Episcopal Church. Charles G. Nichols died at Howe in 1892.

He married in Greenfield Township Miss Ella Burnell, who was born in that township and died in 1903. Her parents were Samuel and Mary (Mason) Burnell, who settled in Greenfield Township about 1831. Samuel Burnell as one of the pioneers took up a tract of government land on English Prairie, and owned 240 acres there, known as the Burnell Farm. He also had other lands and was a man of great enterprise and ability. He died at Lima January 7, 1889. In the Burnell family were three children: Ella; Jennie, wife of Charles F. Gunther; and John, deceased. Charles G. Nichols and wife had six children. Drusus B., who died in 1891, married Jennie Shipman, and they had three children, named James H., Drusus and Marion. Mary S. Nichols is unmarried, and she and her brother Charles S. live together. Charles S. was the third in age. Samuel B. is fourth. Frank M. died August 12, 1915. He married Rachel Kenyon, and had two children, Charles Kenyon and Frank Morse. Gunther, the youngest of the family, died May 26, 1917. His wife was Grace Wyatt, and they had one child, Margaret Ellen.

Charles S. Nichols grew up on the home farm in Greenfield Township, attended country schools, the high school at Howe, and graduated from a business college at Three Rivers, Michigan. About 1893 he entered the service of the bank at Howe, of which his grandfather, Samuel Burnell, was one of the organizers. On April 1, 1896, he and his mother bought out the other interests in the bank, and his mother was its president until her death in 1903, with Mr. Nichols cashier. Since the death of his mother Mr. Nichols has been president of the bank.

He and his brother Samuel also own the old Nichols homestead and have increased this property until they have 500 acres on English Prairie, located in Greenfield and Springfield townships. They are extensive feeders of sheep and cattle. Both brothers are thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Masons and Shriners and are members of the Knights of Pythias' Lodge.

WILLIAM H. SWIHART. A number of circumstances make appropriate a brief review and per-

manent record of the career of William H. Swihart in this publication. Mr. Swihart is proprietor of the Oakland Farm in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County, and is one of the leading agriculturists and land owners in that part of the state.

He was born in Allen County, Indiana, south of Fort Wayne, January 30, 1855, a son of Daniel and Sarah (Summers) Swihart. His father was born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, in 1819, was married in that state, and during the fifties settled in Allen County, Indiana. When William H. Swihart was about a year old his father moved to the vicinity of South Bend, bought a farm, but after a year went to Terre Coupee Prairie and three years later came to LaGrange County, buying 200 acres in Greenfield Township. This was the Joseph Roop farm. The father remained a resident there until his death in 1892. He and his wife had eleven children, named Jonathan, Elizabeth, Martha, Susan, Joseph, Frank, Nancy, William H., Laura, Clara and Samuel.

As a member of such a large household William H. Swihart had at an early age to look out for himself. He has spent most of his life in LaGrange County, attended the public schools there and has been a farmer from his early experience. He finally bought eighty acres of the old homestead, and since then successive purchases have added to his generous estate. He bought eighty acres of Samuel Miller, fifty-two acres of the McKenzie estate, 140 acres of the John Anderson estate, where he now lives, and finally sixty-five acres of the William Anderson estate. These varied possessions aggregate 435 acres, and the buildings and equipment are thoroughly modern. He built a large barn in 1899 and a modern country home in 1906. For thirty-five years Mr. Swihart has been a sheep feeder, furnishing for the market from one to three carloads at a time. He also keeps pure bred Duroc swine. He is a democrat in politics. His parents were Dunkards and gave liberally to the construction of the Dunkard Church in Greenfield Township.

December 25, 1876, Mr. Swihart married Miss Susannah Schrock, a daughter of Eli and Eliza (Gerber) Schrock, early settlers of LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Swihart have two children, Dyoll and Delia. The latter died at the age of three months. Dyoll was born July 27, 1878, attended country schools, the high schools at Brighton and Howe, and since early manhood has been a farmer. He rents his father's place. Dyoll Swihart married Adelia Dague. Their four children are Donald, Maynard, Stewart and Ledger.

JOHN C. VAN AMAN, while one of the newer citizens of LaGrange County, has distinguished himself by his push and enterprise as a farmer, and has a farm that is widely known for its improvements and fine livestock. This farm is in Bloomfield Township.

Mr. Van Aman was born in Wood County, Ohio, February 3, 1888, a son of Frank and Alta (Lyle) Van Aman. His father was born in Seneca County, Ohio, in 1861, and his mother in Fayette County of the same state in 1863. They lived on a farm in Wood County for some years and later went to Henry County, Ohio. Frank Van Aman is a democrat in politics and was a trustee of Richfield Township in Henry County, Ohio, is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Frank Van Aman and wife had a large family of children, namely: Emma, wife of George McGee, of Perrysburg, Ohio; Pearl, wife of Charles Harris, of Deshler, Ohio; Robert, of Angola; John C. Thurman, who lives in Canada; Gardner, Clair and Lu-





Wm. H. Livihart



Susannah Livihart





cile, at home; and Ruth, who was the sixth in age, wife of Rollo Thompson of Fremont, where he is cashier of the National Bank.

John C. Van Aman acquired most of his education in the public schools of Henry County, Ohio. At the age of twenty he moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, and in 1912 went to Essex, Ontario, Canada, and for three years was a renter and then bought a farm. He soon afterward sold and in the spring of 1916 returned to DeKalb County and in the fall of that year bought his present place in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County. Mr. Van Aman has 116 acres and in a few years has given the farm many improvements. He probably has the largest silo in LaGrange County, a structure 16x45 feet and with a capacity of 250 tons. He is a breeder of pure bred Duroc Jersey hogs and in 1918 was awarded first prize for his herd of Durocs.

Mr. Van Aman is a democrat. His wife is a Catholic and he was reared a Methodist. January 25, 1913, he married Mary A. Simon, who was born in Fulton County, Ohio, a daughter of Jacob and Catherine Simon, of that county. Her father died in 1911 and her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Van Aman have three children: Francis S., born January 25, 1914; Helen, born July 17, 1915; and John C., Jr., born January 2, 1919.

JAMES P. BOLTON, an honored survivor of the Civil war, has for fifty years been a resident of Swan Township of Noble County, and has made his presence there productive of benefit to the entire community. He is a practical farmer, and is still giving his supervision to his land.

Mr. Bolton was born in Canada, March 1, 1844, son of George and Jane (Shotton) Bolton. His parents were natives of Newcastle, England, and were married and four of their children were born in England. George Bolton was a tailor by trade. On immigrating to America he first settled at Quebec, later at Montreal, and for several years conducted a tailor business at Brockville, Canada. About 1847 he moved to Jefferson County, New York, and in 1854 went into the sparsely settled country of Wisconsin, locating in Dodge County. He worked at his trade there about eight years.

James P. Bolton was a boy when his parents made these different removals, and he finished his education in Wisconsin. At the age of eighteen, in 1862, he volunteered his services in Company A of the Twenty-First Wisconsin Infantry. He was mustered in at Oshkosh and for nearly three years was in active service with his regiment in the armies of the west. Part of the time he was under the command of General Buell. He was in the battle of Perryville, Kentucky, in the first Nashville campaign, in the battle of Stone River, and continued a dutiful and brave soldier until the close of the war. He arrived home in June, 1865, and in October of the same year came to Noble County, Indiana. After his marriage he located on a farm in Swan Township, and has lived continuously in one house there for half a century.

January 1, 1868, Mr. Bolton married Miss Lucy A. Broughton. She was born just across the road from her present home on August 18, 1847, daughter of Samuel Broughton, one of the early settlers in Noble County. Mr. and Mrs. Bolton had five children: Nina E., wife of William Pfeightner; Ellis D., who married May Bricker, and lives in Swan Township; Amy, wife of George Fitzsimmons; Carl married Myrtle Strong; and John W., a resident of Avilla, married Ada Drocock.

Mr. Bolton owns a well improved farm of forty acres. He is a member of the advisory board of his

township, is a republican, belongs to the Grand Army Post of Kendallville and is affiliated with Avilla Lodge No. 460 of the Masonic Order.

HENRY CONEY has been a resident of LaGrange County fifty years, and though he has made a number of changes these changes have all constituted progressive steps in his advancement to success as a farmer. Mr. Coney is now associated with two of his sons in farming in Springfield Township.

He was born in St. Joseph County, Michigan, July 31, 1859, a son of John and Susanna (Pant) Coney. His parents were both natives of Lincolnshire, England, where the father of John Coney owned a small farm on the east coast. John and Susanna Coney after their marriage and after the birth of several children came to America in 1859 and located where their son Henry was born in Michigan. In 1868 they moved to Milford Township, LaGrange County, and located in the midst of the heavy woods. John Coney lived to clear and improve a tract of eighty acres here. He and his wife had thirteen children. Those to reach mature years were named Robert, Anna, William, Fannie, Rebecca, who became the wife of Henry Neff and is now deceased, John, Henry and Mary, who is Mrs. Benjamin Randall. Those who died in early childhood in England were named Robert, Henry, John, Elizabeth and Fannie.

Henry Coney was nine years old when his parents located in LaGrange County, and he finished his education while making himself useful to his father on the old homestead. At the age of nineteen he became a farm hand and subsequently bought twenty acres of his father's place. He built a house and lived there several years, later moved to Springfield Township, near Brushy Prairie, where he owned ten acres, subsequently had forty-five acres in the southwest corner of Springfield Township, and then followed a period of eleven years in which he was a farm renter. Mr. Coney bought his present place of eighty acres in 1915, two of his sons being associated with him in the purchase. This farm is south of Brushy Prairie. The Coneys are well known breeders of Duroc Jersey hogs.

In February, 1879, Mr. Coney married Miss Mary Ann Pant. She was born in England, a daughter of Henry and Fannie (Blow) Pant, who came to this country when their daughter Mary Ann was about fourteen years of age. That was in 1874. From Canada, their first location, they moved to LaGrange County, where the parents of Mrs. Coney spent the rest of their lives, and they died at Mount Pisgah in Milford Township. Mr. and Mrs. Coney had six children: Charles, who died in infancy; Susan, Mrs. Charles Sowers, of Coldwater, Michigan; Robert and Thomas, both associated with their father on the farm; Clyde, who died at the age of eighteen months; and Hildred. Mrs. Coney joined the Methodist Church when fourteen years old.

GEORGE P. SMITH was for twenty years a successful farmer and for thirteen years has been identified with the business community at LaGrange, where he is one of the leading men of affairs not only in commercial enterprise but also in public movements.

Mr. Smith was born on the old George Holmes farm in Johnson Township July 31, 1863, a son of Harrison and Margaret Ann (Brown) Smith.

Harrison Smith, an old resident and prominent farmer of Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, was born October 17, 1816, in Shenandoah County, Virginia. He was the second child of a family of three sons and four daughters. His parents were Phillip and Mary (Metz) Smith.

Phillip Smith was of German descent, was a native of Shenandoah County, Virginia, and was born in 1792 and was a shoemaker by trade. Phillip Smith's father, the grandfather of Harrison Smith, was named Adam Smith. He was a native of Shenandoah County, Virginia, was a shoemaker by trade in his early life but later became an innkeeper. Adam Smith married Mary Brannen September 30, 1788, during his service as a soldier in the Revolutionary war. His military record is as follows—"Adam Smith served in the Revolutionary war as a private, enlisting March 16, 1776, in Captain Michael Bowyer's Company, 12th Virginia Regiment, commanded by Colonel James Wood. The records show that about May, 1778, this regiment was incorporated with the 4th and 8th Virginia regiments and was designated the 4th, 8th and 12th Virginia regiments until about September, 1778, and the designation of the company changed to Lieutenant Colonel Charles Flemming's Company and later to Captain Andrew Wiggin's Company. His name last appears on a company muster roll dated December 9, 1779. The date of his discharge from service is not shown."

Phillip Smith died 1828, in the prime of life, leaving a widow and seven small children. His wife, Mary Metz Smith, was a weaver by trade and it was by her trade she largely maintained the family. She died in 1842. Harrison Smith was only twelve years old when his father died, and as the estate was limited and he was compelled to assist his mother in providing for the remainder of the family, he was compelled to work from home on a very small salary and for this reason his education was limited. At the age of fourteen, he hired out by the year, receiving \$15, his clothes and winter schooling of three months. In 1835, with his mother and brothers and sister, he removed to Licking County, Ohio, and in 1838 he and his brother John began farming on their own responsibility. February 26, 1841, he married Margaret Ann Brown, daughter of Peter and Hannah (Flinn) Brown. Margaret Ann Smith, was born May 25, 1825, in Culpeper County, Virginia, and moved to Licking County, Ohio, together with her parents when three years old. The family moved from Ohio to LaGrange County in 1859, in pioneer times. Peter Brown was a shoemaker by trade. He lived to the venerable age of ninety-two while his wife survived to the age of eighty-nine. In the Brown family were five children: Mary, wife of James Devlin; Peter; Anna, wife of Albert Skeer; Martin; and Margaret Ann.

Harrison Smith moved to LaGrange County, Indiana, in the fall of 1857. He lived the first year in the Town of LaGrange and in the spring of 1858 moved on the old George Holmes farm on Jordon Street in Johnson Township, and it was on this farm he lived several years. During the Civil war he moved ten miles east and lived three years on the George Greenfield farm and Nicolas B. Newman farm, and in 1867 became the superintendent of the LaGrange County Infirmary, which was located five miles south of LaGrange. He had charge of this institution for six years. In 1873 he bought the Curtis J. Harding farm in Clear Spring Township and it was on this farm he spent the remainder of his life. He died January 5, 1901. His wife passed away in 1908. They were active members of the Baptist Church at LaGrange and he was one of the trustees when the church was built. Harrison Smith and wife had a family of twelve children: Melissa, wife of Thomas Ansel; John Wesley, who died when about ten years old; Hannah, who married Charles Mills; Mary, who died in infancy; Maggie, wife of Samuel Helmer, of Buffalo, Minnesota; William S.; James S.; Isaac New-

ton; Harrison Milton; Ella; Peter Brown; and George P. Smith, who is the youngest of the family.

Mr. Smith grew up on the homestead farm in Clear Spring Township. He attended district schools, the LaGrange High School, and had several normal courses, after which he taught for two years. In April, 1887, he married Miss Mary Belle McKibben, a daughter of John McKibben, an early settler of LaGrange County.

After his marriage Mr. Smith engaged in farming on what was known as the Hiram Gardner farm. He and his wife bought this place in 1887 and remodeled the house, made many improvements, and carried on a prosperous business as an agriculturist until 1906. They still own the farm of 111 acres. In 1906 Mr. Smith moved to LaGrange and in the same year bought the building supply business of Robert Wigton. He carries on that business today.

He is a democrat in politics, a member of the LaGrange Lodge of Odd Fellows, has filled all the chairs, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. They have two children, Viva and Herman Harrison. Viva, who was born April 30, 1890, attended public school in Johnson Township, the LaGrange High School, where she graduated in 1909, also took work in the Tri-State College at Angola and taught for two terms. In 1912 she became the wife of C. M. Johnson, and they have one daughter, Mary Louise, born August 8, 1914. The son, Herman Harrison Smith, was born May 21, 1903, and is now a junior in the LaGrange High School.

Mr. Smith was one of the leaders in LaGrange in all war campaigns. He was chairman of the LaGrange County Labor Reserve and for his good work in that position has a certificate signed by the secretary of agricultural at Washington. Mr. Smith built a beautiful home at 317 West Spring Street in 1909.

WILLIAM MCCOY is one of the oldest residents of Green Township of Noble County, and has put in half a century of industrious and productive years as a farmer there. He is still living on his old homestead, the south half of the southeast quarter of section 14.

Mr. McCoy was born in Beaver County, Pennsylvania, February 8, 1838, member of an old and prominent family of Western Pennsylvania. His parents were Isaac and Sarah (Woods) McCoy. Isaac McCoy was a son of James and Rachel (Mayner) McCoy. James McCoy was born in Scotland and came to the colonies and fought as an American soldier in the Revolutionary war. He spent the rest of his life in Pennsylvania. Isaac McCoy also lived all his years in Beaver County. He was a democrat and later a republican. He was twice married. By his first wife there were fifteen children, and five by the second. There are two still living of the first group and one of the second. The first two are John and William McCoy.

William McCoy was fourteenth among his mother's large family. He grew up on a farm and had a common school education, and lived in his home locality until he came to Indiana.

July 21, 1864, he married Harriet P. Irons, of Beaver County, Pennsylvania, where she was born August 26, 1843. For eight months after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McCoy lived on the old McCoy farm and on March 17, 1866, arrived in Noble County, Indiana, and settled on the land where they now live in peace and prosperity. Mr. McCoy put in many years of hard work, clearing away the woods, ditching and draining, and is largely re-



sponsible for the perfect tillage and valuable improvements which his farm now has.

Mr. and Mrs. McCoy had eleven children, two of whom died in infancy. The nine still living are: James W., who married Rebecca Bear and lives in Allen Township of Noble County; Scott, of Swan Township; Margaret J., wife of Frank Hanlon, of Green Township; Murray A., of Whitley County, Indiana; Milo A.; Sarah J., wife of Ira Krieg; Rosa, wife of David Richard; Dessie E., wife of Edward Richard; Pearl E., wife of Charles Summers, of Green Center.

Mr. and Mrs. McCoy are active members of the Hopewell Presbyterian Church, and he has served his church as a deacon. In politics he is a republican.

**SAMUEL PORTER WILLIAMS.** As many of the influences most distinctive and effective in shaping the destiny of Northern Indiana have radiated from the old and historic community of Lima, so it is possible to assert that from no one personal character did more of those influences proceed than from the late Samuel Porter Williams, whose long life was one of extreme usefulness, honor and importance.

He was born January 20, 1814, at Lebanon, Connecticut, of the best New England antecedents, a son of Solomon and Martha (Baker) Williams. His parents spent all their lives in Connecticut. Mr. Williams was born in the same house which was the birthplace of William Williams, a brother of his grandfather and a signer of the Declaration of Independence. A noteworthy ancestor in the maternal line was Major Baker, who served with gallantry and honor in the Revolutionary struggle.

Samuel Porter Williams acquired his education in Connecticut. He was only eighteen years of age when he obeyed that impulse common to so many aspiring young easterners and came to the great Middle West then just opened up to settlement and civilization. In 1832 he arrived at White Pigeon, Michigan, then the seat of the Government Land Office for Michigan Territory and one of the points from which a large part of the colonists coming from the East diverged to their new homes. The year 1852 was also signalized by the Black Hawk Indian war. The following year, 1833, Samuel Porter Williams was in what is now Chicago, and was at old Fort Dearborn when the treaty with the Indians was signed. Mr. Williams engaged in the mercantile business at White Pigeon. In April, 1836, he bought a tract of land adjoining the original plat of old Lima, now the Town of Howe. On the 5th of that month he bought another parcel of land and on the 12th still another, giving him 132 acres. The price he paid for all this land was \$1,920. A portion of this was laid out as an addition to the town, and the following year, 1837, he became a permanent resident of Lima.

In that year he formed a partnership with Thomas Gale and bought a general stock of merchandise in New York, the value of which was \$20,000. This was for that time an immense consignment of goods. To get it West was a problem of more than ordinary difficulty in the absence of railroads. It was shipped to Buffalo by the Hudson River and Erie Canal, thence around the Great Lakes to Michigan City, Indiana, and from that point teams and wagons brought it over the roads to Lima. The freight bill alone was \$3,000. With this stock of goods they established what was at that time one of the largest general stores in Northern Indiana. In 1839 Mr. Williams bought out his partner's interest, and continued alone until 1853, when he sold out to the firm of Jewett & Rawles. Between the years 1848-55 he

also operated a branch store at Blandinsville in McDonough County, Illinois.

Most of the citizens of the present generation who remember this dignified figure associate his name and activity with banking. In 1853 with John B. Howe he established a private bank at Lima. This was the first bank between Fort Wayne and South Bend. Later it became a branch of the State Bank of Indiana and later still operated under a national charter and finally assumed its present character as a private institution. Through these various changes Mr. Williams continued his financial and to some extent his managing interests until about a year before his death.

It would be impossible to give a list of all his activities which were of direct or indirect benefit to the community. He organized and was the chief stockholder of the National Bank of LaGrange, the institution over which, after his death, his daughter Katherine presided as chief executive. He was also a director in several other banks in Northern Indiana and Southern Michigan.

Successful in business, he had the broad outlook of genuine philanthropy and did much to stimulate education, morality and religion. In 1854 he founded a girls seminary at Howe, an institution that existed for twelve years, after which the building and equipment were sold to be used as a public school. He was also a director of the LaGrange Collegiate Institute at Ontario and for thirty years was a member of the Board of Trustees of Wabash College, Indiana, an institution to which he gave \$20,000. He also contributed largely to the building and maintenance of the Presbyterian Church at Lima. The Christian principals which guided Mr. Williams' life were wrought into his character in early years by godly parents. One sister became a missionary to Syria. His brothers were also active Christian men.

It was largely due to the influence of Mr. Williams that the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railway was built through Howe. He was an active member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows both at LaGrange and Lima. He served in the Indiana Legislature in 1856-57 and in 1847 he was a delegate to the River and Harbor Convention at Chicago, and was twice a delegate to republican national conventions.

His life of achievement came to a close with his death on March 31, 1897, when eighty-three years of age. In 1839 he married Lydia Ann Hume, who died in 1842, the mother of one daughter, Rebecca, who became the wife of Rev. H. L. Van Nuys, of Goshen, Indiana, and died in 1869. In 1843 Mr. Williams married Isabel Jane Hume, a native of Delaware County, New York. To this union were born six children: Emily, who died in infancy; Mary, who became the wife of S. T. Cooper, of Howe, and is deceased; Ella, widow of Ira W. Nash, of Goshen; Solomon Baker, who died in infancy, and Katherine and Jane, both of whom occupy the old home of their father at Howe.

**JOHN B. GOCHENAUR.** The removal of John B. Gochenaure and his family to Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County thirty years ago was a distinct addition to the industrial and civic resources of that locality. Mr. Gochenaure was a practical and thoroughgoing farmer, has shown much enterprise in managing his own affairs, and has always been allied with every public spirited movement in his township.

Mr. Gochenaure was born in Wayne County, Ohio, November 1, 1853, a son of Jacob and Christina (Schrock) Gochenaure. His father was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, December 1, 1824. The mother was born in Wayne County, Ohio, in September, 1824. Jacob Gochenaure moved from

Pennsylvania to Steuben County, Indiana, with his parents and later he went to Wayne County, Ohio, where he married and where he lived until his death in 1896. His wife passed away in 1902. They had seven children: Emaline, Elizabeth, who died young, John B., David, who died in childhood, Amos, of Mongo, Indiana, Ezra, of Kansas, and Amanda, of Wayne County, Ohio.

John B. Gochenaur was reared in his native county, attended public school there, and in 1877 married Miss Elizabeth Yoder. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, September 2, 1853, a daughter of Emanuel and Elizabeth (Miller) Yoder. Her father died in Ohio in 1874. Mrs. Yoder came with Mr. and Mrs. Gochenaur to LaGrange County and lived with them until her death in 1901. It was in the fall of 1880 that Mr. Gochenaur located on his present farm in Bloomfield Township. At that time he bought forty acres and has since extended his domain to sixty acres. The farm has a good quality of improvements and has been the productive source of Mr. Gochenaur's prosperity.

He and his wife have three daughters, Lulu, the oldest, is a graduate of the Howe High School and the Indiana State Normal and for seven terms in succession taught the Brushy Prairie School and later was a teacher at Angola and LaGrange. She is now the wife of Alvah A. Moore and has a daughter, Helen Elizabeth. Amanda Gochenaur finished her education in the Mongo High School and is a graduate of music at the Tri-State College. She married Albert W. Kelley, and they have a son, John Walter. Bessie, the youngest of the daughters, was educated at Mongo and Brushy Prairie, is also a graduate of music at Tri-State College, and is the wife of Milton Garlets. They have three sons, Charles J., Monroe W. and John P.

**LEWIS SUMMERS.** During thirty years of residence in Green Township of Noble County a large community has come to know and esteem Lewis Summers and family, recognizing in them some of the best citizens and in Mr. Summers himself a man of industry, ability and of thorough public spirit.

Mr. Summers, whose farm home is the north half of the northwest quarter of section 22 in Green Township, close to the village of Green Center, was born in Eel River Township of Allen County, Indiana, December 25, 1860. He is a son of Ambrose and Rachel (Harter) Summers, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. The Summers and the Harter families came to Northeastern Indiana at an early date and settled in the same neighborhood, though the former lived in Allen County and the latter in Noble County. Ambrose Summers and Rachel Harter were married there, and then located in Allen County, where he engaged in farming and working at his trade as a blacksmith. He was a republican in politics. There were six children in the family: Lewis; Elizabeth, wife of Henry Fisher; Lucinda, wife of V. P. Matthews; and Albert and Edward, all of whom live in the Churubusco neighborhood.

Lewis Summers grew up on the home farm in Eel River Township and had an education supplied by the district schools. At the age of eighteen he left home and went to work on farms by the month, and in Noble County on October 28, 1886, he married Miss Clara B. Shambaugh. Mrs. Summers is a daughter of Henry and Margaret (McKinley) Shambaugh. Mr. and Mrs. Summers immediately after their marriage began farming near where they now live, and have ever since been residents of Green Township. They have a valuable farm of 119 acres.

Mr. and Mrs. Summers have two children. Charles F. married Pearl McCoy. Bessie is a graduate of the common schools and the wife of Ira J. Black, of Green Township. Mr. and Mrs. Summers also have eight grandchildren. They were among the early members of the United Brethren Church in their neighborhood, and in politics Mr. Summers is a republican.

**CLAUD DEWEY KINGSBURY.** The genial proprietor of the Kingsbury Hotel at Howe is a veteran landlord, and has devoted practically his entire life to the indispensable service of providing for the wants of the traveling public. His father was in business before him at Howe, and the Kingsbury family have probably kept hotels longer than can be credited to any other one family along the route of the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railroad.

Mr. C. D. Kingsbury was born at Dewey's Corners in Jamestown Township of Steuben County, November 17, 1858, a son of Nathaniel R. and Lucinda (Dewey) Kingsbury. The Dewey family were very early settlers in Steuben County. The paternal grandfather, Capt. Ira Kingsbury, was a native of Coventry, Connecticut, served in the War of 1812, and it is said that he made the first grain cradle used in Herkimer County, New York. He spent his last days in Ashtabula County, Ohio.

Nathaniel R. Kingsbury was born in Herkimer County, New York, July 11, 1813, while his wife was born in Niagara County in the same state, December 26, 1819. They were married in Sheffield, Ashtabula County, Ohio, in September, 1836, and about 1858 they settled in Steuben County. Later they removed to the vicinity of Mendon, Michigan, still later to Vicksburg, Michigan, and while in Michigan Nathaniel Kingsbury engaged in the hotel business. In 1863 he settled at Lima, now Howe, and kept a hotel there for several years, but in 1867 was identified with the management of a hotel at LaGrange for some six months. He then moved on to the farm now owned by Harlie Hern, and spent a season or so in agriculture. In 1869 he returned to Lima, and not long afterward his son Claud Dewey became associated with him in the hotel business, and the father continued active in that line until his death on January 28, 1886. His wife died January 30, 1898.

They had a family of seven children. Greenlee, their oldest, was born March 17, 1838, and died in 1915. Caroline was born in Ashtabula County, February 6, 1840, and died January 27, 1842. Martha was born September 7, 1842, also in Ashtabula County, and died in Alabama, August 27, 1894. Leslie was born February 3, 1846, in Ashtabula County, and died at Albion, Indiana. Charles Ray was born at Plymouth, Ashtabula County, December 25, 1852, and died at LaJunta, Colorado, January 31, 1917. The sixth of the family was James Lee, who was born May 3, 1855, in Plymouth, Ohio, and is a rancher near Portland, Oregon.

Claud Dewey Kingsbury, youngest of the family, spent his early life in Steuben and LaGrange counties, also in Michigan, and acquired most of his education in the grammar and high schools at Lima. He was a boy when he began taking responsibilities in association with his father in the hotel, and after his father's death he continued the Kingsbury House at Howe, giving an uninterrupted service under his personal direction for over thirty years. He owns both the hotel and other property, is a republican in politics and is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias.

January 20, 1882, he married Emma Adams, of Bristol, Washington Township, Elkhart County.



They have a daughter, Frances, now the wife of Clarence Schaeffer, a son of James Schaeffer.

WILLIAM E. VAN AUKEN, a son of Jacob H. and Nancy (Strawway) Van Auker, of sainted memory, has spent his life chiefly as a successful farmer in Steuben County, and in his individual career has earned and deserved the respect which has long been paid to members of the Van Auker name.

He has lived in Steuben County since early infancy, having been brought here in 1860. He was born in Ohio December 23, 1858. His parents settled on a farm in Steuben Township, comprising 157 acres, and his father cleared up most of that land. Later he sold it to his son Frank, and he spent his last days at Pleasant Lake, where he died October 6, 1882. The good mother passed away July 19, 1878.

Jacob H. Van Auker was born on a farm in Pike County, Pennsylvania, August 13, 1810. His father was a soldier in the War of 1812. Jacob was the youngest of a large family of children, and at the age of five years was left homeless. He attended country schools in New Jersey, with his feet clad in rags during the winter time. He was a diligent student and afterward mastered the art of surveying. He taught in Pennsylvania, and one of his pupils was Nancy Strawway. In March, 1831, they were married, and their happy relationship continued for nearly fifty years, until her death. Soon after their marriage they started for southwestern Michigan, but on account of the Blackhawk Indian war stopped in Portage County, Ohio. Jacob Van Auker taught village school and worked a little farm. From Portage County they moved to Cuyahoga County and in the fall of 1860 came to Pleasant Lake in Steuben County and bought the homestead around which so many of the family associations still gather. Jacob Van Auker was often confronted with poverty, having a large family to rear and maintain, but his courage and industry enabled him to keep his face bravely to the front. He was a skilled broom maker as well as a surveyor. In 1840 he was one of the surveyors in Northern Michigan. At one time he had assisting him in his work a boy he called Jim, and who afterwards was better known as James Garfield, President of the United States. Jacob Van Auker was a follower of Thomas Jefferson in politics, and his extensive reading and study made him a liberal in religion.

His wife, Nancy Strawway, was born in New Jersey, the daughter of an iron miner, and she too spent her girlhood in near poverty, rising above her circumstances by sheer force of will and a great native intelligence and perfection of character. In the early days of her married life she had to perform the never ending toil of the mother of numerous children, and her entire life was consecrated to the high ideals of service for others. She was born November 22, 1814, was married March 3, 1831, and died, as above noted, July 19, 1878. She was the mother of sixteen children, and was comforted in her last hours by the presence of children and many grandchildren. The record of her children is as follows: Sarah Jane, born in 1832, and died in 1832; Calvin R., born in 1835, killed at a railway crossing in July, 1910; James H., born in 1837, died in October, 1906; Horace N., born in 1839, died in July, 1914; Maria, born in 1841, died in October, 1918; Nancy, born in 1842, died in 1845; Phoebe Elizabeth, born in 1843, died in February, 1917; Mary Jane, born in 1845, and is still living at Westgate, California; Amos B., born in 1847, and killed by lightning in 1874; David E., born in 1848, and died in September, 1889; Frank B., born in 1850, died

in November, 1915; Jacob J., born in 1852, died in November, 1905; Nannie, born in 1854, died in 1856; Leah Catherine, born in 1856, died the same year; William E., born in 1858; and Perry D., born in 1861, and died in 1865.

William E. Van Auker was one of the eleven children of his parents to reach manhood and womanhood. He has stood at the grave of seven of his brothers and sisters. He grew up on the old homestead in Steuben County, attended the district schools, the Angola High School, and the Valparaiso Normal, and for several years was a teacher. In October, 1881, he was married to Miss Louise, the only daughter of George and Elizabeth Hurtt, of Defiance, Ohio. When she was but three years of age her mother was called to her heavenly home, followed by her father only two years later, leaving her a homeless orphan at the tender age of five years. Someone has said "God has only permitted to live a few people who are good enough to be foster mothers," but one of these was truly found in the person of Mrs. Elisha Avery, of Pleasant Lake, an aunt of the little girl, who tenderly reared her to womanhood.

Mr. and Mrs. Van Auker had two children: Grace, a graduate of the Fremont High School, a former teacher, and now holds a government position in Washington, District of Columbia; and Vella, who attended the Fremont High School and for eleven years was a teacher in the Steuben County schools. She is now the wife of Fred W. Lott, a prosperous lumber and coal merchant of Milford, Kosciusko County. In the spring of 1884 he moved to Jamestown Township, where he had purchased ninety acres of the farm where he has lived and worked and prospered for thirty-five years. He subsequently sold ten acres of the original place, but by the purchase of an additional twenty-four acres has 104 acres with good improvements. His residence was burned, but was rebuilt. His place is known as Pebble Brook Farm, and is on rural route Number 3 out of Fremont.

Mrs. Van Auker died on March 18, 1914, and in November, 1917, Mr. Van Auker married Mrs. Theodosia Day, of Hudson.

Mr. Van Auker died on August 27, 1919. A long procession of his life-long friends followed his still form from his pleasant farm home in Jamestown Township to the old cemetery at Fremont, where it was laid to rest beside that of his wife, Louise.

Mr. Van Auker was a democrat without aspirations for political office, a member of the Masonic Lodge at Fremont, and a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

RAMA D. SIMMONS. The Simmons family have been identified with Perry Township of Noble County for over sixty years. A capable representative of the family is Rama D. Simmons, a practical and progressive farmer living in section 32 of Perry Township.

He was born in that locality May 6, 1872, son of Adam and Elizabeth (Klick) Simmons. Adam Simmons, who was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, January 8, 1828, was a son of Jacob and Frances Simmons, who when Adam was a boy they moved to Stark County, Ohio, and in 1856 Adam came to Perry Township in Noble County. He was a successful farmer, took an active part in local affairs, especially church and all religious causes, and enjoyed the thorough respect and esteem of a large community until his death on May 30, 1895. On April 25, 1871, he married Elizabeth Klick, who died November 17, 1910. They were charter members of the

Christian Church in their locality, and Adam Simmons was a choir leader in the church and Sunday school. In politics he was a republican.

There were seven children in the family. Those still living are: Rama D.; Frank B., a farmer in Perry Township; Harry W., also a Perry Township farmer; Carl W., of Memphis, Tennessee; Mable, wife of Ray A. Wolfe, of Ligonier; and Laura B., a graduate of the Ligonier High School.

Rama D. Simmons owns 120 acres of land and is also a stockholder in the Citizens State Bank of Ligonier. He is a democrat in politics.

JOHN F. MITCHELL is one of the oldest locomotive engineers in the service of the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad, and is also one of the oldest residents of the railroad colony in Garrett. He has handled practically every type of engine used in American railroading since the time of the Civil war, and out of his individual experience he could give an authentic history of practical railroad operation.

Mr. Mitchell was born on the Isle of Jersey in the English Channel, March 10, 1852, son of Nicholas and Amelia (Hillier) Mitchell. His parents were also natives of Jersey and in 1858 brought their family to the United States, settling at Sandusky, Ohio. Nicholas Mitchell was a ship carpenter by trade and had been an officer in the British Navy. He followed his trade at Sandusky the rest of his life. He and his wife were members of the Established Church of England. In their family were two children, Nicholas and John F. The former lives at the old Mitchell homestead in Sandusky and is a boss in the fertilizing works in that city.

John F. Mitchell had a grammar school education at Sandusky. His early aspirations were for railroading and he satisfied his desires at first as a news butch, selling papers, apples and oranges on the trains. At the age of sixteen he was advanced to the honor and responsibility of locomotive fireman and four years later was made an engineer. At that time he was the youngest engineer on the road and having been in the service fifty-one years, he is now one of the oldest active railroad men in the country.

Mr. Mitchell came to Garrett in 1874 and has been a resident of that railroad town for forty-five years. Thirty-five years ago he bought ten acres of land where he now lives. Later he added ten acres more and also had a farm of forty acres. He has since sold all his real estate except his home, including two cottages.

Mr. Mitchell married Ella Babbott. She died in 1916, the mother of two children, William F. and Jane. Both are graduates of the Garrett High School and William is superintendent of the Moler Car Works at Paterson, New Jersey. Jane is the wife of Mr. Boden, of Haleyville. Mr. Mitchell married for his present wife Mrs. Emma Hess, of Willard, Ohio. By her first marriage she has four children, Louis, Elizabeth, Marie and George, each having a business or college education. Mr. Mitchell is a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and is affiliated with Garrett City Lodge of Masons, while politically he is a republican.

JOHN SPAULDING MERRITT, JR., secretary of the Lima Creamery Company at Howe, has been an extensive farm owner and operator for a number of years in LaGrange County, and both he and his family connections are widely known and have been people of prominence in this part of Northeast Indiana.

He was born on the old Merritt homestead in LaGrange, June 1, 1875, son of John S. and Antoinette H. (Spaulding) Merritt. His father was born

in Onondaga County, New York, May 6, 1823, and when a child accompanied his mother to Cass County, Michigan. His father, Samuel Merritt, died in New York. His mother was Nancy W. (Satterly) Merritt. John S. Merritt, Sr., on December 1, 1847, married Sarah Bull. The only child of that marriage was Francis Dewitt Merritt, who was born in 1849 and came to LaGrange in 1860. He studied law in the University of Michigan, became a member of the LaGrange bar in 1879, was in partnership with Judge James Drake and had a high place among the lawyers of LaGrange County until his death in October, 1914. He was president of the LaGrange Town Board, served as prosecuting attorney four years, and for two terms was a members of the Legislature, acting as speaker of the House during his first term and being a candidate for that office. For one year he was judge of the Circuit Court, appointed by Governor Durbin as successor to Judge Joseph D. Ferrell. Judge Merritt married Marjorie Rice, and his second wife was Nellie Vail. He left no children.

John S. Merritt, Sr., married for his second wife Antoinette H. Spaulding, who was born August 16, 1835, a daughter of Judge Thomas and Sabra (Proctor) Spaulding. Her father was born in Massachusetts in 1801 and her mother in New Hampshire in 1800. Thomas Spaulding for several years peddled merchandise in Vermont, but in 1827 moved to Wayne County, New York, where he engaged in the manufacture and sale of patent medicines. He came to LaGrange County, Indiana; in 1835, and after a brief return back to Wayne County, settled here permanently in 1836, purchasing a large tract of land in Lima Township. In 1837 he moved his family to the farm and became extensively engaged in farming and speculating. He was one of the first directors of the First Bank at Lima, and he also served as associate judge of LaGrange County at a time when the County Court was made up of a chief or presiding judge and two associates. The Spaulding children were Oscar J., Wesley J., Marietta, Antoinette H. and Lois A.

The career of Oscar J. Spaulding requires some special reference here. In 1861 he enlisted as a private in Company K of the Seventy-Eighth New York Infantry, and was soon fighting on Virginia soil. After six months he was promoted to second lieutenant and finally rose to the rank of colonel, commanding a regiment during the later part of the war. He was in thirty-six engagements and was twice wounded. Following the war he became a farmer and stock raiser, and owned 335 acres of improved land in Lima Township. Colonel Spaulding married Mary A. Tyler on September 27, 1844. She was born in Michigan, July 24, 1826, a daughter of Isaac and Eleanor (Knapp) Tyler, who were early settlers in St. Joseph County, Michigan. Oscar Spaulding and wife had four children: Mona E., Jonathan L., DeAlton F. and Florence A.

John Spaulding Merritt, Jr., was the third of three children born to his father and mother. The oldest was Mary Adella, who was born February 20, 1858, and died September 25, 1918. She was married to John W. Hanan, and her son Frank was born July 19, 1881, and on December 18, 1915, married Lottie B. Slack. Marietta, the other sister of Mr. Merritt, was born June 12, 1866, and on October 28, 1886, became the wife of Willis Deal. Her daughter, Antoinette, was born September 7, 1889, and is the wife of Fred W. Sears and has one child, Charles Willis Sears, born June 20, 1908. George P. Deal, a son of Marietta Deal, was born April 18, 1893, married Gladys Duncan, of Three Rivers, Michigan, and has a child, James Willis, born August 11, 1917.



John S. Merritt, Sr., after coming to LaGrange County acquired a large farm in Greenfield Township, and was called from that to the office of sheriff in 1866, serving one term. After leaving office he bought another farm adjoining LaGrange, and built a fine brick residence, where he made his home until his death in 1894. He was a republican in politics. His second wife and the mother of the children above noted died January 12, 1884, and he afterward married Mrs. Harriet Gilbert, who is now living at Bellingham, Washington.

John Spaulding Merritt spent his early life at LaGrange, attended the high school there and then took a business course at Indianapolis. For several years he gave all his attention to farming. He inherited a part of the homestead, bought the Sexauer farm of 113 acres one mile west of Howe, and later the Walker farm of 166 acres at Howe. He has been secretary and manager of the Lima Creamery Company at Howe since January, 1915.

He is a republican in politics, and is a charter member of Howe Lodge No. 698, of Masons, member of the Royal Arch Chapter at LaGrange and the Scottish Rite Consistory at Fort Wayne. He is also affiliated with Lodge No. 142 of the Knights of Pythias at Howe.

December 8, 1897, he married Bertha M. Schaeffer, daughter of James Schaeffer, of LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Merritt had two children, James Schaeffer Merritt and Margaret Marian Merritt, the latter born December 7, 1917. James Schaeffer Merritt was born June 29, 1899, graduated from the Howe Military School and on August 16, 1918, entered the officers training camp at Fort Sheridan, Chicago. September 20, 1918, at the special request of Doctor McKenzie, head of the Howe Military School, he was recalled to his alma mater and became instructor in military practice.

**LOVZINSKI MCGUIRE.** A substantial and prosperous farmer, a high minded citizen and a man well entitled to all the respect he enjoys, Lovzinski McGuire owns one of the well improved farms of Green Township in Noble County. The farm comprises the west half of the northwest quarter of section 2.

He has lived in Noble County most of his life but was born in Ashland County, Ohio, August 5, 1852, son of Benjamin and Rachel (Gladden) McGuire. His father was born in Washington, Pennsylvania, April 15, 1824, and died December 30, 1898. The mother was born November 2, 1826, and died October 26, 1897. Benjamin McGuire went to Ashland County in 1835, and he and his wife were married there March 20, 1845. They were parents of ten children, the following of whom are still living: Wilson McGuire, of Denver, Colorado; O. M. McGuire, of Green Township; Elizabeth, wife of J. C. Andrew, of Ohio; Lovzinski; Alva, of York Township, Noble County; and Hugh, who lives in Ashland County, Ohio.

Lovzinski McGuire grew up in Ashland County, Ohio, attended the common schools and was at home until the age of twenty-one. On December 24, 1874, he married Malinda Budd. She was born in Ashland County, Ohio, February 23, 1855, daughter of Thomas and Clarissa (Edwards) Budd, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Ohio. Her parents were married in Ohio and spent their last years in Ashland County. Mrs. McGuire was one of ten children, and was reared and educated in Ohio.

For some sixteen or eighteen years after their marriage Mr. and Mrs. McGuire lived in Ashland County and the greater part of this time he rented his father's farm. In the fall of 1890 he bought

a new home in Noble County, Indiana, and moved to it in the spring of 1891. Here he has surrounded himself with most comfortable circumstances, having a farm of eighty-three acres in the home place and twenty acres in Jefferson township. All of it represents his good, honest toil and earnest efforts to win a competency.

Mr. and Mrs. McGuire had three daughters. Ida is the wife of Marshall J. Engle, of Green Township. Grace is the wife of Dr. O. P. Franks, of Churubusco. She is a high school graduate and was a teacher until her marriage. Bertha is the wife of Norman Bowman, and they live in Detroit, Michigan. The McGuire family are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church at Summit. Mr. McGuire is affiliated with Albion Lodge No. 97, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and is a democrat in politics. He has been much interested in local affairs and has served as justice of the peace of Green Township.

**ALBERTUS CAMPBELL.** For over seventy years the Campbell family has been prominent in Smithfield Township of DeKalb County. Albertus Campbell, a grandson of the original settler here, has followed farming for many years, owns a farm of generous proportions in Smithfield Township, and is also the honored representative of the north district of the county on the Board of County Commissioners.

He was born in Smithfield Township, April 13, 1871, a son of Edward and Mariun E. (Childs) Campbell.

His grandfather was Abel Campbell, who was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, October 26, 1807, and when a boy went with his parents to Stark County, Ohio. In that county on June 16, 1831, he married Jane Taylor, who was born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, May 25, 1812. In 1836 they moved to Summit County, Ohio, and in May, 1847, located in section 28 of Smithfield Township, DeKalb County. The family were two weeks in making the journey to DeKalb County by wagons and teams. The land on which he settled had been entered in 1836 by John Taylor, his wife's father. Abel Campbell took his family into a small log house, and his labor cleared up about seventy-five acres and otherwise improved the farm before his death in November, 1860. He was active in whig politics, becoming a republican upon the organization of that party, and he died the day after Lincoln was elected president.

Edward H. Campbell was born in Summit County, Ohio, in 1841, and was a small boy when brought to DeKalb County. Later he worked in the fields and in clearing up more land, and he became a prosperous farmer, owning 200 acres when he died. He was a member of the Masonic Order for fifty years. His wife Mariun E. Childs, was the daughter of Brickard Childs, who settled in DeKalb County in 1847. Edward H. Campbell and wife had five children: Frank, of Fairfield Township; Albertus; Elнора, deceased; Clark, who lives northeast of Waterloo; and Thomas S., of Waterloo.

Albertus Campbell grew up on the home farm and attended public schools, living with his parents until he was twenty-five. On June 7, 1896, he married Laura Walker, who was born in Smithfield Township, March 25, 1874, daughter of Eli and Susanna Walker. Her father for one term was a county commissioner of DeKalb County, being elected on the democratic ticket. Eli Walker died in February, 1918. He was an active member of the United Brethren Church and was affiliated with the Masons and Knights of Pythias.

After their marriage, Mr. and Mrs. Campbell moved into a log house on his father's farm, but a

year later he bought forty acres and built a home of his own. He finally sold that place and bought his present farm of 112.88 acres, and is now extensively engaged in farming and stock raising.

He and his wife had two sons, Edward F., born September 6, 1897, still at home, and Jeremiah E., born February 7, 1908. Mr. Campbell is affiliated with Waterloo Lodge No. 307, Free and Accepted Masons, of which he is a past master, and with the Knights of Pythias.

Politically he is a republican, but his record in politics would indicate that his personality is stronger than his party. DeKalb County is democratic normally by 500. In 1916 he was the nominee of his party for commissioner and the only republican elected, and was re-elected November 5, 1918. He had a majority of 191 in 1916 and had many votes to spare in the second election. He also served four years as township assessor. Mr. and Mrs. Campbell are members of Waterloo Chapter No. 142 of the Eastern Star, of which he is a past worthy patron.

JOSEPH STEAD was a factor in the agricultural community of LaGrange County for over fifty years. Though he did his work in a time when prices for agricultural products were prevailingly low, he managed to prosper, and developed a farm which has long been recognized as one of the best in the county, and it is now the home of his daughter, Mrs. Carrie S. Gay, in Greenfield Township.

Joseph Stead was born in Yorkshire, England, December 21, 1830. In 1833, before he was able to remember the journey, his parents, William and Hannah Stead, brought him to America and settled at White Pigeon, Michigan, and subsequently removed to Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, where they spent the rest of their days. Joseph Stead had little opportunity to attend school, but made the best of his advantages and was employed on the home farm until his marriage. On December 23, 1852, he married Miss Lydia Alcott. He then located on a rented farm and six years later moved to the land which he cultivated for nearly half a century and where he died July 28, 1909. His wife passed away October 21, 1908. She was a daughter of Samuel and Nancy Alcott, of Marion County, Ohio, who came to Indiana in 1836, locating in Jackson Township of Steuben County. Samuel Alcott died in Springfield Township, LaGrange County, and his wife in Greenfield Township.

Joseph Stead and wife had three children, Annie E., George M. and Caroline B. The two older are now deceased. Caroline B. was born in Greenfield Township, at the old homestead, received good advantages in the local schools, the LaGrange High School and the Tri-State College, and taught when she was only seventeen years old. In 1898 she became the wife of Dennis Gay.

Dennis Gay was born in Crawford County, Ohio, December 2, 1871, a son of Benjamin F. and Letitia (McDougal) Gay, the former a native of Seneca County, Ohio, and the latter born near Wooster, Ohio. They were married in that state, and in 1883 moved to LaGrange County, settling in Clay Township on a farm. For about fifteen years Benjamin Gay lived there and made his enterprise notable in the breeding of standard bred road horses. On leaving Clay Township he bought a place near Coldwater, Michigan, and is now living retired at Sturgis, Michigan. He is a republican and member of the United Brethren Church. In the Gay family were four children: Dennis, Alice, Lulu and Jesse. Dennis Gay was educated in the public schools of Ohio, graduated from the LaGrange High School in 1890 and for thirteen years was a successful and popular teacher. During that time he was

principal of the schools of Mongo and of Brighton. While teaching he also engaged in farming, and some years ago he bought 140 acres in Greenfield Township, though he and his wife always lived on the Stead farm. After the death of Joseph Stead Mr. Gay and wife improved the farm by the erection of a large barn 40 by 96 feet. Mr. Gay was a breeder of full blood Jersey cattle. He was a practical farmer and stock man, businesslike in all his dealings, and his death on June 27, 1917, was accounted a heavy loss to the community. Since his death Mrs. Gay has continued the farm and livestock business. Mr. Gay was a republican and was affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at LaGrange.

Mrs. Gay has one son, Paul Stead Gay, who was born March 5, 1900. He completed the work of the common schools, spent three years in the Mongo High School and graduated from the Angola High School in 1918. He is a student of the chemical engineering course in the Tri-State College.

ELVIE R. GREENAWALT, a son of Samuel Greenawalt, is a well known farmer in Springfield Township, LaGrange County, and was born on the old Mallon homestead there October 15, 1888.

In addition to the advantages of the common schools he is a graduate of the Springfield Township High School and spent two years in the LaGrange High School. When the Home Grain Company started a branch elevator at Berlin he was manager for two years, but for the past four years has rented the Greenawalt homestead of 190 acres, and is now doing a prosperous business as a general farmer and stock raiser. He is a republican and he and his wife are both active in church.

September 9, 1914, he married Miss Irda Harp. She was born in Ohio, December 29, 1888, a daughter of John and Caroline Harp.

CHARLES BOWERMAN, one of the oldest men in Steuben County, an octogenarian, for forty years has been a resident of that county and has a record as a successful farmer and a man whose intelligence and public spirit have made him a valuable member of the community.

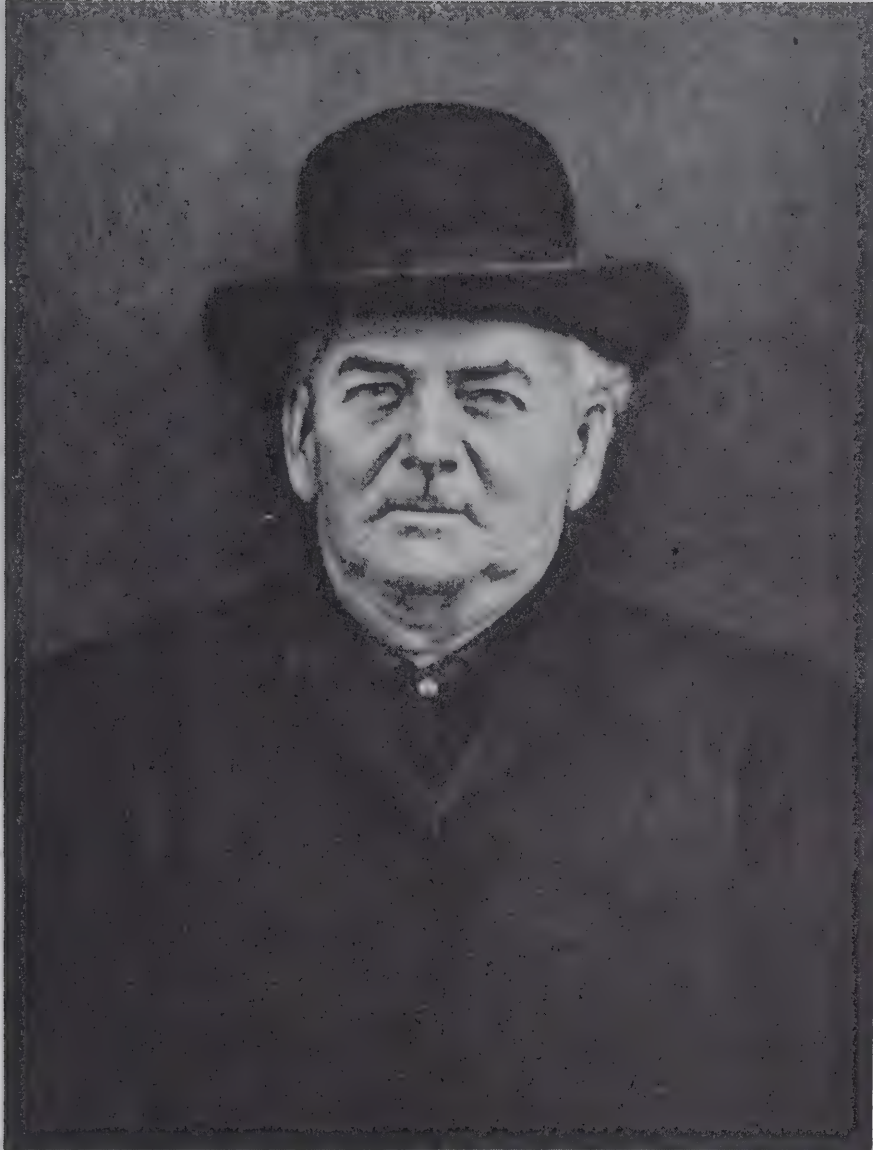
Mr. Bowerman was born in Seneca County, Ohio, March 24, 1836, a son of Jacob and Mary (Ritter) Bowerman. His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania. Jacob Bowerman was born in 1795 and after his marriage lived in Seneca County, New York, moved from there about 1827 to Seneca County, Ohio, and died in that state in 1876, while his wife passed away in 1877. Jacob Bowerman and wife had a large family of children, named Samuel, Michael, Catherine, John, Elizabeth, Henry, Susannah, Jacob, Charles, Mary Jane, Isaac and Joshua.

Charles Bowerman grew up in Seneca County, Ohio, and had a public school education at a time when public schools were of the pioneer type. At the age of twenty-one he bought eighty acres in Jackson Township of Steuben County, which is still included in his possessions. However, he did not come to the county to live until 1877. He then located on eighty acres south of his present home, and afterward bought the eighty acres in his home place, giving him 160 acres. He has made many valuable improvements, and part of the house was built by his brother Henry about seventy years ago.

In 1862 Mr. Bowerman married Caroline Reiter. She was born in Pennsylvania, March 28, 1835, and died December 25, 1885. Her parents were Michael and Sarah Reiter, the former dying at Napoleon, Ohio, and the latter in Seneca County.

Mr. and Mrs. Bowerman had four children, William Henry, Alice, Clara Dell and Arthur. Alice is





*Joseph Stead*





the wife of George A. Baker; Clara Dell keeps house for her father and brother; Arthur married Dora Neikirk and has two children, Violet and Charles John.

William Henry Bowerman was born in Ohio June 21, 1863, and was fourteen years of age when his parents moved to Steuben County. He acquired most of his education in his native county, though also attending school in Jackson Township. He has never married and has given the best service of his life to handling the home farm, and still operates the 160 acres, and owns twenty-five acres just across the road from the Bowerman homestead.

CHARLES F. SPERO is one of the progressive men in the agricultural district of Springfield Township, LaGrange County. His home is on rural route No. 1 out of Stroh. Among other features that indicate his enterprise his farm contains probably the longest barn in LaGrange County. He is a stockman as well as a general farmer.

He was born on the old Spero homestead in Springfield Township, May 31, 1861. His father, Samuel Spero, was prominent in his day as a farmer in Springfield Township. The grandfather was James Spero, who married Susanna Stoner, and some other members of the Spero family are mentioned elsewhere in this publication. Samuel Spero was born in Stark County, Ohio, October 14, 1832, and at the age of twenty-four left home and rented a farm in Van Buren Township of LaGrange County for one year. He then returned to Springfield and bought eighty acres and kept his possessions increasing until he had 240 acres. For some time he and his family lived in a log house and later he erected two dwelling houses on his farm and also a good bank barn. He was a republican in politics. An instance of his good citizenship was his donating \$150 to assist in clearing the township draft during the Civil war. Samuel Spero married Frances Deal, daughter of Conrad and Elizabeth Deal, who came from Marion County, Ohio, to LaGrange County in 1834. Samuel Spero died in 1905, and his widow is still living at the age of eighty-three. They had eleven children and the six to reach mature years are all living, namely: Charles F.; Fred, of the State of Washington; Joseph, a LaGrange County farmer; Agnes E., of Washington; and Ned and Maggie B., also living in Washington.

Charles F. Spero attended public schools as a boy, and in 1883, at the age of twenty-two, he bought forty acres of land in Steuben County. Twenty years later, in 1903, he bought the Wolheuter farm of eighty-six acres in Springfield Township. This is the farm which he owns today and where he has placed some notable improvements. The barn mentioned above is 36 feet wide and 134 feet long. It was erected in 1914. Mr. Spero is a republican, and he and his wife are active in the Methodist Episcopal Church. He has traveled extensively, has made two trips to California, where his family spent one summer, and the winter of 1918-19 he spent in Washington. For two years he lived at Mongo, where he engaged in selling stock food and disposed of a total product of 47,000 pounds.

December 21, 1882, Mr. Spero married Miss Belle Hamilton. She was born in Springfield Township, on the farm now owned by Henry Wade, on October 6, 1862, a daughter of Frank and Abigail (Carr) Hamilton. Her father was born in Talbot County, Maryland, in 1825, and her mother in New York State in 1827. Frank Hamilton came to LaGrange County in 1846, and owned the farm whose present proprietor is Tasso Smith, and later had the farm now owned by Henry Wade. In 1864 Frank Hamilton moved to Jackson Township in Steuben County

and bought 117 acres. When he sold that property he bought forty acres near Crooked Lake, and lived there until his death in 1896, his wife dying the next year. He was a republican, and he and his wife were active in the Methodist Church. In the Hamilton family were six children: Martha, deceased wife of Henry Kaler; Melinda, wife of Edgar Burdick, living in California; William Alexander, of LaGrange County, who married Belle Poppinno, and their son Fred married Bertha Garmier, and the Garmiers have one child, Ruth; Carr died in infancy; Belle is the wife of Charles F. Spero; and Homer is deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Spero had two children. Gladys, the older, was born October 15, 1885, had a good education in local schools, is a graduate of the Angola High School and a graduate in music from the Tri-State College. She is the wife of Adolph Seibel, of Delta, Ohio, also a graduate of the Tri-State College and a post-graduate of Columbia University. Mr. Seibel was principal of the Hamilton and Pleasant Lake schools and for about three years superintendent of the Angola High School. Mr. and Mrs. Seibel are now fruit ranchers in the State of Washington and have a daughter, Joan Elizabeth, born January 3, 1914.

Guy Spero, the only son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Spero, was born April 13, 1891, on the old James Spero farm, is a graduate of the Springfield Township High School and is now an independent young farmer owning a place of forty acres. He married Lola Smith, and their one child is Franz Hamilton, born April 4, 1918.

JOSEPH HORNER, member of one of the prominent families of Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, was born in Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, August 17, 1850, a son of Eli and Catherine (Mohler) Horner. His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania. In October, 1866, they came to LaGrange County and settled on a farm formerly known as the William Hall farm. Eli Horner became the owner of more than 600 acres of land and lived in LaGrange County until his death in 1898, at the age of seventy-six. His wife died in 1892, at the age of sixty-four. Their children were: William, who died in infancy; Anna; Elias; Joseph; Catherine and Isaiah, both deceased; Emanuel; Alpheus; Milton; Irvin; Myrton; and Charles.

Joseph Horner when two and a half years old went with his parents to Ashland County, Ohio, where he grew up and attended public school. He was sixteen years of age when he came to Indiana, and had some further advantages in the public schools of LaGrange County. In 1880 he bought forty acres, later added another forty, and has extensively remodeled the buildings and does a business as a farmer and stock raiser. He was a sheep feeder for a number of years. Politically he is a republican, and he and his wife are members of the Progressive Brethren Church.

July 4, 1880, Mr. Horner married Lorinda Hall, a native of Springfield Township, where she was born November 1, 1858, daughter of George W. and Margaret (Pickles) Hall. Her father was born in Ohio, March 23, 1833, a son of William and Lucinda (Hull) Hall. Her mother was born in England, October 1, 1833, daughter of Richard and Jane (Sayer) Pickles. Richard Pickles brought his family to LaGrange County in 1835, settling in Greenfield Township. As a stone mason and marble worker he found active employment and helped build the State Prison at Jackson, Michigan, where he was living when he died. The Sayer family were also early identified with LaGrange County, coming here in 1834 and settling in Greenfield Township.

The children of Richard Pickles and wife were Margaret, Jane, Sarah, Joseph.

George W. Hall, father of Mrs. Horner, came to LaGrange County with his parents, was married in Greenfield Township, where he bought and owned several farms, and later went to Noble County, owning a farm north of Kendallville and finally returned to Springfield Township, LaGrange County, and lived on a farm east of Mongo until the death of his wife in 1880. He then returned to Noble County, and lived there until his death in 1906. Mrs. Horner was one of seven children, the others being McKinnon, Martin, Henry, Tena, Hattie and William.

Mr. and Mrs. Horner had three children: Adella married James M. Gibbons, who died June 16, 1919, and has two children, Margaret and James. Florence is the wife of William Wolfe and has a daughter, Rachel Maxine. The youngest is Cecil Othello, at home with his parents.

WILLIS J. HALL, owner of a fine farm in Salem Township of Steuben County, is a member of a family that has been especially well known in LaGrange County since pioneer days.

His father, the late Charles Hall, came to LaGrange County when all the country was wild and new and bought land in Springfield Township. He sold that and moved to Milford Township in the same county, acquiring 120 acres and increasing it by the purchase of an additional 180 acres, where he spent a life of toil and good management and left a splendid farm at the time of his death in 1916, at the age of eighty-seven. He married Sophronia Case, who died in 1876, the mother of eight children, named Ida, Florence, Ella, Emma, Orcy, Frank, Almond and Willis J. Charles Hall married for his second wife Celia Case, first cousin of his first wife, and daughter of Perry Case. To this marriage were born Mabel, Nina, Leona, Harry and Leon. Charles Hall's first wife was a daughter of Randolph Case, a pioneer of LaGrange County.

Willis J. Hall, who was born in Milford Township of LaGrange County February 3, 1876, grew up there and acquired a public school education. In early manhood he went to the territory of Oklahoma and acquired eighty acres, which he developed largely from its primeval state and condition. He sold out and returned to Steuben County in 1901, and since 1908 has owned his present farm of 105 acres in Salem Township. He has remodelled the buildings and the general arrangement of the farm and has given it greatly increased value and productiveness.

Mr. Hall is a republican in politics. In 1902 he married May Courtright, daughter of Jonathan M. Courtright of Salem Township. They have three children, Josephine, Burdette and Roscoe.

YOST C. MILLER, for many years a prominent farmer of LaGrange County, represents a line of sturdy ancestors of the Mennonite faith for several generations residents in Pennsylvania, and Mr. Miller himself has been a leader among the Mennonites of Newbury Township for many years, being minister of the Shore Mennonite Church.

He was born in Newbury Township, April 28, 1855. His grandfather, Daniel Miller, was born April 10, 1794, in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, spent his life there as a farmer and died April 3, 1835. He married Mary Mast, who was born in the same county in March, 1796. After the death of Daniel Miller his widow married Frederick Swartzendruber, and she spent the last two years of her life in LaGrange County.

Samuel D. Miller, father of Yost C., was born in Somerset County, November 3, 1820. In the

same county on December 21, 1839, he married Veronica Baumgardner. She was born in Somerset County, July 25, 1813, a daughter of Peter and Esther (Yoder) Baumgardner. Peter Baumgardner was a native of Switzerland, and coming to America when a young man located in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, and subsequently lived in LaGrange County, Indiana.

It was in 1845 that Samuel D. Miller came to Indiana. Two other young men accompanied him, his twin brother, Valentine C., and another brother, John C. Yoder. All of them settled in the same community. Samuel D. Miller had a wife and two children. He set out from Somerset County with a wagon drawn by a horse team, and they were on the road many weary days before reaching Indiana. Samuel Miller rented a small farm on Elkhart Prairie for eighteen months. In the meantime he bought eighty acres in the midst of the heavy woods of Newbury Township, LaGrange County. He arrived in Indiana with only \$150 and paid \$200 for his land in LaGrange County. Out of his original capital he bought a cow, stove and a few other household utilities. After clearing a spot among the trees he put up a log cabin, and he took his family to that rude shelter in the month of December. The first night they went to sleep with bed quilts over the door and window openings. The horses were tied to the wagon and the cow to a tree. In that typical pioneer fashion the Millers began their residence in LaGrange County. By hard labor continued through successive months and years Samuel D. Miller cleared up his first tract of land and then bought eighty acres adjoining, and had most of it in cultivation before his death, which occurred March 17, 1900. His wife passed away May 29, 1886. This farm developed by Samuel D. Miller was afterwards purchased by his youngest son, Yost C., for \$8,000.

A brief record of the children of Samuel D. Miller and wife is as follows: Sarah, born October 6, 1840, died in childhood; Joseph C., born June 12, 1842; Daniel C., born February 6, 1844; Mary, born April 27, 1846, the first born in LaGrange County, the other three being natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania; Elizabeth, born December 17, 1847; Barbara, born October 13, 1849; Esther, born October 16, 1851; Samuel C., born March 6, 1853; and Yost C., born April 28, 1855.

Yost C. Miller, who is therefore the youngest of the family, acquired his early education in the district schools and began farming in his native township on the old homestead. He farmed there continuously until 1907, and then moved to his present place of 120 acres in sections 15 and 14 of Newbury Township. For the past two years he has surmounted the heavy burdens of operating and managing this farm to his son.

Mr. Miller married Lydia Mishler in 1873. She was a daughter of Daniel and Leah (Miller) Mishler. Mrs. Miller died March 17, 1901, after they had been married twenty-eight years. In that time nine children were born, and most of these are now married and there are a number of grandchildren. Uriah Y., the oldest, was born February 12, 1874, married Barbara Mishler and has three children, Ora, Homer and Ralph. Daniel, born October 5, 1875, married Lizzie Rheinheimer, who died in February, 1903, the mother of Maude May and Howard. Samuel Y., who was born May 13, 1877, married Lovina Mishler, and their family consists of Willis, Charles, Maud, John, Lowell and Edith. Mary Ann, born April 5, 1879, is the wife of Aquila Schrock and has a daughter, Cora. George Y., born July 29, 1885, married for his first wife Lizzie Hostetler, who died in 1916, leaving Amzie and Holly, and for



his second wife he married Sylvia Miller. Mahlon C. was born April 1, 1887, and married Bessie Nelson. Frances Ella, born June 5, 1890, is the deceased wife of James Troyer, by whom she had a daughter, Dorothy. Perry Y., born December 9, 1892, married Addie Cripe. Irvin Y., the youngest of the family, was born April 3, 1898, and married Ida Mishler.

March 23, 1903, Mr. Miller married Mrs. Elizabeth (Brenneman) Good, a daughter of John L. and Elizabeth (Keller) Brenneman. By her first marriage she has three children: David, who married Bessie Berry; Henry, who married Ela Woods; and John, who married Ruth Berry.

Mr. Miller has been pastor of the Shore Menno-nite Church since he was ordained to that position December 4, 1892.

ALBERT ANDERSON, who was born on a farm in Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, October 2, 1857, and is still living in that locality, is a member of one of the first families who settled in this part of Northeast Indiana.

His parents were William and Elizabeth (Selby) Anderson. William Anderson was born in Ohio in 1815, and in 1827 his parents, John and Rebecca Anderson, came West, lived for two years near White Pigeon, Michigan, and in 1829 located in LaGrange County, where they took up government land on Pretty Prairie. John Anderson became an extensive land owner and was a prominent pioneer of LaGrange County. William Anderson was one of a family of thirteen children and was about fourteen years old when he came to LaGrange County. His enterprise was vigorously displayed as a farmer, and at one time he owned 700 acres, including the place of eighty acres where his son Albert now lives. He died in 1891 and his wife in 1887. His wife was born in Ohio in 1825. Their children were Mary, Eliza, Amos, James, Amanda, Rebecca, Albert, Alonzo and Clara.

Albert Anderson grew up on the home farm and attended country schools and the LaGrange County Collegiate Institute and also the Valparaiso Normal. His career has been spent on the old farm of eighty acres. He is a republican in politics.

November 11, 1882, he married Miss Nora Gilbert, who was born in Springfield Township in 1866, a daughter of Austin and Julia Gilbert. To their marriage were born two children. Blanche, born August 16, 1884, had a high school education and is the wife of George Bollman, of Sturgis, Michigan. Gail, born December 3, 1887, was educated in high school, for several years was employed by his brother-in-law, George Bollman, at Sturgis, Michigan, and in 1917 bought part of the home farm of eighty acres from his father. June 23, 1909, he married Carrie Alta Miller, and has two children, Clota Blanche and Alberta June.

JOHN ALMON HOVARTER, of Salem Township in Steuben County, has an interesting family record, being a grandson of John Hovarter, and in the maternal line of Leonard Hartman. Both these families were pioneers in DeKalb County, Indiana, and their descendants are now widely scattered over Northeastern Indiana and in many other states.

John Hovarter and his wife, Nancy Wyrick, lived for many years in Wayne County, Ohio. About 1849 they moved to DeKalb County, Indiana, buying eighty acres of land, and spending the rest of their days there. They lived in a time of large families, and their own children numbered thirteen, as follows: Henry, Nancy (who died in infancy), John, Christopher, Jacob, William, Lizzie, Samuel,

Adam, Caroline, David (who died in childhood), Levi and Benjamin.

The maternal grandfather, Leonard Hartman, and his wife, Mary Martz, were both natives of Germany. They came to the United States before their marriage, lived in Wayne County, Ohio, and in 1847 moved to DeKalb County, Indiana. Leonard Hartman was a very successful business man and land owner, began with about 200 acres in DeKalb County and later had 300 acres. His first house was built of logs and was in the midst of the woods, deer, wolves and turkey abounding for several years. Leonard Hartman and wife had the following children: Catherine, John, Susan, Adam, Sophia, Lydia, Martha Elizabeth and Solomon (both of whom died in childhood), Emma, Levi, Joseph and Martha.

Henry Hovarter, father of John A., was born in Wayne County, Ohio, November 24, 1835. He married Catherine Hartman, who was born in the same county May 22, 1840. Henry Hovarter grew to manhood in DeKalb County, attended the public schools there, and was married in October, 1858. On April 6, 1859, he moved to the farm in Salem Township, where his widow and their son John A. now live. He bought 160 acres and in 1878 improved it with a fine brick house and put up a good barn in 1881. He lived a life of great industry and good purpose and died May 15, 1901. In politics he was a democrat, and was very active in the United Brethren Church, the Pleasant Ridge Church of that denomination standing on his land. He and his wife had five children: Isaiah, who is proprietor of the National Vault Works at Ashley; William, one of the large land owners and farmers in St. Joseph County, Michigan; and John Almon, Jacob Ira and Emanuel, all farmers in Salem Township.

John Almon Hovarter was born on the farm where he lives today, February 1, 1865. He grew up there, attended the public schools, and has devoted his time to general farming and the raising of small fruits. He owns twenty-five acres in Salem township, other land near Brownsville and about fifty acres in Southern Mississippi. Mr. Hovarter, who is unmarried, is a democrat in politics but independent when casting his vote in local elections.

CLAUD H. CATON is a member of the firm Caton Brothers, furniture dealers and undertakers at LaGrange, a business that they have built up from a modest start twelve or thirteen years ago until they are now the leading firm of the kind in LaGrange County.

Mr. Caton was born in the Town of LaGrange, February 28, 1873, son of Capt. John H. and Annetta (Kingsley) Caton. His father was born at Fredricksburg, Maryland, and died March 19, 1916, while the mother is still living. Claud H. Caton was one of five children, and only he and his brother are now living. He grew up in LaGrange County, attended public school at LaGrange, and for several years followed different lines of employment and also spent three years in the West. On returning to LaGrange he formed a partnership with his brother, and the history of their establishment begins with May 16, 1907. Both brothers are graduates of the Barnes School of Embalming at Chicago.

In 1910 Mr. Caton married Celia Steel, a native of Adams County, Indiana. She is well educated and was a successful teacher before her marriage. They have two children, Claudine and Volga. Mr. and Mrs. Caton are members of the Episcopal Church at LaGrange. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of Pythias and is a republican in politics.

CHARLES H. BEECHER, a veteran business man of Lima Township, LaGrange County, represents a family of old and substantial record in this part of Northeast Indiana.

He was born at the Village of Lima, now Howe, January 18, 1857, son of Alexander W. and Adelaide P. (Acheson) Beecher. His mother was a native of Ireland and was six years of age when she came to the United States. Her father, Thomas Acheson, settled in LaGrange County and had a farm near Lima. The paternal grandparents of Charles H. Beecher were Isaac and Mary A. (Shaw) Beecher, very early settlers of Lima Township. Isaac Beecher had been a school teacher in Ohio and was a man of good education and a fluent linguist. Alexander W. Beecher settled in Lima more than seventy years ago, and for some years was a clerk, conducted a drug store from 1860 to 1865, and for a number of years was a general merchant. He married in Lima Township and died in 1902, at the age of seventy-two. He was a republican in politics and his wife was a member of the Episcopal Church. They had four children: Charles H., Edward, Frances and Catherine.

Charles H. Beecher acquired his education in the public schools of Howe and worked as a clerk for his father, and then they were in partnership for several years. In 1878 they built the store at Lima in which Mr. Beecher now does business. The father and son sold out their stock of merchandise in 1887, and after that for twelve years Charles H. Beecher lived in Sturgis, Michigan, where he was a merchant for several years and for two years was a traveling man. He returned to Howe in 1899, and from 1902 to 1912 was a rural mail carrier. He resumed merchandising at the old stand in 1915. He also owns the old homestead. Mr. Beecher is a republican in politics.

In 1878 he married Miss Julie Vial, who was born at Ionia, Michigan. They became the parents of three sons, Edward H., city salesman for the National Biscuit Company at Kalamazoo, Michigan; William A., who died in infancy; and James A., who lives at Shipshewana, Indiana. James married Belya Farver, daughter of John Farver, a prominent citizen of Northeast Indiana. James A. Beecher and wife had three children: Francis, who was drowned; Julie Catherine; and James A., who is connected with the Oliver Plow Company.

LEE HENRY MUSSER, who is a son of John and Harriet (Snyder) Musser, the former a pioneer of Steuben County and a veteran of the Civil War whose career is told on other pages, has spent his life in this county, and through many years of work at his trade has acquired the prosperity represented by one of the good farms of York Township.

He was born in York Township December 17, 1878, and grew up at Metz, where he received his schooling and learned the trade of mason. For twenty years he followed this trade with developing skill and increasing experience and success, and in 1918, largely from the proceeds of his years of labor, he bought his present farm of 120 acres in York Township. He is now giving all his time to farming and stock raising. Mr. Musser is a republican in politics.

In 1900 he married Miss Maud Teegardin, member of an old and well known family of Steuben County. She was born in Otsego Township, July 4, 1883, a daughter of Jacob and Phoebe (Haughey) Teegardin. Mr. and Mrs. Musser have six children: Willis, Wilma, Cora Ellen, Edsel and Eva and Neva, twins.

ANTHONY EDGAR KEAGY has been one of the busy and useful men of LaGrange County for many years, and many houses, barns and other structures testify to his skill as a builder and carpenter. He has lived on a farm for many years, and is one of the prosperous and substantial citizens of Greenfield Township.

He was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, September 18, 1852. His paternal grandparents were John and Margaret (Mesee) Keagy. His grandfather was a mill and store owner in Salisbury, Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Patrick Keagy was two years old when his father died, and later he was bound out to Abraham Buechle, his uncle, and lived with him to the age of eighteen. He then went to Berlin, Somerset County, Pennsylvania, learning the chair making trade. In 1847 he moved to Ohio, locating in Coshocton County. Patrick Keagy was born in November, 1822, and was married in Ohio to Magdalena Long. She was a daughter of George and Rebecca (Keefer) Long, both natives of Somerset County, Pennsylvania. Her grandfather, George Long, came from Hesse-Cassel, Germany, to America about the close of the Revolutionary war, landing in Philadelphia and settling at Southampton, Virginia. George Long, Jr., died in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. Three of his sons, Reverend Peter, Daniel and John, came to LaGrange County and became heads of families still widely and prominently known here. Three of the daughters also came to LaGrange County, Magdalena, Mrs. Patrick Keagy; Elizabeth, wife of George W. Price; and Ella, Mrs. Levi Hostetler. Another daughter, Mary Crites, wife of Cyrus Crites, also lived in LaGrange County for a time but died in Kansas.

In 1853 Patrick Keagy with the three Long families moved to Marion Township, Owen County, Indiana, and lived on a farm about a mile south of Marion Mills, where his first home was a log cabin in the woods. Patrick Keagy died May 3, 1883, the father of seven sons and three daughters.

Anthony Edgar Keagy was a small boy when he went with his parents to Owen County, Indiana, and he worked on his father's farm. In 1874 he located in LaGrange County, where for seven years he gave all his time to his trade as carpenter and joiner. He lived at Mongo and other places in Greenfield Township until 1888, when he came to his present farm, comprising 115½ acres near Greenfield Mills. He has put all the substantial buildings on this land and in his earlier years he did most of the carpenter and building work in and around Mongo. At present he spends most of his time at his trade, while his farm is worked by his son-in-law. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, Orland Lodge No. 541, and was formerly a member of the Knights of Pythias.

September 8, 1877, Mr. Keagy married Miss Nancy E. Swihart. She was born in Allen County, Indiana, daughter of Daniel Swihart, member of a family well known in LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Keagy have four daughters: Orpha, Belle, Mary Adella and Viva Bernice. Orpha is the wife of Frank Schultz, of Mishawaka, Indiana. Belle died January 2, 1913, wife of Harley Anderson. Mary Adella is the wife of A. S. Hess, a contractor and builder at Gary, Indiana. Viva Bernice is the wife of Jonas J. Troyer, and they live on the old farm.

Mr. Keagy served nine years as postmaster of Greenfield Mills, and for the past thirty-two years has officiated as a justice of the peace and is one of the oldest public officials in the county. He is a member of the Progressive Christian Church.

GUY HARRIS. The family represented by this well known farmer and citizen of Greenfield Township,



LaGrange County, was among the first in that county and first in point of enterprise as well as time of settlement.

The farm where he lives today was the birthplace of Guy Harris. He was born there August 13, 1854, a son of Simon and Frances (Rowley) Harris. His mother was born in New York State in 1826 and came with her parents, Ithmar and Frances Rowley, to LaGrange County in 1836. The Rowley family settled in Newbury Township, and later in Lima Township, where her father died. Simon Harris was born in New York State in 1814 and came to LaGrange County in 1834. He was married here and then built a sawmill west of Lima, one of the first in the county, and later operated a sawmill at Ontario. He finally bought the 120 acres constituting the farm of his son Guy, and lived there until his death in 1856. His widow survived until 1881. They had four children, Emily, Orley, Julia and Guy.

Guy Harris was only two years old when his father died. He grew up on the homestead farm, had a public school education, and as a youth began buying fur. For twenty-five years he was traveling salesman representing the firm S. Bash & Company of Fort Wayne. In the meantime he bought out the heirs in the old home farm and has bought and sold several other farms. He is now giving his time to general farming. He is a republican and formerly was affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks.

In 1891 he married Miss Minnie Swain, of LaGrange County. They have seven children, all living: Hazel, who is married and has a daughter; Charles Eugene, Francis, Elmer, Theodore, Rachel, and Mary Ellen. The son Charles went into the army in 1917, was trained at Camp Sherman and in June, 1918, went overseas. He was returned to this country July 26, 1919. The son Elmer was also drafted but never got across.

JAMES H. ROBINSON, a resident of Steuben County over fifty years, grew up here, and the labors he has expended and his good judgment have been productive in building up and acquiring one of the best farms in York Township. He is still busily engaged in looking after his business interests.

Mr. Robinson was born in Columbiana County, Ohio, April 23, 1854, a son of James and Mary Ann (Dixon) Robinson. His father was also a native of the same county, and was married in Ohio and in 1867 brought his family to Steuben County, acquiring 160 acres of the farm where his son James H. now lives. He and his wife spent the rest of their days there. James Robinson, Sr., was a republican and a member of the Christian Church. A brief record of his children is as follows: Thomas, who served as a Union soldier and from the hardships of early life died about six months after his honorable discharge; Nathan D., who was also in the uniform of a Union soldier for three years and is now deceased; Lucretia, deceased; Lydia; Elizabeth, who died at the age of thirteen; James H.; Laura; and Emeline.

James H. Robinson was thirteen years old when he came to Steuben County, and since then has lived almost continuously on the old homestead farm. He acquired his education in Ohio and also in the public schools of York Township. Taking the original place of his father, he has kept improving and adding until he now owns 298½ acres, and besides this has seventy acres in Richland Township. He devotes his land to general farming and stock raising. He has never sought office, is a republican voter and a member of the Christian Church. In 1881 he married Miss Jennie Lash, of Williams County,

Ohio. Mrs. Robinson died September 20, 1908, when they had been married twenty-seven years. She was the mother of two children. Lottie, born in 1882, is the widow of Leeman McCool and has two children, Thelma and James Irwin. The son Perry, born January 27, 1889, is numbered among the progressive young farmers of Steuben County and now has the active management of the 160 acres constituting the old Robinson homestead. He is a republican. He married Hazel Gamber, of York Township, and their two children are George Russell and Gladys Velehr.

JOSEPH G. SCOTT. The Scott family through three generations have been identified with that old and interesting community of LaGrange County known as Ontario. One of the important industrial institutions there for many years was a woolen mill, and it was owned and operated by the Scott family. The late Joseph G. Scott was active in the management of this mill for a number of years, and spent the greater part of his active life in that business. Several of his children still live in and around Ontario, while others have found their work and homes in other localities and other states.

Joseph G. Scott was born near Racine, Wisconsin, February 18, 1848, and died at his old home near Ontario, May 3, 1909. His parents, James and Sarah (Woodhead) Scott, were born and married in England, and on coming to America settled at Racine, Wisconsin. James Scott was a wool manufacturer and was connected with woolen mills in several states. For a time he lived in Ohio, also at Rome City, Indiana, and in 1854 moved to Ontario and bought the old woolen mill there, equipping it with new machinery. He was its sole owner and proprietor for many years. Later he moved to Vicksburg, Michigan, where he died, and his widow passed away in Kalamazoo. They had a family of eight children.

Joseph G. Scott finished his education in the LaGrange Collegiate Institute at Ontario, and then took charge of the woolen mill and continued its management until he was elected county treasurer. He was a man of high standing in his community and the county at large, and in 1888 was elected county treasurer, an office he filled for four years. After leaving office he returned to Ontario and located on the farm of 180 acres, where he lived until his death.

In 1872 he married Miss Sarah Jerusha Hudson. She was born at East Palmyra, New York, daughter of Isaac Hudson and sister of Pliny E. Hudson of LaGrange County. Mrs. Scott, who is still living on the home farm, is the mother of eight children. Two of her sons distinguished themselves in the late World war. Robert, the oldest of the family, resides at Union City, Indiana. Walter Ross, second in age, lives at Ontario, and for more than two years was connected with the army work of the Y. M. C. A., spending one year in American camps and another year in France. The third of the family is Mary E., wife of Carl Willard, of LaGrange. James R., next in age, lives at Grant, Montana, while Alice E. is Mrs. Ledger McKibben, of Valentine, Indiana. William Arthur operates the home farm; Frank Alton is a resident of Sheridan, Montana, while the youngest is Capt. Clair H., whose home is at Ontario.

Clair H. Scott was born April 10, 1892. He graduated from the Howe Military School and spent some time in the forest service of the Government in Montana. In 1912 he entered the University of Indiana, and was a student in the Law Department until 1916. In that year he enlisted as a private in the First Indiana Infantry, and saw active service on the Mexican border. He was mustered out as a sergeant. He had resumed his law studies and was

graduated in law from Indiana University in 1917. In the meantime his former military organization had been demobilized and in its stead Battery F of the First Indiana Artillery had re-enlisted many of his comrades. On April 15, 1917, Clair Scott was commissioned a first lieutenant in that organization. He entered training camp the 14th of August, and as part of the 150th Field Artillery he went overseas with the famous Rainbow Division, and before going to France he was commissioned a captain. He was with the 150th Field Artillery as captain through all the brilliant service in France and returned with his organization and was honorably discharged in the spring of 1919.

CHARLES A. GILBERT is the fortunate and enviable possessor of Sunny Knoll Farm in Springfield Township of LaGrange County. Standing as one of the best examples of a farm with modern improvements and efficient management in the county, Sunny Knoll is the result of many years of hard work and skillful handling on the part of Mr. Gilbert.

He comes of a race of hard working and thorough agriculturists and was born in the township where he now resides September 9, 1854, a son of Austin and Juliette (Algier) Gilbert. His father was born near Mechanicsburg, Ohio, October 1, 1816. The mother was born January 19, 1832. Austin Gilbert was one of the early arrivals in LaGrange County, coming in 1834. He worked with axe and grubbing hoe and cleared out some of the first trees and stumps for the first crop. He also made several trips to Cincinnati to buy horses at auction, and several times was back in his native state of Ohio. His first land was bought in Bloomfield Township, in the southwestern corner, where he had 160 acres. He traded that for 178 acres and gradually increased his property to 348 acres. He was a tireless worker and cleared a large part of his land and put up good buildings. He lived at the old home until his death in 1903, his wife having passed away in 1882. He was a republican in politics and was a member of the Regulators. He and his wife had six children: Washington, born November 24, 1849; Charles A., born in 1854; Lydia, born in 1857 and died in 1895; Seymour, born in 1858 and died in 1881; Nora, born April 4, 1863; and Sidney, born October 21, 1872.

Charles A. Gilbert was educated in the public schools near his father's home and is a graduate of the LaGrange Collegiate Institute at Ontario. When sixteen years old he taught a term of school in Milford Township. Later he improved his education by normal courses and was a teacher altogether for nine terms. In the intervals of teaching he did farming, and for thirty-one years he rented the old homestead. He then bought eighty acres where he lives today in Springfield Township, and has kept adding to his holdings until he has 347 acres. Mr. Gilbert built a fine home at Sunny Knoll in 1905. His barn is one of the best in the township, being 47 by 100 feet. He keeps a herd of pure bred Holstein cattle and is also a large sheep feeder. Mr. Gilbert is a republican, but has been too busy with his farm to mix in politics. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias at LaGrange.

May 17, 1881, he married Miss Lovira Hackett. She was born at Batavia, Michigan, January 10, 1861, a daughter of Minor and Eliza (Sheldon) Hackett. Her father was born at Syracuse, New York, and her mother in Wisconsin, in which state they were married and during the sixties moved to LaGrange County. Minor Hackett was in the meat business for many years, and while living in Syracuse, New York, delivered meat to lake vessels. He

died in 1904, at the age of eighty-eight, while Mrs. Gilbert's mother passed away in 1901, at the age of fifty-four. There were four children: Charles, William, Lovira and Carrie. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert had three children: Gladys, who was born in 1882, graduated from the LaGrange High School, married Edward Stroup, and at her death in 1906 left a son, Gilbert, who was born December 13, 1903, and has always made his home with his grandparents at Sunny Knoll Farm. Bess, the second daughter, was born in 1883 and is the wife of Dr. James Duff, of LaGrange. They have one daughter, Bettie, born in 1911. Karl, born in 1890, is now managing his father's homestead. He married Mildred Gilhams, daughter of Clarence Gilhams, and they have a son, James, born in February, 1918.

LOUIS E. DEAL. There are a number of facts concerning this well known LaGrange County citizen which make a brief record of himself, his experience and his family worthy of record.

He was born in Springfield Township, October 30, 1860, a son of Harrison and Ellen (Jones) Deal. He grew up on the old homestead where he was born, attended the common schools, the LaGrange High School and also the LaGrange County Normal and the Indiana State Normal. For four years he taught school, and as a man of liberal education he has passed on the tradition of good mental equipment to his own children. His principal business has been farming. In the spring of 1885 he located on the farm where he now resides in Bloomfield Township, four miles east of LaGrange. A generous prosperity has attended his efforts as a farmer. He now owns 320 acres in Bloomfield and ninety acres in Springfield, and for a number of years has handled live stock on a rather extensive scale, feeding many bunches of sheep and breeding Percheron horses. He is a republican in politics, and as the present trustee of Bloomfield Township was elected to that office in 1918. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias at LaGrange, and with his wife is an active member of the Methodist Church. For twenty years he has been superintendent of the Sunday school.

On September 25, 1884, he married Miss Ella Gage. She was born in Springfield Township, August 21, 1863, a daughter of Samuel and Lydia (Gilbert) Gage. Her maternal grandfather, Elias Gilbert, was a pioneer of LaGrange County. Samuel Gage and wife had only one child to grow to maturity, Mrs. Deal. Samuel Gage died about 1868 and Mrs. Deal's mother subsequently married Saul Spero, of Springfield Township.

The four children of Mr. and Mrs. Deal have an interesting record: Fred, the oldest, born February 10, 1889, graduated from the LaGrange High School and is associated with his father on the home farm, known as the Sidmore Farm. He married Carlisle Grubb, a daughter of Dr. Albert G. Grubb, of LaGrange, and their two children are Albert Louis and Marion Parthena. Veva, the second child, was born August 18, 1890, graduated from the LaGrange High School, attended the Tri-State Normal and Winona College, and in 1914 graduated from Indiana State University. Before going to University she taught in Springfield Township and afterward for one year was an instructor in the Wolcott High School for two years and then for two years taught Latin in the West Lafayette High School. She is the wife of Henry Phelps, who was born in Webster, Massachusetts, March 15, 1893, is a graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute and did post-graduate work at Purdue University. For two years he was an instructor in electrical engineer-





*C. A. Gilbert*





ing at Purdue and is now a telephone equipment engineer in research and development work at New York City. The third of the family is Wava, born October 6, 1895, a graduate of the LaGrange High School and a graduate of the State University in 1918. She taught a year in Bloomfield Township and is now a teacher of mathematics in Hartford City School. The youngest of the family is Helen Lucile, born October 4, 1901, who graduated with the class of 1919 from the LaGrange High School.

GIRT L. GNAGY, who has been one of the leading business men of Hamilton for a number of years, operating the local mills, also a garage, is a native of DeKalb County, and is a grandson of the pioneer in that county, John Houlton. John Houlton was born in Highland County, Ohio, in 1804, son of Samuel Houlton, and was in every sense a pioneer and frontiersman. In 1827 he went to Williams County, Ohio, where with his brother he was connected with the saw milling industry. In September, 1833, he came to DeKalb County, and in the same month built the first house in the county in Franklin Township. When this house was torn down in 1860 the DeKalb County Pioneer Society had a number of canes made from the logs, and some of those canes are no doubt carefully preserved. John Houlton married shortly before coming to DeKalb County Sarah Vee, who died in July, 1839. Her daughter Margaret, born in 1836, was the first white girl born in DeKalb County. In 1839 John Houlton married Nancy Lewis, daughter of Samuel Lewis. To this union were born nine children. A daughter, Mary Ann, who died in 1869, was the first wife of Jeremiah Gnagy. Her sister, Rebecca Houlton, later became the wife of Jeremiah Gnagy.

Jeremiah Gnagy was born in Tuscarawus County, Ohio, in 1844, and spent most of his life in DeKalb County. In 1884 he moved to Hamilton in Steuben County and conducted a summer resort there, also owning a farm of fifty-four acres adjoining the village, and was interested in village property. He was a democrat and held several township offices. He died in 1895. He was active in the Christian Church and his widow, Rebecca Houlton Gnagy, was a member of the same church. Rebecca Gnagy is still living at the age of seventy-three. Her five children, all living, are: Guy, George, Girt, Glen and Gladiolus.

Girt L. Gnagy, who was born in DeKalb County October 15, 1879, has lived at Hamilton since he was about five years old. He attended public schools, and as a youth became a teaming contractor. Later he secured an interest in the local water power and developed it and has given Hamilton its chief facilities as a milling center. For the past seven years he has also been interested in the garage business and is owner of some productive farming land. Mr. Gnagy is a republican, a member of the Masons, Knights of Pythias and Grangers, and affiliates with the Christian Church.

April 14, 1906, he married Audry L. Sharp, of Steuben County. Her father, Eugene Sharp, is the present trustee of York Township. Mr. and Mrs. Gnagy have one son, Lyle, born December 24, 1912.

JOSEPH A. CONNELLY is living today in the same community where he was born, Bloomfield Township, and with the exception of a few years spent as a Nebraska homesteader has resided there all his life. Members of the Connelly family have improved and cleared a great deal of land in LaGrange County, and the name is well known and respected.

Mr. Connelly was born October 14, 1859, son of Joseph W. and Louisa (Gage) Connelly. His paternal grandparents, Thomas and Savilla Con-

nelly, came from Maryland, where Joseph W. Connelly, was born, and only a year or so after his birth the family located on what is now known as the Charles Marks farm in Bloomfield Township. Thomas Connelly was a Methodist preacher, and besides looking after his farm his services were in great demand for the marriage of many couples and for other occasions. He had 160 acres and had it cleared and improved before his death. The maternal grandparents of Joseph A. Connelly were Jacob and Anna Gage, who came from the East and were early settlers in LaGrange County. They lived on the old Association Farm in Springfield Township and later farmed in different localities. Jacob Gage was also a Methodist minister.

Joseph W. Connelly received his education in the common schools in LaGrange County and farmed his father's place in Bloomfield Township many years. With the exception of one year on a farm in Iowa, he spent all his active life in Bloomfield Township, where he had at one time eighty acres, but later sold part of it. He and his wife had ten children: John B., who served two terms as county treasurer of LaGrange County; Martha; Mary Roxina, who died in infancy; Joseph A.; Byron and Hiram, twins, the latter deceased; Savilla; Orpha and Orpheus, twins; and Charles Franklin.

Joseph A. Connelly grew up on his father's farm and had a common school education. When he went out to Nebraska, where he spent five years, he took up a 160-acre homestead, proved up and sold out. His location in Nebraska was in Blaine County. At his present home in Bloomfield Township he has eighty acres devoted to general farming, and he is responsible for the building and other improvements possessed by the farm.

December 10, 1885, he married Miss Dora Maxwell, a native of LaGrange County, and a daughter of William Maxwell. To their marriage were born two children, Grace, who died at the age of sixteen, and Floyd, who is married and lives on a part of his father's farm.

JOHN FRANKLIN ESHELMAN, who for many years was a successful farmer in Johnson Township, has more recently been identified with the business affairs of the City of LaGrange, where he is local manager of the South Bend Creamery.

He was born in Johnson Township, June 9, 1856, a son of Joseph and Mary (Erford) Eshelman. He spent his early life on his father's farm, had a common school education, and forty years ago became an independent farmer. He still owns 143 acres in the north portion of Johnson Township, five and a half miles from LaGrange. While on the farm he handled livestock, especially sheep and cattle. Mr. Eshelman moved to LaGrange in 1912 and bought a home at 321 Grant Street. Since the fall of 1913 he has been manager of the South Bend Creamery Company. This company does an extensive business handling cream and eggs. Mr. Eshelman is a republican, is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at LaGrange, and he and his wife are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. While living in the country they belonged to the Evangelical Church.

January 9, 1877, Mr. Eshelman married Miss Amanda E. Teeters. She was born in Johnson Township in 1859, a daughter of David and Maria Teeters, both now deceased. Mr. and Mrs. Eshelman are parents of five children. Anna is the wife of Claud C. Price, of Fort Wayne, and has two sons, Donald and Dowe. Harley is the Wabash Railroad agent at Wolcottville, is married and has two children, named Hugh and Frank. Orley F. is a farmer in Bloomfield Township and married Ethel Aldrich, a daughter of Frank Aldrich. Vera is the wife of

Erny Albright and has a daughter, Marguerite. Homer, the youngest of the family, made a brilliant record in the war. July 29, 1917, at Elkhart, Indiana, he enlisted for the aviation corps, started to camp the same day, received his training in Texas, and went overseas to France with the Eighty-Eighth Aviation Squadron. He was a sergeant, and he participated in five raids across the Rhine. June 26, 1919, he returned to the United States and rejoined his home community July 15.

HENRY C. WILCOX is a native Indianan and has been a resident of Steuben County over half a century. He came here an orphan boy, and had a hard struggle to get well started in the world, but for many years has been quietly prospered and one of the most esteemed residents of Salem Township.

He was born in Wabash County, Indiana, October 12, 1854, a son of Clark Lewis and Susan (Cline) Wilcox. His parents were married at Fort Wayne in Allen County. His mother was a native of Germany. Clark Lewis Wilcox at one time owned forty acres near the present site of the Fort Wayne Court House. By trade he was a millwright and engineer. He enlisted in the Civil war in 1861 and served throughout that struggle. He came home from the army practically blind and suffered so many other hardships that he died in 1866. His widow passed away in DeKalb County in 1871. Their children were named: Indiana, deceased; Clark; Lester, deceased; Henry C.; Charles Sylvester, deceased; Caroline; George W., deceased; and Andrew J.

After his father's death and when only twelve years old Henry C. Wilcox came to Steuben County and lived with his uncle, Lester Wilcox. He attended a few terms of school at Pleasant Lake and learned the lessons of honest toil when only a boy. When he started out to make his own living he borrowed a dollar and worked as a farm hand, later rented land, and made his first purchase of  $7\frac{1}{2}$  acres, which he subsequently increased by eight acres. On October 13, 1877, he married Miss Mary E. Miller, who was born on the farm where she and her husband now reside. She inherited forty acres, and on that place Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox lived for forty years. Mr. Wilcox is a republican, and served a term as constable and for twelve years was township supervisor.

Mrs. Wilcox is a daughter of Richard A. and Rachel (Crook) Miller, both natives of Ohio. Her father came when a single man to Steuben County. Her mother came here with her parents, Michael and Catherine (Slife) Crook, who were pioneers and settled on what is known as the Windsor farm and later acquired the land where Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox now live. The Crooks were here at a time when the woods were filled with wild game, such as deer and turkey. Mrs. Wilcox' parents were married in Steuben Township and later bought forty acres in Salem Township and altogether had about 200 acres there. Richard Miller died in September, 1909, at the age of seventy-nine. The mother of Mrs. Wilcox passed away August 7, 1918, at the age of eighty-four. Of their eight children four died in infancy, and those to grow up were Isaiah A., Mary E., Martha and Emma C.

Mr. and Mrs. Wilcox must be given credit for bringing up a large family of children, most of whom are still living and are now well established and in independent circumstances. Their oldest child, Caroline Elizabeth, married for her first husband Charles Mayers, by whom she had three children, Etta, Letha and Virgil. Her second husband was John Ackley, and by that union she has a son,

Ansel Asa. Rozelma Wilcox first married W. More, and had three children, Charles, Reba and Harold, and she is the present wife of W. Stevens, by whom she also has three children, Vern, Naomi and Raymond. Edith Wilcox is the wife of Frank Ulmer and has two children, Esther and Gerald. Della is the wife of Charles Huffman, and their family consists of Mildred and June. Myrtie Wilcox died when twenty-one years of age. Carl, who married Emma Hendersen, has a son, John Henry. Seldon married Elsie Freed, daughter of Peter and Anna Eliza Freed, of Salem Township, and they have four children, named Ruth G., Walter H., Edna M. and Angeline. Leona was married to Ernest Minger, and is the mother of three children, Waunetta L., Rollin W. and Wanda M. The ninth child, Vesta, died in infancy. Emma L., the youngest, is the wife of Earl Strawser.

SIMEON L. HANSELMAN. This is the name of one of the progressive farmers of Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, a citizen who enjoys many warm friends, in that community.

Mr. Hanselman was born in St. Joseph County, Michigan, October 6, 1874, a son of Peter and Julia Ann (Duke) Hanselman. His father was born in Pennsylvania January 3, 1846, and his mother in Williams County, Ohio, November 9, 1848. The paternal grandparents were Aaron and Christina (Reid) Hanselman, the latter born in 1813. The Hanselmans were pioneers of Steuben County, Indiana, coming from Pennsylvania and traveling with wagons and ox teams. They located in Steuben Township, where Aaron and wife spent the rest of their years. They were laid to rest in Mt. Zion cemetery. A record of their children with their births is as follows: Charles, 1834; John Q., 1836; Frank and Wesley, 1837; George, 1839; Elizabeth, 1841; William, 1843; Peter, 1846; Elizabeth, 1849; Daniel, 1854; and Aaron L., 1856.

Peter Hanselman was reared and educated in Steuben County, and married in Williams County. His wife was a daughter of Wright and Ann (Berridge) Duke, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of England. They spent many years in Williams County, where Wright Duke died. His widow spent her last years with Simeon L. Hanselman and died at his home in 1900, at advanced age.

Peter Hanselman moved from Indiana to St. Joseph County, Michigan, and on April 1, 1880, located in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County. His first place there comprised thirty-nine acres, and later he moved to the farm now managed by his son Simeon, known as the Francis Farm. He died there January 8, 1912, and his widow still occupies the old homestead. He was a republican and a member of the United Brethren Church while his wife was a Baptist. There were only two children: Simeon L. and Clara, wife of William Gay.

Simeon L. Hanselman grew up in LaGrange County, and since his school days has given his time steadily to farming, part of the time as a farm worker for others but since 1909 he has operated and rented the old homestead. He is a republican in politics.

August 16, 1902, Mr. Hanselman married Miss Della Toms. She was born in Springfield Township of LaGrange County, daughter of Cornelius and Jane (Highland) Toms, who came to LaGrange County from Ohio about forty-five years ago. Her father died in Greenfield Township in 1916, at the age of sixty-three, and her mother in 1906, aged fifty-three. Mr. and Mrs. Hanselman have seven children, named Hazel, Marie, John, Edith, Carroll, May and Harlow.



**BENJAMIN S. DORSEY.** One of the most highly respected citizens of LaGrange County is Benjamin S. Dorsey, who has lived in Bloomfield Township for many years, where he is owner of a large farm.

He was born in Allen County, Indiana, December 15, 1853, a son of Jonathan and Mary Jane (King) Dorsey. Jonathan Dorsey was born in Yorkshire, England, in 1829, and was one year old to the day when his parents, Benjamin Dorsey and wife, set out from England to the United States. The voyage was a long one by sailing vessel, and they were six months on the ocean. They settled at Huron, Ohio, where grandfather Dorsey worked for some years as a shipbuilder, and his son Jonathan was also employed on the towpath up the river. The family finally moved to Allen County, Indiana, at the same time with Thomas Barnett, and settled on English Prairie. Benjamin Dorsey died in Allen County about 1866.

The maternal grandparents of Benjamin S. Dorsey were Simeon and Ann (Oliver) King, who were among the first settlers in LaGrange County, settling in Johnson Township, on what is known as the McKiffin farm, and Mrs. King's brother was buried on that farm. After the Kings sold the land they settled in Bloomfield Township, on what is now the Minnick farm, where Simeon King died.

Jonathan Dorsey after the death of his father came to LaGrange County and went to work for Simeon King. After his marriage he returned to Allen County, bought a farm, and in 1876 traded that farm for 250 acres where his son Benjamin S. now lives. He finally retired from farming and moved to Valentine, where his wife died in 1896. She was born in LaGrange County in 1835. Jonathan King spent his last days with his son Benjamin and died in 1903. He was a stalwart republican in politics, and he and his wife were members of the Methodist Church. They had two children, Benjamin S. and Plinna, the latter the wife of Charles Jackson.

Benjamin S. Dorsey attended the public schools of Allen County and was about twenty-three years old when his father moved to LaGrange County. He has always lived on the old farm, and since becoming its owner has increased its area to 330 acres. He is a republican in politics. In 1874 he married in Allen County, Mary Sowers, of that county.

**HENRY B. JORDAN.** A life of signal purpose and concentrated devotion to his work as a farmer, his duties as a citizen, and the responsibilities of his home, came to a close with the death of Henry B. Jordan on October 28, 1915.

Mr. Jordan, who spent most of his life in Steuben County, was born in Newfane Township, at a village once called Charlotte, now Newfane, in Niagara County, New York, January 9, 1843. His parents were David and Alvira (Ware) Jordan, who moved to New York from Pennsylvania and in 1852 came to Steuben County, Indiana. David Jordan had served in the Mexican war and received a tract of government land for his services. He became a large land owner and in Steuben County lived in Pleasant and Scott townships. He died at Angola April 5, 1873, at the age of seventy-nine. His widow passed away in 1886, aged seventy-three. David Jordan was three times married and had six children by each wife.

Henry B. Jordan acquired his early education chiefly in Steuben County and always followed farming. He began with eighty acres in Fremont Township, and out of his increasing means invested in other land until he had 284 acres and two lots in the city of Angola. For many years he gave particular attention to the breeding of Merino sheep. He was a republican, had no desire to figure as a

public official, and was very much interested in the Masonic Order. All his sons are Masons, and his widow and one daughter are members of the Eastern Star. He had attained the thirty-second degree in the Scottish Rite at Fort Wayne in April, 1914, only about a year before his death. He was also a charter member of the Angola Lodge of Knights of Pythias.

Henry B. Jordan married, February 11, 1872, Miss Ada Freligh. Mrs. Jordan, who represents an old and prominent family of Steuben County, was born in the City of Angola April 20, 1851, a daughter of George and Abigail (Squier) Freligh. Her father came to Steuben County when seventeen years of age, was a shoemaker by trade, and for a number of years was proprietor of a shoe store at Angola. His parents were John and Mary (Latta) Freligh, who followed him to Steuben County and spent their last years on a farm in Pleasant Township. John Freligh died when past eighty years of age and his wife also died in advanced years. Abigail Squier, mother of Mrs. Jordan, was a daughter of Dean and Jane (Wiles) Squier, the latter a native of England and brought to the United States when nine years old. Dean Squier moved from New York to Ohio, where he died, and his widow subsequently came to Steuben County. George and Abigail Freligh had five children, Ada, Ervin, Carrie, one that died in infancy and Clyde.

Mr. and Mrs. Jordan had seven children. Cary T., who finished his education in the Tri-State Normal College, is a successful farmer and married Jennie Clark, by whom he has three children, Marie, Alma and Kathleen. Mrs. Jordan has one great-grandchild. Her granddaughter Alma Jordan married Gerald Vose and has a daughter, Wilma. Fred Jordan also educated in the Tri-State College at Angola, married Blanche Tarr, who died in 1905, leaving three children, Hazel, Harold and Lowell. Leon married Iva Peavy and has a son, Wayne. Bert W. married Lola Hall, and their children consist of Howard, Elizabeth, Ronald, Doris, Phyllis and Marada. Jessie, a graduate of the Fremont High School, is the wife of Charles Bailey. Bart, who finished his education in the Tri-State College, married for his first wife Ada O'Keefe and had one child, Weltha; and his second wife is Lila Taylor. Dean, the youngest of the family, since completing his education in the public schools has been managing the home farm. He married Anna Wiggins.

**HARRY A. MARTIN** is head of the firm Martin & Company, with offices in several towns of Northern Indiana, and with a business in general real estate and farm lands that covers Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois. This is one of the most complete organizations of its kind in the middle west.

Mr. Martin, who as a result of long experience has acquired an almost encyclopedic knowledge of real estate values, was born in Richland County, Ohio, in 1868, a son of Frank and Lydia (Baker) Martin. His mother was a sister of the late James Baker, widely and favorably known as a prominent manufacturer of Kendallville, Indiana. Frank Martin was born in Morrow County, Ohio, in 1837, while his wife was born at Galion, Ohio, in 1842. After their marriage at Galion they settled on a farm in Richland County and in 1879 sold their Ohio property and moved out to Washington County, Iowa. Frank Martin bought 320 acres of land in the county at \$38 an acre. His son Seymour Martin now lives on that old homestead and altogether owns 1,300 acres of land in this very fertile section of Iowa. The old homestead bought forty years ago is now estimated to be worth \$400

an acre. Frank Martin in 1881 returned east and settled in DeKalb County, Indiana, buying a farm of 200 acres in Fairfield Township. He was busy with its improvement and development and lived there until his death in 1904. His wife passed away in 1917. He was a democrat in politics and voted with much regularity until Bryan became a candidate on the free silver issue in 1896, at which time he turned his allegiance to the republican doctrine. He was a member of the Dunkard Church while his wife was a Quaker. Harry A. Martin's mother is of Scotch descent, her grandfather having come from Scotland and settled in Virginia when her own father was about two years old. Frank Martin and wife had seven children: Seymour, of Washington County, Iowa; Frank, of Wolcottville; Ione, who married Edward Zimmerman and died February 1, 1918; Harry A.; Homer, of LaGrange; Willard, who owns sixty acres of the old Martin homestead in DeKalb County; and Allen, who has 100 acres of the same homestead.

Harry A. Martin owing to the change of residence made by his parents as above indicated received his early education in three states. He attended the common schools of Ohio to the age of eleven, then for two years in Iowa, and finished his schooling in Fairfield Township of DeKalb County. He also acquired a practical knowledge of farming, and for a time was associated with Welt Brothers selling buggies. He found his congenial field and best scope for his talents in 1901, when he entered the real estate business at Mongo, Indiana. He also established an office at LaGrange, also one at Howe, and for ten years was in partnership with Hubert Smith. Later Edward Zimmerman, his brother Homer Martin, John L. Hagland and Edward Lacey were associated with him. The firm has always been known as Martin & Company. Another partner was Mr. Albert F. Powell, ex-county assessor. The present personnel of the company is Harry A. Martin, Homer B. Martin and Edward Zimmerman. Mr. Martin is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias Lodge.

In 1888 he married Sarah I. Kisell, who was born in Whitley County, Indiana, August 21, 1872. They have an interesting family of seven children: Clarence, who married Bernice Wonders; Lydia, who is the wife of Cecil Cook and has a son, Leo; Ruth, wife of Earl Grubaugh, assistant postmaster of LaGrange, and she is the mother of two children, Pauline and Herbert; Mary, wife of Earl Cattell, a resident of Detroit; Willard J., who was a member of Company 36 in a replacement division with the American Expeditionary Forces in France; Harry, a sophomore in the LaGrange High School; and John, who died in infancy.

**ROHERLES MERRIMAN.** A citizen of LaGrange County whose life career has brought him in pleasant contact with many of his fellow citizens is Roberles Merriman, a native of the county and a resident on one farm for over half a century.

Mr. Merriman was born in Clay Township, October 3, 1847, a son of George and Desire (Boroughs) Merriman. His father was born in Ohio in 1816 and his mother in New York State in 1825. His grandfather was John Merriman, who was one of the early settlers of LaGrange County, living here among the Indians in Clay Township, where he took up Government land. At one time he owned 400 acres. He was very active in politics and held a number of local offices and was a member of the regular Baptist Church. He died at the age of seventy-seven. He had a large family of about ten children.

George Merriman came to Indiana on horseback

from Ohio, and as a carpenter helped build the railroad depot at Sturgis, Michigan. He witnessed the arrival of the first train in that town. In the early days he hauled grain to Fort Wayne and sold wheat at 50 cents a bushel. Later he settled on the eighty acres given him by his father, and acquired a large farm, most of which his children inherited. He died in 1899 and his wife in 1897. He was a republican, and he and his wife were Baptists. They had children named Roberles, William, Eber, Hudson and George.

Roberles Merriman attended school in Clay Township, and is still living on the farm of fifty acres which has been in his possession for half a century. He is a republican in politics.

June 10, 1869, Mr. Merriman married Amanda Brindley, a daughter of John Brindley, of LaGrange County. Mrs. Merriman died in 1894, the mother of the following children: Alton, who married Edith McMannes and has two children, Glenn and Losen; Grace, who is married and lives in California; Blanche and Burton, both deceased; Zoe, who is married; and Lena, deceased. In 1913 Mr. Merriman married Jennie Airgood, widow of Albert Airgood, by whom she had six children.

**MEARL D. WATTERS.** Land in Jamestown Township in Steuben County which was cleared and cultivated by his father is now being capably managed and farmed by Mearl D. Watters, one of the best known and most progressive citizens of the county.

Mr. Watters was born in Jamestown Township November 18, 1870, and is a son of James and Mary M. Henney Watters. James Watters was born in Lincolnshire, England, May 3, 1844, a son of James and Elizabeth (Cooper) Watters, who came to America about 1852, spent a short time in Buffalo, New York, then went west to White Pigeon, Michigan, later went to Ohio, and in 1866 settled in Steuben County, on a farm of forty acres in Fremont Township, to which later was added thirty acres. This old farm is now owned by George Watters, a son of James and Elizabeth. James Watters, Sr., died in Fremont about 1887, and his wife about 1884. Their children were Mary, Thomas, Sarah Jane, Elizabeth, James, William, Morris, George, Phillip and Samuel.

Mary M. Henney, wife of James Watters, Jr., was a daughter of Daniel and Anna (Housman) Henney, the former a native of Ohio and the latter of Pennsylvania. The Henney family also came to Steuben County in 1866, settling on a farm of forty acres in York Township. Daniel Henney was a blacksmith by trade. He and his wife, who spent their last years in Steuben County, had the following children: Mary M., Elizabeth, John H., Rachel, Alice, Catherine, Irene and Daniel W. Daniel Henney was born in Stark County, Ohio, February 2, 1819, and his wife in Center County, Pennsylvania, in 1818. They were married in Summit County, Ohio, in 1842, and he died August 20, 1892, and his wife January 23, 1911.

When James and Mary Watters came to Steuben County they lived for a time in Fremont Township and later bought eighty acres in Jamestown Township now owned by their son Mearl D. The father put up good buildings, and managed the farm successfully for about thirty years. In 1909 he retired to the Village of Fremont, where his death occurred in June, 1918, at the age of seventy-four. His widow is still living at the age of seventy-five. On the old farm October 5, 1916, they celebrated their golden wedding anniversary, and their marriage companionship continued for two years longer. James Watters was a democrat in politics and he and his wife were very prominent in the Methodist Church. They



had four children: Annie E.; Charles, who died August 2, 1869, at the age of one year, six months and ten days; Mearl; and Cora.

Mearl D. Watters grew up on the home farm, attended the public schools and spent one year in the Tri-State Normal College, and since completing his education has devoted his time and energies to farming. In June, 1918, he bought the homestead of eighty acres. He is on very familiar ground at this farm, since he helped his father clear away the woods and put up some of the buildings. In politics he is a democrat, is a member of the Masonic Lodge and Knights of Pythias at Fremont, and has always joined heartily in any movement for the general benefit of his community. He is a stockholder in the First State Bank of Fremont and is a stockholder in the Fremont Cooperative Store.

In 1909 he married Miss Edith Gritman, of Fremont, a daughter of Henry and Isabel Gritman. Her mother is still living. Mr. and Mrs. Watters have one son, Leon James, born March 1, 1911.

GEORGE W. TRUBY, of Bloomfield Township, LaGrange County, was born in Huntington County, Indiana, October 31, 1856, a son of Rev. David M. and Mary (Smutz) Truby. His parents were both born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio, his father in 1825 and his mother in 1826. They were married in Ohio and then settled in Wells County, Indiana, and in 1861 moved to Steuben County and from there in 1864 to Springfield Township, LaGrange County. The father developed and cleared what is known as Pleasant Hill Farm. He was a minister of the Dunkard Church, and labored unselfishly in that cause many years. He preached in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana, and for many years served the English Prairie Church near his home in Bloomfield. He was a republican. He and his wife died in 1894, he in August and she in April. Their children were named Jacob, Mary, David, Sarah, Emily, Joseph and George W.

George W. Truby was eight years old when he came with his parents to LaGrange County. As a boy he did a man's work in clearing the land and piling brush. Later he bought a farm in Bloomfield Township, and when he sold that he went to Arkansas. After eleven months in that state he returned to Indiana and bought the farm he owns today in Bloomfield Township. He has cleared most of this land for cultivation and has good buildings. His farm consists of eighty acres. He is a republican, and both his wives have been Methodists.

October 31, 1880, he married Hannah Slack, who was born in LaGrange County, a daughter of Abram Slack. Mr. and Mrs. Truby had five children: Turah, wife of George L. Schadle; George Lester, who was an enlisted man at the Great Lakes Training Station and received his honorable discharge in July, 1919; Hazel, wife of Charles Routsong and the mother of four children, named George W., Ruth, Retha and Lois; Eva and Neva, who died in infancy. The mother of these children died May 25, 1911. December 18, 1912, Mr. Truby married Mrs. Minnie (Brown) Yergin, widow of Oscar Yergin and a daughter of Peter and Julia (Hill) Brown, early settlers of LaGrange County. Her father died in 1909, at the age of seventy-one, and her mother was born December 12, 1844, and is seventy-five years old. Mrs. Truby by her first husband had the following children: Wilmer, of Elkhart, Indiana; Mary, wife of F. O. Gibson and the mother of two children, Paul and Helen; Basil, who trained as a soldier at Camp Lewis, Washington, and in August, 1918, went overseas to France and was connected with Unit No. 93 at the Base

Hospital in Paris, being still in overseas service; Ivan, who served as a private in Company G, of the Three Hundred and Eighth Infantry and received a wound in battle, being now in Seattle, Washington; Velma, wife of J. J. Martin, of Seattle, Washington; Vernon, who was in France eighteen months as a private in Field Remount Company No. 312; Audelra, who died in infancy; and Dana, at home.

HARRY J. CURTIS. While he was born in London, England, Harry J. Curtis has no memories of the great metropolis which surrounded him in infancy, practically all his life having been spent in LaGrange County. He started his independent career with a small fund of experience and less capital, worked as a farm hand, and has since steadily accumulated interests, property and many other assets that make him one of the substantial and influential citizens of the county.

He was born in London, December 18, 1869, a son of Henry and Elizabeth Curtis, the former a native of North Hampshire, England, and the latter of South Hampshire, England. In 1871 they brought their family to America and came direct to LaGrange County. Henry Curtis in England was a flower gardener. For a time after coming to LaGrange County he worked for S. P. Williams, of Howe. Later he engaged in farming near that city, and still owns a farm there, but lives in Howe. He and his wife had a family of ten children: One died in infancy and the others are all living today, their names being Harry J., Thomas, Nellie, George, Jennie, Edward, Earl, Samuel and Leonard.

Harry J. Curtis attended the common schools for his education. He went to work as a farm hand and for eighteen years he conducted a draying business at Howe. Since 1909 he has been engaged in farming and stock raising on an extensive scale. In that year he bought a large acreage, ninety-six in Greenfield and 202 in Bloomfield Township, and uses this farm for cattle and hog feeding. While a resident of Lima Township Mr. Curtis served as road supervisor and member of the county council. He also helped organize the Lima Elevator Company and is now its president. He is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Howe.

July 4, 1895, Mr. Curtis married Miss Nellie Squires, of Lima Township, a daughter of Miles B. and Mary Squires. They were married nearly twenty years. Mrs. Curtis died February 12, 1915, the mother of three children: Elizabeth, Clarence and Helen.

The only son, Clarence Curtis, served with the colors in the World war. He entered Camp Taylor at Louisville, May 25, 1918, in the infantry service. Later he was sent to Camp Beauregard, Louisiana, and became a member of the Thirty-Ninth Division and subsequently was put in a Machine Gun Battalion with the Fifth Infantry. He was returned to Camp Taylor, December 7, 1918, and was discharged there March 20, 1919. He did not have the fortune to go overseas with the Thirty-Ninth Division, being kept in America because of defective feet.

LINCOLN BROUSE. By intermarriage with other families the name Brouse frequently appears in the family records of Steuben County. The Brouses have been here for over half a century, and Mr. Lincoln Brouse, who was an infant when the family came to Steuben County, is a prosperous farmer.

He was born in Ashland County, Ohio, December 16, 1864, a son of Cyrus and Mary (Tuttle) Brouse. His parents came to Steuben County in 1866. The parents of Cyrus came at the same time, Frederick and Mary Ann (Pifer) Brouse. They

settled in Clear Lake Township, and their old homestead is now owned by Simon Brouse, a brother of Lincoln. Frederick Brouse and wife had three children, Cyrus, Eliza and Jane. Cyrus Brouse has bought and sold a number of times in this part of Indiana and is now living retired in the Village of Ray, at the age of seventy-nine. His wife passed away in 1908, aged sixty-six. He was a republican, and he and his wife were active in the United Brethren Church. They had four sons, all living, named, William, Simon, Lincoln and Lucius.

Lincoln Brouse grew up on the farm in Clear Lake Township, acquired his education in the public schools and Hartsville College, and took a normal course in the Tri-State College at Angola. He was a successful teacher and followed that vocation for ten terms in Clear Lake Township, employing his summer vacations at farming. Later he bought a place of fifty acres in Clear Lake Township and traded that with his father for the farm he now owns in Fremont Township. He moved to this place in 1903 and has kept his work moving ahead, and has some excellent improvements, including a fine barn built in 1905 and a home erected in 1907. He is a general farmer, a prohibitionist in politics and a member of the United Brethren Church.

October 29, 1891, Mr. Brouse married Miss Ada Bratten. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, January 18, 1867, a daughter of George and Jane (McElhenie) Bratten. Her parents came to Steuben County and settled in Clear Lake Township in 1882, and spent the declining years of their lives with Mr. and Mrs. Brouse. Her father died February 6, 1915, and her mother January 13, 1906. In the Bratten family were four children, named Carrie, Clement, Ada and Jennie.

Mr. and Mrs. Brouse have two children, Mabel and Walter. Mabel was born December 25, 1892, a graduate of the Fremont High School, and is the wife of Guy Throop, of Clear Lake Township. They have two children, Mildred Lorene and Cleon. The son, Walter, born November 15, 1896, is also a graduate of the Fremont High School, and during the world war was for six months a member of Company D of the 214th Infantry. Since his honorable discharge he has gone to work in the furniture department of the Wilhelms factory at Sturgis, Michigan. Walter Brouse married Rachel Sowle.

FRANK A. McMANUS, whose farm is in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County, is related to a number of interesting people in Northeast Indiana, and his own life has been one of exceptional effort and enterprise.

Mr. McManus was born in Clay Township March 21, 1871, a son of Henry and Mary (Hardesty) McManus. His paternal grandparents were Jacob and Phidelia (Bettis) McManus. The father of Phidelia Bettis was captain of a company in the Revolutionary war. Jacob McManus after coming to LaGrange County followed farming in Lima Township, where he died in 1887 and his wife in 1898. Their children were: Henry, Nelson, Robert, who remained in Ohio; Orrin, who is the only son now living and is past seventy, a resident of Elkhart, Silas, who was at one time state senator and also well known as a poet, and Lucy, wife of Daniel Crowel, of Colorado.

Henry McManus was born in Ohio in 1830. His wife, Mary Hardesty, was born in the same state in 1840, a daughter of Thompson and Sarah (Bobel) Hardesty. Sarah Gobel was related to the same family as that of the late Governor Gobel, whose death by assassination while governor of Kentucky was one of the most noted cases in criminal his-

tory. Thompson Hardesty spent a large part of his life as a forgerman, and came to LaGrange County in 1856 to run the old forge in Lima Township. Henry McManus and wife came with him. Thompson Hardesty died May 19, 1885, having spent his later life as a farmer. His children were Mary and Silas. After coming to LaGrange County Henry McManus worked in the forge for his father-in-law and later became a farmer, living in Clay Township and finally in Lima Township, but spent his last years on a farm in Bloomfield Township, where he died April 28, 1898, his wife in 1902. They had five children: Charles, of Howe, Indiana; Hattie, who died at the age of five years; Bracie, who died when seven years old; Frank A.; and Edith, wife of Alton Merriman, of Clay Township.

Frank A. McManus was reared largely in Lima Township, attended the Woodard schools and for three years the Lima schools, and since early manhood has been a farmer. In 1897 he bought his place in Bloomfield Township, two and a half miles from LaGrange, and in twenty years has done much to improve and increase the value of his land and equipment. He raises much stock, and a silo is a prominent feature of his farm equipment. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at LaGrange, and for twenty-six years has been affiliated with the Knights of Pythias at Howe.

July 31, 1897, he married Miss Alma Stoehr, who was born in LaGrange December 18, 1875, a daughter of John and Josephine Goodsell Stoehr, both natives of Milford Township. The mother was a daughter of Mynott Goodsell. Mrs. McManus' paternal grandparents were John and Mary Elizabeth (Beng) Stoehr, both natives of Germany, who came to the United States, the latter at the age of thirteen with her parents. John Stoehr, Sr., acquired a tract of government land and lived under a tree until he could build a log house. He died on the old farm and his wife died in LaGrange. Their children were: Kate, John N., George, Fred, Frank and Mathias. John N. Stoehr, father of Mrs. McManus, had three children: Edna, wife of Adelbert Mains, of Milford Township; Alma, Mrs. McManus; and Josephine, wife of Leo D. W. Rowe, of Brestow, Oklahoma.

Mr. and Mrs. McManus have two children: Geraldine, born May 8, 1898, has completed her education in LaGrange High School. Paul Goodsell, born July 29, 1904, is a student in the public schools of Bloomfield Township.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN SWIHART has spent practically all of his mature years as a farmer in Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, on the land formerly owned by his father. He has directed his affairs with wisdom and good judgment, is progressive in all community matters, and is thoroughly well informed on local agricultural conditions. For the past nineteen years he has been reporting crop conditions, estimates and yields in his township for the Department of Agriculture.

Mr. Swihart was born in Lafayette Township, Allen County, Indiana, January 7, 1851, a son of Daniel and Sarah (Summers) Swihart. His paternal grandfather Johnathan Swihart, spent most of his life in Ohio, but died in LaGrange County when eighty-four years of age. After his death his widow returned to Ohio to live. The maternal grandfather, Jacob Summers, was an early settler in Owen County in Southern Indiana. He served as a drummer boy in the War of 1812. After his discharge he walked three hundred miles to his home. His daughter Sarah was born in Pennsylvania in October, 1820. Daniel Swihart was born in Tuscarawas County,





Benj. F. Swihart.  
Amy E. Swihart-





Ohio, in April, 1820, was reared and educated there, serving in the state militia at the time of the Mexican war. In 1840 he was united in marriage to Sarah Summers, and to this union were born eleven children, as follows: Elizabeth, born in 1841 and Johnnothan, born in 1843, both dying in childhood in Ohio; Martha Jane, born April 13, 1845, and died February 2, 1881; Susan, born March 17, 1847, died January 26, 1914; Joseph L., born March 7, 1849; Benjamin Franklin, who was the sixth child; Nancy E., born November 12, 1852; William H., born January 30, 1855; Laura E., born April 3, 1858; Clara B., born May 3, 1860; and Samuel A., born March 30, 1862. In the year of 1850 Daniel Swihart purchased a homestead of 160 acres in Allen County, Indiana, and moved onto the same, and here he and his family lived for the next four years, clearing part of the land. In the spring of 1855 he sold this farm and moved to a farm in LaPorte County, where he lived one year and then moved onto a farm in St. Joseph County, Indiana. In 1859 he purchased 200 acres now owned by his sons in Greenfield Township, LaGrange County, Indiana, and on February 8, 1860, he moved his family to this new home. It contained some buildings and the old house and barn are still in use for different purposes on the portion of the land where Benjamin Franklin lives. Daniel Swihart had a great fund of energy and much practical ability as a business man, and accumulated 380 acres. In 1869 he erected a large bank barn and in 1873 built a large modern home, and these buildings still stand and are now owned and occupied by their son Samuel. Daniel Swihart served as road supervisor for several terms.

Benjamin Franklin Swihart was nine years of age when his parents moved to LaGrange County. He acquired his education in this county and St. Joseph County and attended the LaGrange Collegiate Institute. During the past forty-five years he has been a factor in farming and developing the old place. In 1877 he bought eighty acres of the old homestead and built a modern home. The barn on the farm when bought by his father was moved to this eighty acres before this date and has been added to. This barn was built by Mr. Upson, the original homesteader of the land, where the new buildings were built by Daniel Swihart. The original homesteader of the land where Benjamin Franklin Swihart now lives was Mr. Cary. Mr. Swihart bought eighty-one acres lying just across the road north of his original eighty and now owns 141 acres devoted to general farming. He served as a member of the Township Advisory Board. In 1874 he was united in marriage to Miss Amy E. Kinney, who was born in Lima Township, LaGrange County, April 9, 1852, daughter of J. Calvin Kinney, one of the early settlers there. Mr. and Mrs. Swihart have the following children: Gerald E., a graduate of the Lima Commissioned High School, a graduate of Parsons Business College at Kalamazoo, Michigan, and is married and lives at Sturgis, Michigan, having acted as express agent at that place for the past nine years, is a public spirited man and is serving his fifth term as city clerk. Sarah T. is a graduate of the Lima Commissioned High School, also a graduate of the Indiana State Normal at Terre Haute, later graduated from Indiana State University and taught English in the State Normal for five years, and is now living in Chicago, the wife of John N. Bowen. Daniel, a graduate of the common schools, lived in Montana for ten years and now in the garage business in Sturgis, Michigan. John K., a graduate of the Lima Commissioned High School, a graduate from the law department of the University of Michigan in his twenty-second year, has been in active practice, since that time and is now a resident of Aberdeen,

South Dakota. Lucy L., a graduate of the Lima Commissioned High School took the teacher's course in the Tri State Normal of Angola, was a teacher for several years and is now the wife of Charles Anderson, a prosperous farmer of Greenfield Township. W. Ruth, youngest, also a graduate of the Lima Commissioned High School, took the teacher's course in the Tri State Normal at Angola, and married Irvin E. King, one of the progressive and influential men of the community and cashier of the Mongo State Bank.

ELI ZENO HAWK is one of a family of millers who have been conspicuous in the industrial affairs of LaGrange County for many years.

Mr. Hawk was born in DeKalb County, April 24, 1868, and in August of the year of his birth his parents moved to Mongo, where he has lived now for over half a century. He had a public school education at Mongo, and as a boy began working in his father's mill and also under his brother William, when the latter was manager. In 1904 he and his brother John bought the mill at Mongo, a business that has since been conducted under the firm name of Hawk Brothers. Mr. Hawk was also one of the organizers and is a director of the Mongo State Bank. He is a republican in politics.

In June, 1906, he married Miss Lula Sisson, daughter of John and Martha Sisson, of a family noted elsewhere. Mr. and Mrs. Hawk have one child, Wilbur E., born March 12, 1914.

JOHN L. HAWK, the senior member of Hawk Brothers, millers, at Mongo, was born in DeKalb County, December 20, 1864, and was a small child when brought to Mongo. He was one of the first class to complete the work of the eighth grade in the local schools. For a time he was in a mercantile concern at Mongo, and also worked in the grist mill under his brother William. In 1904 he and his brother Eli bought the Mongo mills. He also assisted in organizing the Mongo State Bank and is one of the stockholders. He is a republican and is a charter member of the Mongo Lodge, Knights of Pythias, which was instituted February 24, 1891.

May 19, 1908, he married Miss Moore, of Marion, Indiana. They have no children of their own, but adopted Charles E. Allen at the age of five months. This boy was born January 2, 1912, a grandson of Charles Allen, who at one time was engaged in the drug business in LaGrange.

Christopher L. Hawk, father of the Hawk Brothers, was born in Wuerttemberg, Germany, in March, 1821, a son of Christopher J. and Ellen (Crawford) Hawk. The mother died in 1823 and in 1825 Christopher Hawk, Sr., married Lena Bopp. In 1831 the family came to America, and after three years in Holmes County moved to Hancock County, Ohio, and in 1858 settled in DeKalb County, Indiana. In 1868 they established their home at Mongo, where the family have been prominent residents for over half a century. Christopher Hawk, Sr., died at Mongo, March 10, 1882, at the age of ninety-two years, four months and five days. His wife died November 27, 1888, aged eighty-four.

Christopher L. Hawk married Miss Sarah Wycoff on June 3, 1847. She was a daughter of Casper B. and Catherine (Johnson) Wycoff, natives of New Jersey. Christopher L. Hawk and wife were active members of the Baptist Church. He began the milling business at the age of eighteen, and worked at wages of \$6 a month. Until he was twenty-four years of age he gave all his earnings to his parents. At his marriage he had a capital of only \$60. About 1850 he bought eighty acres of land, and sold this farm in Ohio in 1858 for \$2,300. On coming to

Indiana he bought a flouring mill in DeKalb County on the St. Joseph River, and some ten years later the saw and grist mill property at the Village of Mongo, where he conducted a very successful business for a number of years. Christopher L. Hawk died in 1907 and his wife on November 25, 1915, at the age of ninety-two. They were the parents of nine children: George W., born April 23, 1848, and died November 3, 1854; William C., born March 9, 1850; Charles Franklin, born January 18, 1852; Hannah Catherine, born June 23, 1855, and died November 5, 1855; John L., born December 20, 1864; Eli Zeno, born April 24, 1868; Mary E., born July 24, 1856, wife of O. G. Long, of Sturgis, Michigan; Anna S., born November 12, 1858, widow of Charles E. Dickinson, of White Pigeon, Michigan; and Sarah E., born March 26, 1862, wife of Alfred A. Wade, of Howe, Indiana.

Christopher Hawk, Sr., by his second marriage had the following children: Hannah, Fredericka, George, Samuel, Pauline, William, Amelia, Mary and Susan.

LYNN E. COLLINS is a grandson of that splendid pioneer of Jamestown Township, Barton Collins, whose record figures prominently in every history of that portion of Steuben County, and the outstanding facts of which are contained in other pages of this work. Barton Collins came to Steuben County in 1835, and died in January, 1849. His widow became prominent among the pioneer women and lived until July 15, 1882. She was the mother of a large family of children, and her descendants are now widely scattered.

One of her sons was Charles H. Collins, who was born in Jamestown Township, April 10, 1839. He grew up on the home farm, received his education in the district schools and the Northeast Indiana Institute at Orland. His mature years were devoted to farming. He bought seventy-two of the acres now contained in the farm of his son Lynn. In early life he was a merchant for several years at Jamestown, and after turning his attention to the farm was successful in that line. He was one of the early breeders of Merino sheep in Steuben County. He was a democrat without any desire to hold office. He died in 1896, and his widow survived him until 1916. They were married at the village of Jamestown. Her maiden name was Lucy Carroll, and she was of the same ancestry as the famous Carroll of Carrollton, the last surviving signer of the Declaration of Independence. Lucy Carroll was born in New Hampshire in 1842. She was the mother of six children, named Lynn, Florence, Alice, Alfred, Walter and Benjamin Franklin.

Lynn E. Collins was born in the village of Jamestown, April 2, 1872, and from the age of six years lived on the farm which he owns today. He attended the public schools and after the death of his father remained at home with his mother. In the meantime the farm had been increased by other purchases to 225 acres. Upon the division of the estate Lynn Collins secured his present farm, and has improved it with good house and barn and other buildings, and does much in the line of livestock. Mr. Collins is a democrat and for six years was trustee of his township. He is a member of the Methodist Church.

March 11, 1896, he married Mary B. Tubbs, daughter of Ira and Lucinda Tubbs. Her parents lived for a number of years in Steuben County, and later went to Branch County, Michigan, where her father died in 1909. Her mother died in Steuben County in 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Collins have four children: Dorothy Fay, born March 8, 1907; Pauline May,

born November 10, 1909; June Esther, born June 21, 1910; and Paul, born March 14, 1915.

CHARLES E. SEARS. The Sears family came to LaGrange County more than three-quarters of a century ago. At that time the great Isaac Sears was about thirteen years old. As a family they exemplified many of the pioneer virtues of thrift, good citizenship and industry, and Isaac Sears had these virtues to an unusually high degree, and in the course of a long lifetime became the largest land owner and one of the most widely known stock raisers and feeders in Northeastern Indiana. Many of the abilities of his honored father are possessed by Charles E. Sears, whose home is in Bloomfield Township, and who has been especially prominent for many years as a sheep feeder.

Charles E. Sears was born in Springfield Township, August 24, 1855. His father, Isaac Sears, was born in Onondaga County, New York, November 7, 1828, a son of Eleazer and Sarah Sears, the former a native of Saratoga County and the latter of Onondaga County, New York. In 1841 the Sears family came to LaGrange County, locating on Brushy Prairie in Springfield Township, where Eleazer and his wife spent their last years. Both are now at rest in the Brushy Prairie Cemetery. Isaac Sears had a common school education and lived at home until his marriage on February 13, 1853, to Miss Laurinda Tuttle. Her parents, Lemon and Diadamie Tuttle, were natives of Ohio and spent their last days in LaGrange County. Isaac Sears after his marriage moved to a farm of 236 acres in Springfield Township, land that he had previously bought. Eventually this farm under his ownership was increased to 436 acres. On May 10, 1874, his first wife died and on February 11, 1875, he was married in Onondago County, New York, to Sarah Vanalstine, daughter of James and Sarah Vanalstine, natives of that state, where both of them died. In October, 1880, Isaac Sears moved from his farm in Springfield Township to a place in Bloomfield near the city of LaGrange. The farm he owned there, improved with a fine brick building, is the present home of his son Charles. Isaac Sears died December 24, 1902. He left an estate of about 2,000 acres, the largest amount of land owned by any individual at that time in LaGrange County. All of this property except 100 acres and \$400 in money had been accumulated by his own efforts and industry. For years he fed live stock on a large scale and was one of the principal shippers to outside markets. Isaac Sears and his first wife had two sons, Charles E. and David A., the latter now deceased.

Charles E. Sears acquired a public school education, supplemented by a period in the Orland Academy. As a young man he bought eighty acres in Bloomfield Township and began farming there. He has enlarged his possessions until today he owns 1,110 acres, including the old homestead in Springfield Township where he spent the years of his youth. Mr. Sears has been one of the men whose enterprise has made LaGrange County a great feeding ground for sheep. He was one of the organizers of the LaGrange State Bank and has been a director since the bank opened for business. He is also a director and president of the Home Grain Company of LaGrange. Besides sheep feeding he has handled a large amount of beef cattle on his lands for several years.

Politically, Mr. Sears is a republican, and for several years was a member of the county council. He and his wife are active in the Methodist Church at LaGrange.

December 22, 1875, Mr. Sears married Miss Mar-



garet Adalina Vesey. She was born at Butler in DeKalb County, May 3, 1858. She was formerly a teacher in LaGrange County and has always taken a deep interest in educational and other local affairs. She is a member of the Womans Club at LaGrange, and is an active worker in the Ladies' Aid of the Methodist Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Sears have five children. Rena, who was born in Bloomfield Township, November 1, 1877, is a graduate of the LaGrange High School, was a student of the Tri-State College at Angola, and was a teacher before her marriage to Charles A. Yotter, a well known citizen of Angola mentioned elsewhere. Helen V., born August 11, 1879, in Bloomfield Township, is also a graduate of the LaGrange High School and is the wife of Lewis Price, a Bloomfield Township farmer. Mr. and Mrs. Price have five children, named Sears, Irene, Lois, Catherine and Margaret. Homer I. Sears was born July 10, 1886, and died December 30, 1888. Audra Margaret was born April 23, 1895, is a graduate of the LaGrange High School, has attended Northwestern University and is the wife of Frank J. Bollman and the mother of a daughter, Dorothy Jean. Olive L., the youngest of the family, was born May 16, 1896, and was educated in the LaGrange High School and Northwestern University and is now at home. Mr. and Mrs. Sears also took into their home when in his first year of high school Harold P. Arends, who was born December 15, 1892. He graduated from the LaGrange High School in the same class with Audra and Olive Sears in June, 1913. Mr. and Mrs. Sears were preparing to enter him at Purdue University, but while assisting in the grain threshing he was accidentally killed September 5, 1913.

Mrs. Sears is a daughter of Horace J. Vesey. Mr. Vesey was born in Vermont, October 19, 1834, and is still living at LaGrange, probably being the most active man for his years in the entire county. He is a son of William and Adeline (Copland) Vesey, both natives of Vermont. In 1834 William Vesey and wife moved to Geauga County, Ohio, and in 1835 he bought a tract of land in Elkhart County, Indiana. In 1836 his five children, accompanied by an uncle, went out to occupy the Elkhart County land, but he was detained in Ohio by the illness of his wife, who died there. He then joined his children in Elkhart County and lived there until his death in 1873. Horace J. Vesey when eighteen years of age paid \$150 to his father for his time until he reached his majority. In 1853, at the age of nineteen, he began attending school at Ontario, and worked at various occupations to pay his expenses. He took up a trade and for nearly forty years traveled extensively through Canada and seventeen of the states. In 1858 he traded land in Fillmore County, Minnesota, which he had bought in 1851, for 120 acres in Milford Township of LaGrange County. He increased this property to 302 acres and improved it with excellent buildings. In his time he was one of the successful sheep feeders of LaGrange County. On August 6, 1857, Mr. Vesey married Helen Smith. She was born December 14, 1839, daughter of Joseph H. and Margaret (Robinson) Smith, both natives of New York State, whence they removed to Michigan at an early day. Mr. and Mrs. Vesey had four children, Mrs. Sears being the oldest. The next in age, Lottie E., is the deceased wife of George McKibben, who is still living at LaGrange. Mrs. Lydia C. Love is a resident of Kansas City, and Sylvester T. is a well known farmer and sheep feeder of LaGrange County, Milford Township. Horace J. Vesey has had membership in the Masonic Order many years. His wife died February 22, 1909. He is the owner of property at LaGrange and also has some holdings

in Florida, where for several years he has spent his winters. Mr. Vesey is a republican in politics.

GROVE H. DUDLEY. The farm where Grove H. Dudley was born September 10, 1838, is the place where he looks out today over well cultivated fields, improved buildings, and along fine highways. It is a rare and interesting experience for a man to have a recollection of one locality for three-quarters of a century. Mr. Dudley has practically always lived there, and his name is associated with the earliest pioneer things in Steuben County as well as with the recent dramatic events of the twentieth century.

His homestead farm is in Millgrove Township. His parents were Stephen M. and Lucy S. (Dudley) Dudley, who at one time lived in Vermont, later in New York State and from there came to Steuben County in the pioneer year 1836 and settled in Millgrove Township. They entered 160 acres of land, and of that quarter section Grove H. Dudley still owns 120 acres. Stephen Dudley built a good double log house, and that was his home when he died in 1841, at the age of thirty-eight. He had hardly begun the work of improvement on his land when death overtook him in his labors. His widow survived until 1863, when she was fifty-four years of age. They had five children: Myrad, who died in California; Jonathan W., who went over the plains to California in 1852 and spent the rest of his life in that state; George S., who is now eighty-five years of age and a resident of Seattle, Washington; Lucinda, who died in California; and Grove H., the youngest of the family.

Mr. Dudley as a boy attended some of the pioneer schools of his neighborhood. He was also educated at Orland and in the Northeast Indiana Institute, and was a teacher both before and after the war. Among many other things he is honored for his service as a Union soldier. He enlisted in 1862 in Company B of the 100th Indiana Infantry, and was in active service until the close of hostilities. He was in all the battles of the Atlanta campaign, was with Sherman on the march to the sea, went north through the Carolinas, was at Columbia when that city was burned, and was near Raleigh when Johnston's armies surrendered. He took part in the Grand Review at Washington after the war. After returning to Steuben County and marrying he taught school for two years, and in the meantime had bought the old homestead of 160 acres. He subsequently sold forty acres of this and later bought an adjoining forty acres, so that his present farm is the same area as the original homestead. He has improved this with good buildings and for half a century has devoted it to general farming and stock raising. Mr. Dudley also served as township assessor, is a staunch republican and a member of the Grand Army of the Republic. His wife is a member of the Congregational Church and the family attend worship with her.

April 10, 1866, more than half a century ago, Mr. Dudley married Miss Mary A. Closson. She was born in Delaware County, Ohio, February 19, 1842, a daughter of George W. and Bertha (Thornton) Closson. Her father was born in the same county January 8, 1816, and her mother in 1819. George W. Closson brought his family to Steuben County in 1852, settling in a log cabin home which he had prepared on land in Steuben Township. He subsequently acquired a large amount of land in the county and was one of its most successful farmers.

Mr. and Mrs. Dudley became the parents of eight children: George, the oldest, died in 1882, at the age of sixteen, and Schuyler M., the second, died in 1868, when four and a half months old. Bertha L. is the wife of W. S. Barber and has one child.

Emma M. was married to C. B. Ora of Steuben County. S. Maynard, who lives at Pontiac, Michigan, by his marriage to Nellie Wilder had one son, Harold, and his present wife is Esther Roy, and they have a son, named Roy. Addie L. is the wife of William Barrows and has a son, Maxon Dudley. Cleo, who died in 1910, was the wife of William Gay and left two children, Frances and Georgia. Hazel Bernice, who died in 1910, was the wife of Roscoe White.

Mrs. Dudley was carefully educated, attending the Northeast Indiana Institute and private school at Angola, finishing in Hillsdale College, and was one of the successful teachers of half a century ago. She began teaching when only fifteen years old, and continued the work for nine years.

**JAMES SHERLOCK LARIMER.** The Larimer family settled in LaGrange County more than half a century ago, and James Sherlock Larimer grew up here and has long been a factor in the farming community of Greenfield Township. He was born in Perry County, Ohio, October 29, 1859. His parents were James Tobias and Nancy (Sherlock) Larimer, and his grandfather was James Tobias Larimer, Sr., who spent his last years in Fairfield County, Ohio. His wife was Diana Larimer, and she lived to the age of ninety-three. James T. Larimer, Jr., was born in Fairfield County in 1828, was married in Perry County, Ohio, and in 1866 came to LaGrange County with his wife and three children, Flora, James and John. Nancy Sherlock was born in Perry County, Ohio, in 1825, and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. James Sherlock, spent their last years there. On coming to LaGrange County the Larimer family settled on what was known as the Amos Davis farm near Greenfield Mills, and they bought this place in 1867. The father died there in 1877 and his wife in December, 1886.

James Sherlock Larimer grew up on the home farm and was educated in the public schools and the Orland Academy. He bought out the interests of the other heirs in the old homestead and has increased its possessions to 378 acres from which in the spring of 1919 he sold to his son Charles about eighty-five acres. Mr. Larimer has been an extensive hog and cattle feeder. He is independent in politics and is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge, Chapter and Knights Templar Commandery. He and his wife are members of the United Brethren Church.

January 20, 1887, he married Miss Anna R. Fennell, of LaGrange County, daughter of Joseph and Elizabeth Fennell. They had seven children. Lola is the wife of Alvin Woods and has two children, Doris and Myron. Flora died in December, 1915, the wife of Oscar Hathaway. Charles Fremont is a farmer and has one child, Hilda. Weldon J., who rents his father's farm, responded to the draft on August 5, 1918, went in training and served for more than six months, coming out as a first class private. He married Marie Hackett. Cyril, the fifth child, is also a farmer and is married and has a daughter, Millicent Maxine. The two younger children are Elsie and Russell.

**HOWARD L. PARKER.** For a great many years the name Parker has been identified with the mercantile enterprise of Orland. The present Parker business is owned by Howard L. Parker, son of a former proprietor, and his own active connection therewith covers a period of a quarter of a century.

Mr. Parker was born in Orland, August 17, 1874, a son of John G. and Elmira J. (Luce) Parker. His father was born in New Hampshire in December, 1838. Elmira J. Luce was born in Branch

County, Michigan, in 1850, and is a daughter of Cyrus Luce, one of the most widely known citizens of Michigan, and at one time governor of that state. John G. Parker came to Steuben County with his parents, was well educated, was a teacher in early life, and at one time worked on a farm for Chas. L. Luce. Soon after the war he engaged in business at Orland with his brother, James B. Parker, and later bought out his partner and continued the business alone until his son became associated with him. This veteran merchant was active almost to the very end and passed away March 10, 1907. Besides his store he owned at one time 240 acres known as the John Roberts farm, and used it for feeding cattle on a large scale. In early life he was a democrat and later a republican, and though active in politics was never an aspirant for office. He was a member of the Congregational Church. John G. Parker and wife had four children: Howard L.; Grace, wife of Frederick J. Werner, of Orland; Bernice, wife of Harry E. Craddock, of Missoula, Montana; and Florence, wife of Robert Sanderson, Jr., of Portland, Oregon.

Howard L. Parker acquired his education in the public schools of Orland, including high school, and also attended the Hillsdale College in Michigan. In 1894, at the age of twenty, he took his place in his father's store as a clerk and soon became a partner. When his father died he and his mother continued the store under their joint ownership, and at her death on June 1, 1917, Mr. Parker became sole proprietor. He carried a generous stock of goods and his long experience enables him to satisfy all the most exacting demands of his local patronage. The stock is handled in a solid two-story brick and cement building 50x80 feet, and Mr. Parker is half owner of the building.

He is a republican in politics and is affiliated with Star Lodge No. 225, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, and Orland Chapter No. 100, Royal Arch Masons. He and his wife are Congregationalists. He married, December 26, 1901, Mrs. Grace Peet, of Vicksburg, Michigan. They have a son, Harry H., born February 23, 1905, now a sophomore in the Orland High School.

**ALBERT GEIST.** When Albert Geist, a well known merchant of Mongo, came to this country he could not speak a word of English, and his experience and achievements are a striking illustration of the opportunities open in America and the industry and enterprise of his character. He was born in Germany December 24, 1862, and was seventeen years of age when he came to this country. At Fort Wayne he learned the baker's trade and for fifteen years he was in the bakery, restaurant and hotel business at Payne, Ohio. He had some business reverses there early in his career through a fire, and he made recovery of lost ground through developing several farms. He first bought sixty acres, cleared away the woods and brush and put up buildings and tiled the land. He sold that and bought another place and followed the same process several times until when he sold his last Ohio property he received \$12,000 for it. In 1906 he came to Mongo and bought a farm of 120 acres west of that village and engaged in the poultry business. In 1913 he built a two-story brick building, 28x70 feet with basement. He has since carried a large stock of general merchandise. He is also an extensive land owner in Northeastern Indiana. In politics he is a republican and is a member of the Lutheran Church.

Mr. Geist married Minnie Bullan on August 16, 1886. She was born in Germany in 1866. They have had six children: George, who is now postmaster at Mongo and married Florence Meek and has a



son Albert; Louise, who died in 1915, wife of Otto Taylor; John, formerly a merchant at Mongo, now a resident of Mishawaka, Indiana, who married Avis Reel and has a daughter Juanita; William, who is employed in the rubber works at Mishawaka, married Margaret Castel; Helen and Alfred Leroy, the two younger children, both at home.

WILLIAM F. ALVISON, of Jamestown Township in Steuben County, is a prosperous citizen who has raised himself into the class of independent farm owners though he began life with practically no capital and has shown a degree of enterprise, initiative and judgment that are sure to reward any man who keeps working steadily along one line.

Mr. Alvison was born in Jamestown Township, March 10, 1875, son of Theodore and Minnie (Armstrong) Alvison. He was their only child. Soon after his birth his parents separated. He lived with his mother until her death, when he was about ten years old. Such, briefly, were the circumstances that put him on his own resources at a time when most boys are under the shelter of their own home and in school. At the age of fourteen he started work by the month. He had several employers, George Collins first for two years, then Charles Collins, a brother of George, and later Bert Collins. Still later he was with Horace Davis, Jr., and he also worked for J. C. McNett, whose daughter he married. He was on the McNett farm for sixteen years. He bought the first land of his own in Millgrove Township, comprising eighty acres, and still owns that property. Later he bought sixty acres where he is living in Jamestown Township, and has since acquired forty-five acres additional, giving him 185 acres. All of this spells success and shows that he has made earnest and determined use of his opportunities in life.

Mr. Alvison is a republican and attends the Methodist Episcopal Church at Nevada Mills. November 24, 1896, he married Miss May McNett. She was born in 1876, a daughter of Jacob C. and Louise (Arnold) McNett, of a pioneer Steuben County family. Her father was born on the west side of Lake Gage in that county in 1848, a son of Jacob and Mary McNett, who came from Ohio in pioneer times. Jacob McNett did much of the clearing of the land which is now owned by J. C. McNett. He became a large land owner, owning about 200 acres, and died in 1879, while his wife passed away in 1907. Mrs. Alvison's mother was eight years old when she came to Steuben County. Mrs. Alvison was one of two children, her brother dying in infancy. She acquired her education in the public schools of Jamestown Township, in the Tri-State Normal College, and for three terms taught school, until her marriage. Mr. and Mrs. Alvison have two daughters: Ruth, born February 6, 1905; and Joyce, born February 21, 1908.

**CAPT. JOHN H. CATON.** As a veteran soldier and officer of the Civil war, and by reason of his extensive relations with the people and affairs of LaGrange County, Capt. John H. Caton is a figure whose record deserves a long memory.

He was born in Frederick County, Maryland, December 16, 1839, one of the ten children of James A. and Catharine (Ludwick) Caton. In 1849 when he was ten years old the family moved to Preble County, Ohio, and in 1850 to Elkhart County, Indiana, where the parents died. John H. Caton at the age of seventeen began learning the blacksmith's trade. He worked at this steadily until 1861. Then at the age of twenty-two he enlisted and went to Indianapolis to join the Ninth Indiana Infantry. The quota of that regiment had been filled, and no immediate op-

portunity presenting itself to get into the army he took employment as a mechanic for the Government at Mishawaka. In December, 1861, he went to Missouri and in the spring of 1862 came to LaGrange, Indiana. In the fall of 1864 he was commissioned a second lieutenant and ordered to recruit a company. With his recruits he reported to the provost marshal at Kendallville, and he and his men were mustered in as Company G of the One Hundred and Fifty-Second Indiana Infantry. They were sent to camp at Indianapolis, and Mr. Caton was in the meantime commissioned captain and was formally enrolled in the army as captain of Company F of the One Hundred and Fifty-Second Indiana. With this command he was on duty until the close of the war. He then returned to LaGrange and resumed his former trade.

On October 3, 1869, Captain Caton married Annette Kingsley. They became the parents of five children: James L., who was born September 1, 1870, and died six weeks later on October 13. Claud H., a well known LaGrange County citizen elsewhere referred to. Grace, born August 11, 1874, and died December 2, 1875. John P., whose record also appears on other pages, and Kittie B., born February 11, 1879, and died May 21, 1891.

Captain Caton was baptized in the Episcopal Church and both he and his wife were long affiliated with that denomination. He was an ardent republican. Several times he served as town marshal of LaGrange. He was a Mason, belonging to the Royal Arch and Knights Templar Commandery at Kendallville. He held all the official positions in the Blue Lodge except that of secretary.

In 1882 he and his wife removed from LaGrange to Milford Township and bought a farm near Mount Pisgah. He improved his farm with a commodious brick house in the following year. Later he returned to LaGrange where he died honored and respected by all who knew him March 18, 1915. Captain Caton is remembered as the chief organizer of the Soldier's and Sailor's Picnic Association, which was started in 1892 and continued through a quarter of a century has been a means of bringing together hundreds of the old soldiers in annual reunion at the grove at Mount Pisgah. Captain Caton was president of the association until his death and he was succeeded by William Ross, while the association president now is John P. Caton, a son of Captain Caton. Captain Caton for many years also acted as pension agent and in this capacity he became well known throughout Northern Indiana.

Mrs. Caton, who is still living at LaGrange, is a daughter of Loren and Hannah (Cronkite) Kingsley. Her father was born at Pittsford, Monroe County, New York, May 20, 1814, and died at Kendallville, Indiana, in 1879. Her mother was born at Mendon in Monroe County, New York, in 1826, and died while at the home of her daughter, Mrs. Caton, at Mount Pisgah, in 1822. Loren Kingsley and wife were married at Rochester, New York, May 20, 1845, and he was a New York State farmer. About 1853 he settled in Springfield Township, LaGrange County, and bought a part of the old Association Farm. He and his family for a time lived in the house on that farm, a building about 200 feet long. He later moved to Kendallville where he died. Mrs. Caton's mother was a daughter of Hustis and Eliza Cronkite, of New York, who spent their last days in Michigan. Loren Kingsley and wife had seven children: Levi, who was born February 28, 1847, and died December 22, 1865; Annette, born April 12, 1848, in Orleans County, New York; Elizabeth, who was born in Orleans County, December 2, 1850, and is the widow of George L. Stohr living at Cincinnati; Carrie, born February 2, 1852,

in Orleans County, wife of Warren K. Rosenberry, of Kendallville; Eva, born at the old Association Farm in Springfield Township, February 13, 1857, widow of Robert P. Barr, of Kendallville; Kate P., born May 17, 1862, wife of Henry C. Nicholson, of Perry, Oklahoma; and Charles E., born January 13, 1866, now living at Kalamazoo, Michigan.

**LAFAYETTE G. RATHBUN.** While the Rathbuns have been honored and useful citizens of Steuben County for over sixty years, their earliest place of settlement in the west was in Sandusky County, Ohio. They located there before Ohio was set off as a state and when all the country was still the Northwest Territory, inhabited chiefly by Indians.

The Rathbun ancestry runs back to the very early years of the seventeenth century, when Richard Rathbun came from England. In the Revolutionary war there were thirty Rathbun soldiers, while in the Civil war from Ohio alone there were thirty-three of the name in the service.

The grandfather of Lafayette G. Rathbun of Millgrove Township was Lucius Rathbun, who was born April 17, 1900, in Sandusky County, Ohio. He married Rhoda Gillett, who was born in Pennsylvania, August 15, 1803. She died in Sandusky County, while he passed away in Cass County, Michigan.

Lafayette G. Rathbun was born in Sandusky County, June 4, 1849, a son of Wilkes and Naomi (Clark) Rathbun. His father was born in Green Creek Township of Sandusky County, February 20, 1829, while his mother was born in Lorain County, Ohio, in 1824. Wilkes Rathbun brought his family to Steuben County in 1855 and settled on the banks of Lake Gage in Millgrove Township. He put up a small frame house and began the work of clearing up his eighty acres, making it into a good farm. After a number of years he moved from the farm and died at Clyde, Ohio, in 1904. His wife died in 1884. They had four children, Lafayette G. and Sumner being the first and fourth, while the two intervening died in infancy.

Lafayette G. Rathbun has lived from the age of six years in Steuben County. He grew up on the home farm, and in addition to the public schools attended the Northwest Indiana Institute at Orland. His first farm was forty acres in Millgrove Township, which he sold and then farmed for several years in Jamestown. He traded for nine acres near Lake Gage, and later lived at Nevada Mills. He came to his present place in 1901, when he bought 100 acres and has it highly improved as a general farm, though making a specialty of small fruits. He rents much of the cultivated land to his son. Mr. Rathbun is a democrat in politics.

In 1874 he married Celia Flagler, who died in March, 1876. In the fall of 1876 he married Mrs. Laura Abramson. She was born in Wood County, Ohio, February 21, 1857, a daughter of Dr. Bradbury and Julia (Harkness) Hutchins. The Hutchins family moved to Steuben County in 1864, settling in Fremont Township, where Dr. Hutchins practiced medicine many years. He died February 3, 1866. He was born July 7, 1815. His wife, who was born September 18, 1821, died in 1901, at the age of eighty. Mr. and Mrs. Rathbun had six children, Bertha the oldest dying when two and a half years old. Stella, who was born December 1, 1878, is the wife of A. D. Stewart, and they have five children, named Ina, Alfred, Russell, Georgia and Clyde. Bruce, born January 9, 1881, married Myrtle Hyatt, and their family consists of Harley, Arlene, Glen, Raymond and Nelson. Clyde, born May 8, 1883, died in July, 1901. Kenneth was born March 5, 1889, and by his marriage to Zena Fisher has three

children, named Versel, Harold and Vere. Leon, the youngest child, was born August 30, 1891, and married Emma Edinger.

**JOHN W. HOLCOMB** began selling pumps and windmills at LaGrange and over the surrounding territory thirty years ago, and has remained in that one line of business steadily ever since. He is one of the successful business men, a man of much public spirit, and has thoroughly identified himself with the best interests of that community.

Mr. Holcomb was born in Gallia County in Southern Ohio, October 17, 1860, a son of Riley and Mary Jane (Geah) Holcomb. His parents were also natives of Gallia County, his father born in 1833 and his mother in 1832. His paternal grandparents were John and Polly Ann (Rowland) Holcomb. John Holcomb died in Gallia County, while his widow moved to LaGrange County, Indiana, before the Civil war and lived in the northern part of Noble County for several years and died there in 1887 at the age of eighty-four. The maternal grandfather of John W. Holcomb was John Whitmer Geah, who died in Gallia County. Riley Holcomb and wife on coming to LaGrange County settled in Milford Township, but subsequently lived in Noble County where he died in 1882 and his wife in 1869. Their children were John W., Martin N., Ulysses Grant, Edward and Rebecca, both deceased, and Seth.

John W. Holcomb attended public school in Milford Township and when a young man began working for Isaac Sears, the well known stock farmer of LaGrange County. He spent several years working by the month, and in 1887 entered the employ of John L. Hagland in the pump business. He was with him two years and in 1889 took the local agency at LaGrange for the Star Windmill manufactured at Kendallville. He has been selling windmills and similar machinery ever since, and has the oldest established business of its kind in LaGrange County.

In politics Mr. Holcomb is a republican. For thirty years he has been a member of the Odd Fellows and belongs to the Encampment and for twenty-five years has been affiliated with the Knights of Pythias. He is also a member of the Modern Woodmen of America and the Knights of the Maccabees.

October 12, 1884, he married Miss Oramanda Wert. She was born in DeKalb County, December 1, 1863, a daughter of William and Lovina (Hissong) Wert. Her father was born in Pennsylvania, April 5, 1833, a brother of Daniel Wert, and her mother was born in the same state, January 25, 1839. The Wert family was established in DeKalb County at an early day. Mrs. Holcomb's father enlisted in 1863 in the Union army and served until the close of the war. He was a millwright by trade and for several years operated the Dorsey mill in LaGrange County. He was engaged in overhauling the mill of Isaac Werts in Milford Township when he died, March 20, 1893. Mrs. Holcomb's mother passed away April 19, 1898. In the Wert family were twelve children, Jacob Henry, Elizabeth Ann, Alice Celestia, deceased; Mary Oramanda, William Sherman, Marion Elsworth, better known as Elsworth, Enola May, Emma Nettie, Nancy Jane, Lotie L., deceased; Bert Ray and Minnie T.

Mr. and Mrs. Holcomb had four children, the oldest being Flora Gay, who was born February 2, 1886. She was educated in the LaGrange High School, and is the wife of Forrest H. Ritter, a lawyer at Fort Wayne. Mr. and Mrs. Ritter have two children, Harold Holcomb, born May 14, 1909; and Mary Virginia, born September 28, 1915. Carrie May Holcomb was born September 23, 1888, and died April 16, 1889. Lulu M. and Laura M., twin daughters, born July 1, 1890. Both were educated in the La-



Grange High School. Lulu is the wife of William C. Reno, of LaGrange, and has a daughter, Violet Elmore, born April 2, 1917. They now reside at Wayland, Michigan, where Mr. Reno is connected with the Grand Rapids & Indiana Railway. The daughter Laura is the wife of Charles B. Hern, of LaGrange, and her five children are: Amanda May, born January 7, 1909; Ruth Irene, born June 20, 1910; Willis Whitner, born May 1, 1914; John Harlow, born June 14, 1918, and Charles Benedict, born July 14, 1919. Mr. Hern is clerk in a hardware store in LaGrange.

FRANK L. MALLORY has many relatives in Northeast Indiana, due to the fact that his grandfather settled here in pioneer times, and it has been to the credit of the community that the family in its different branches has remained, grown and flourished and is represented by many of the best farmers in Steuben County today.

On the old Mallory homestead in Jamestown Township Frank L. Mallory saw the light of day for the first time November 1, 1868. He is a son of Asa and Sytheria (Wright) Mallory. Asa Mallory was born in Rutland County, Vermont, October 17, 1824, a son of David and Cynthia (Collins) Mallory. David Mallory entered land in Steuben County in 1835, and settled there the following year. He had a forty acre homestead and continued to be busied with its cultivation and improvement until his death on October 14, 1864, at the age of seventy-six. His wife died October 26, 1868, aged seventy-seven. Their children were Cordelia, Minerva, Clayton, Elias, Lucy, Asa, Amanda and Emeline. David Mallory was a democrat in political faith.

Asa Mallory was about twelve years old when his parents moved to Steuben County. In the spring of 1850 he went overland to California. While working in the mines he contracted typhoid fever and under the orders of his physician returned to the States by ship, reaching New York after a voyage of fifty-five days. After recovering his health he took charge of the homestead farm, and to the original forty acres he added 125 acres and made many improvements in the shape of good buildings and other facilities. He died October 19, 1903. In 1860 he married Sytheria Wright, a daughter of Sherman and Anna (Failing) Wright. She is still living on the old homestead. Her parents were both natives of New York. Sherman Wright also made a trip to California in 1853, and died while in the West the same year. His widow then lived with her parents, Thomas and Catherine (Flock) Failing, in Steuben County, where they had located in pioneer times. Sherman Wright and wife had the following children: Sytheria, Elizabeth L. and Jerome. Anna Wright, after the death of her husband in California, married Charles E. Benedict, and she lived to the age of seventy-four, passing away in 1898. By her second marriage she had three children: Edwin, Arthur and Orrie.

The following is a brief record of the family of Asa Mallory and wife: Florence E., who died July 13, 1912, wife of Granville McClue and the mother of Carl C., Howard L. and Emmett. Cynthia B. became the wife of Bruce Green and was the mother of Ruth C. and Owen. The third of the family is Frank L. Herbert C. married Dell Herald. Clarence A. is farming a portion of the old homestead and is specially mentioned elsewhere. Clyde L., the youngest, married Lenora Christian.

Frank L. Mallory grew up on the home farm and had a public school education. He now owns fifty acres of his father's place and has improved it with good buildings. The first buildings on the Mallory

farm were built of logs. Mr. Mallory is a general farmer and he is a democrat in political faith.

April 12, 1892, he married Miss Erva L. Shutts. She was born in Jamestown February 12, 1874, daughter of Herman and Mary (Collins) Shutts. Something more is said of the Shutts family on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Mallory have one daughter, Pearl E. She was born August 14, 1893, is a graduate of the Fremont High School, taught for five years in Jamestown Township, and on October 10, 1918, went to work for the Government in Washington, D. C.

FREDERICK G. SMELTZLY. While his home for a number of years has been on a farm in Greenfield Township, the services by which Mr. Smeltzly is most widely known in LaGrange County have been rendered as an educator. He has been in school work continuously for thirty years, and is a former county superintendent of schools.

He was born in Lima Township, LaGrange County, October 8, 1867, son of Christian and Mary (Lehmer) Smeltzly. His parents were both born in Tuscarawas County, Ohio. His maternal grandparents were Henry and Nancy (Neff) Lehmer, of old Pennsylvania Dutch families. They lived in Ohio a number of years, where Henry Lehmer died, and his widow, after marrying again, came to Greenfield Township, LaGrange County. Two of the Lehmer sons, Isaac and Jacob, were soldiers in the Civil war. The paternal grandfather of Frederick Smeltzly was born in Germany, and when a boy of sixteen years served with the German army against Russia. He and his people later sought refuge in America to avoid the incessant warfare and enforced military duty of Europe. Christian Smeltzly was educated in the public schools of Ohio, was a farmer in that state, and during the fifties came to LaGrange County and later moved to Nebraska in 1871, returning to LaGrange County in 1876. His widow is still living at Ontario. They were active members of the Lutheran Church. Christian and Mary Smeltzly had a large family of children, all of whom are living except the fifth, Andrew, who died at the age of twelve years, and the sixth, Simon. The others in order of birth are Celista, Emeline, John, Nancy, Frederick G., Harriet, Ida, Alice, Anson, Daisy and Elizabeth. Frederick G. Smeltzly attended the common schools of LaGrange County, and immediately after completing his work in the schools he became a farmer in Greenfield Township and afterward in Lima Township, teaching his first school in 1887. Later he attended the Howe High School, and after graduating was principal of the Howe school eight years, and afterward principal of the Brighton High School. He has also attended the LaGrange County Normal and the University of Indiana and Winona Lake Normal. Mr. Smeltzly while principal at Brighton was elected county superintendent of schools, and held that office for six years. Then for one year he served as superintendent of the Howe city schools, and that brings his record down to date as a teacher. Mr. Smeltzly built his home on his farm in Greenfield Township in 1910.

May 9, 1893, he married Miss Susan Keim. They have two children, Katharine and Harold K. The family are Presbyterians, and Mr. Smeltzly is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Modern Woodmen of America.

Alexander S. Keim, father of Mrs. Smeltzly, was born in Fayette County, Pennsylvania, February 23, 1828, a son of Solomon and Elizabeth Keim, natives of Somerset County of that state, who removed to Ohio in October, 1832, and spent the rest of their

lives there. Alexander Keim on reaching the age of twenty-one became a drover during the summer months, while every winter he taught school. In the early days he drove many heads of stock from Holmes County, Ohio, to Eastern Pennsylvania and Maryland, and continued that business until 1860. On February 20, 1853, he married Elizabeth Sommers, of Holmes County. Eight years later they moved to Owen County, Indiana, where her parents, Jacob and Martha Sommers, had located in 1853. Alexander S. Keim bought a farm of 260 acres in Owen County, and lived there until 1863, when he came to Greenfield Township and located on a farm of 160 acres. While living in Ohio he filled for six years the offices of justice of the peace and township clerk. In April, 1880, he was elected trustee of Greenfield Township, and filled that office two years. He and his family were members of the Dunkard Church. In the Keim family were thirteen children, named Barbara E., Alice J., John C., Mary E., Martha A., Eliza, Alexander H., Clara, Olive B., Charles E., Joseph W., Susan L. and Sarah.

DAVID B. TEETERS has many of the characteristics of the patriarchs of old. He has lived over three-quarters of a century, has had his home in Steuben County the greater part of his life, has seen his efforts prosper whether as a farmer or public official, and for more than half a century he and his good wife have lived together and in that time have seen their own children come to manhood and womanhood and many others come into the family, grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Mr. Teeters was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, February 24, 1842, son of Wilson and Sophia (Smith) Teeters. His father was born in Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, in 1803, and his mother in 1806. Sophia Smith was a daughter of David and Mary (Blank) Smith, who lived for many years in Columbiana County, Ohio, where David Smith made himself useful to the pioneer settlers as a gunsmith. The Teeters family became settlers in Columbiana County about the time of the War of 1812 and later Wilson Teeters moved to Sandusky County and had his home there about twenty years. In the spring of 1854 he came to Steuben County, settling in Clear Lake Township. He has been described as a man of unlimited energy, and taking a tract of about 265 acres of uncleared land, he developed it into a fine farm and before his death owned 385 acres, eighty acres of which were in Michigan. He served in several township offices and was well known among his neighbors for his many admirable qualities. When he went on a journey he seldom rode a horse, going on foot, and was a celebrated walker in those days. He died in April, 1864. He had a large family of ten children, named Andrew J., Elisha, John, David B., Wilson, Priscilla, Harriet, Lavina, Catherine (who died in childhood) and Mary W.

David B. Teeters was twelve years of age when brought to Steuben County. In the meantime he had acquired some education in the district schools of Sandusky County, and also attended school in Steuben County for a few terms. He early learned the work of the home farm, and after his father's death he farmed the homestead on his own account. He has always lived there and owns the homestead of 112 acres, having adorned it with substantial buildings and made many improvements that add to the comfort and value of the farm. In addition to farming for four years he sold farm implements throughout this neighborhood. It was only natural that his fellow citizens should select him for public responsibility. For four terms he held the office of township trustee and was also assessor of Clear

Lake Township four terms. He and his wife are members of the Latter Day Saints Church.

Mr. Teeters married Susan McElhenie on February 23, 1864. She is a daughter of John and Sarah (Brouse) McElhenie, who came to Steuben County in 1854 from Wayne County, Ohio. She was one of a family of children as follows: Thomas, Susanna, William J., Margaret J., Walter C., Sabina S., John D., Maria, Ephraim, Arklow, Clara and Ella.

Eight children were born to the marriage of Mr. and Mrs. Teeters: Annette, wife of Willard W. Houseman; Rosetta, who was married to William H. Ackerman; Orpheus, who married Ada Osburn; Addie, wife of A. L. Seely; Edith, who married George Foster; Harriet, wife of E. C. Whitlock; Pearl, wife of C. E. Chapin; and Damon. Mr. and Mrs. Teeters have twenty-four grandchildren and ten great-grandchildren. Including those who have married into the family they are head of a family clan of sixty-one, all well and strong, and with only one death record through all the years.

STRATTON LEONARD APPLEMAN. The publishers deem it a privilege and a duty to make special reference in this work to the career of one of their veteran representatives and salesmen. Moreover, the Appleman family, as the following record will disclose, was one of the first in Northeast Indiana, and its long residence and numerous relationships with other well known families justifies all that is said here quite apart from the personal interest between Stratton Leonard Appleman and the publishers.

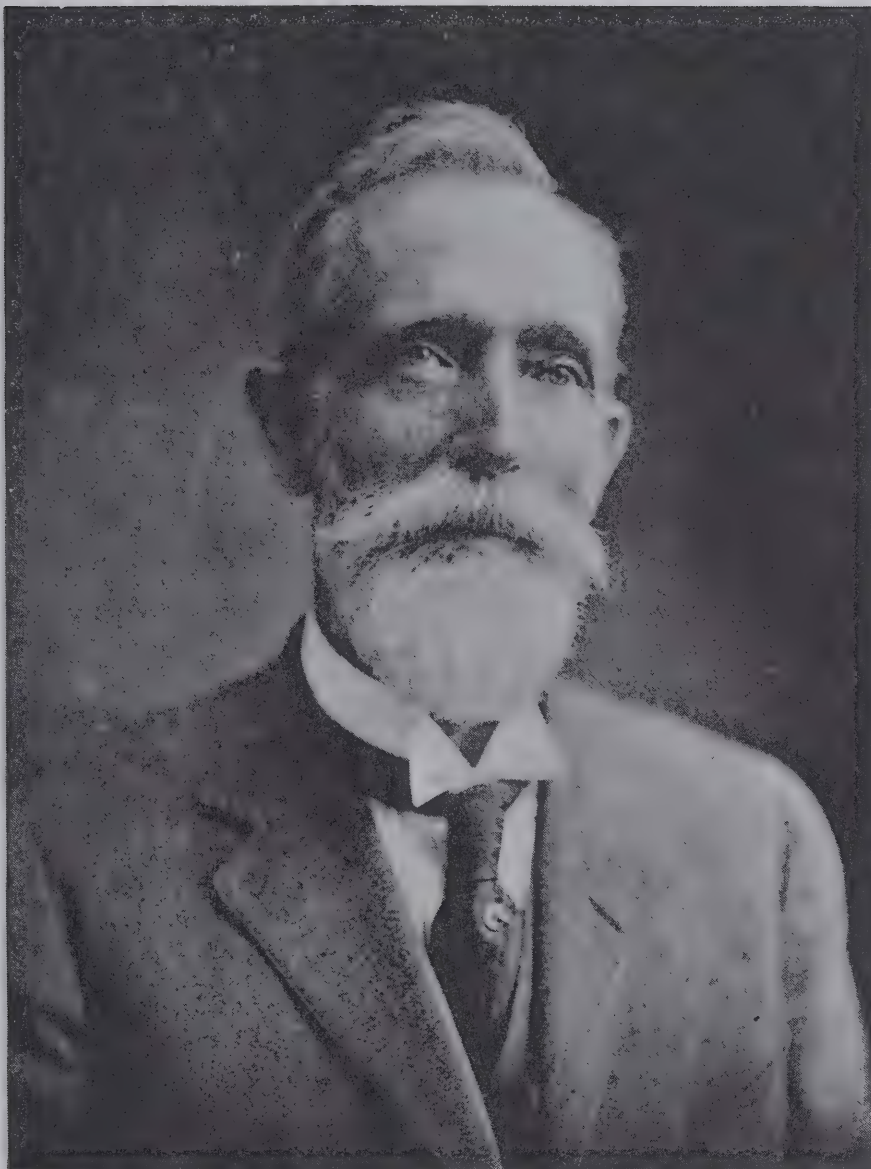
The Applemans were, as the name indicates, probably German or Dutch ancestry, though before coming to this state the family had received such an infusion of Scotch and English blood as to make it typically American. The name is not a common one, yet there are Applemans in New York, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Ohio, Wisconsin, Iowa, Missouri and Texas, as well as in Indiana. Generally these widespread families trace their descent to a common ancestor, which fact, added to certain physical features possessed in common by many bearing the name, indicates that all had at some time a common ancestor. The name has been in Northeast Indiana for over eighty years, and judging from the number of males of the latest generation it is not likely to disappear in the near future. A lake in Springfield Township, LaGrange County, takes its name from a pioneer of the family and a hamlet in the same township was for years known as Applemanburg, though Brushy Prairie, the name of a former post-office in the village, has recently supplanted in common usage the earlier name.

The older generation of the family is now represented in LaGrange County by such men as Ira R., J. Wesley, William E. and Stratton L. Appleman.

Stratton L. Appleman was born in Springfield Township October 10, 1857, son of John W. and Mary (Poppino) Appleman. His parents were first cousins. His paternal grandparents were Leonard and Mary (Rawles) Appleman, while his maternal grandparents were David L. and Jane (Appleman) Poppino. Leonard Appleman was a son of Jacob and Jane (Harris) Appleman. David L. Poppino, a son of William Poppino, married Jane Appleman, a daughter also of Jacob and Jane (Harris) Appleman.

So far as known no one has ever traced the family history beyond Jacob Appleman. One enterprising member of the family has compiled a book entitled "The Harris Family," which contains a complete history of the Harrises and a history of the Applemans from Jacob Appleman down to about 1885.





*S. L. Appleman*





In this record it is found that James Harris, a native of Bristol, England, immigrated to America about 1725 and settled in Essex County, New Jersey, where he followed the tailor's trade until his death some few years before the Revolution. He married a girl named Boleyn, who bore him six sons and a daughter. One of the younger sons was John Harris, born in 1750. He grew up in New Jersey, learned the mason's trade, but later in life became a farmer. He was one of the well known "minute men" of New Jersey, ready at a minute's notice to give battle to the British. He is said to have taken part in the Battle of Monmouth, where his brother-in-law, John Hamilton, was shot down by his side. About 1787 John Harris moved to Washington County, Pennsylvania, and lived there until his death in 1816. A monument in the Amity village churchyard marks his grave. A military man must have been attractive to the fair sex during the Revolution as well as in our own day. John Harris was twice married during the midst of that war. His first wife was Sarah Burris, who died shortly after the marriage. For his second wife he won an exceptional girl, Mary Hamilton. In accordance with the custom of the time they had a large family, eleven children, the oldest, Jane, being born May 8, 1778. This Jane Harris became the wife of Jacob Appleman. She had been taken to Washington County when a girl of nine years and grew up and married there. The only reference made to the antecedents of Jacob Appleman in the Harris family history is that he was "of German descent."

About 1818 or 1820 Jacob and Jane following the westward trend of migration moved to Richland County, Ohio, where both resided until death. Jacob now lies buried at Frederickburg. He does not appear to have been a very enterprising man, but succeeded in making a living in a small way at farming. His wife, Jane, was much the stronger character of the two and imparted much of her personality to her children. Her eleven sons and daughters were James, Mary, William, Permenas, Betsey, Leonard, Jacob, Jane, John Harris, Samuel and Margaret Ann. Of these Mary, William, Betsey and Jacob died in infancy. The other seven grew to maturity, married, and "replenished the earth" with their kind. James and Permenas lived and died in Ohio, where they left many descendants. These descendants, now numbering hundreds, have for many years gathered annually at a reunion held late in August, an occasion for renewing family ties and welcoming visiting members from other states.

The five youngest children of Jacob and Jane (Harris) Appleman removed at various times between 1840 and 1855 to LaGrange County, Indiana. Leonard Appleman came about the year 1832.

John Harris, commonly known as "Jack," Appleman settled on the farm now owned by Fred Schultz in Springfield Township, and lived there for many years. Late in life he removed to the Village of LaGrange, the county seat, where he died in 1897. His remains lie buried in the Springfield Cemetery. He was the father of twelve sons and daughters, several of whom reside in the county.

Samuel Appleman made his home for years on a farm near Wolcottville, living first in LaGrange County and later in Noble County, where he died. He had nine children, of whom three were triplets and two twins. The triplets died in infancy but the twins, William E. and Willis, grew to maturity.

Margaret Ann, the youngest of the eleven children of Jacob and Jane Appleman, married Hugh W. Mains of Richland County, Ohio, and with him and their children removed to LaGrange County. She lived to be nearly eighty-five years of age. The family home was for many years in Milford Town-

ship, where both she and her husband died. They have many descendants living in the township and county.

Going back to Leonard Appleman and his direct and immediate family. Leonard was born May 12, 1808, in Washington County, Pennsylvania, and removed as a boy of nine or ten years to Richland County, Ohio. Jane, his sister, was also born in Washington County, Pennsylvania, the date of her birth being May 9, 1813. The brother and sister grew to maturity on a small farm in Richland County, Ohio, and both were married in that state. Leonard married in Ohio Mary Rawles, while Jane became the wife of David L. Poppino, a tailor. David Poppino was born in Orange County, New York, the son of William and Deborah Poppino, of French descent, and had come to Ohio to ply his trade. At the time of his marriage he was a widower with three children.

As noted above, Leonard Appleman was the first of his family to remove to LaGrange County. On arriving here he bought a tract of land consisting of about 600 acres, a part of which is now occupied by the little hamlet which later bore his name. He built a country store in this pioneer settlement and for many years managed the farm and store. He built the first frame house in the township, and this house, in a somewhat changed condition, is occupied today by one of his descendants, S. L. Appleman. His second wife was Margaret Millis. By his marriage to Mary Rawles he had three sons, John W., Charles and Samuel. By his second marriage he had a daughter, Sarah. Concerning his son John W. more is said in following paragraphs. Samuel lived and died on a farm east of Mongo in LaGrange County. Charles was a farmer and died in that county. Sarah became the wife of Jewisen Smith, son of James Smith.

David L. Poppino had come to Indiana about 1849, presumably on foot. His wife, Jane, followed him in 1850, bringing the children and all the family belongings in a wagon. They occupied a house near the corner in the village, where David Poppino followed his trade for some thirty-five years. About 1885 they retired to a farm near Stryker, Ohio, where both died, Mr. Poppino in 1887. Their remains were brought to East Springfield Cemetery for interment. As already noted, David L. Poppino was a widower at the time of his marriage to Jane Appleman. His three children by his first wife were John, Elizabeth and William. Both sons were soldiers in the Civil war, William being killed at Gettysburg, while John suffered almost complete blindness following his service. David Poppino by his marriage to Jane Appleman had ten children: Letitia, who died in Kansas, the wife of John Lyon; Deborah, who died in LaGrange County, the widow of William Jeffers; Margaret, who became the wife of Frank Kniffin, a resident of Stryker, Ohio, and now deceased; Mary A., who was twice widowed, an old resident of Applemanburg; Harriet, who was Mrs. Carver, living in New Mexico; Arminda, who died in Ohio, the wife of Albert Healy, and her first husband was Charles Kniffin; Amsi; Mrs. Alice Bliss, living in California; Albert and Frank, who died very young.

This record now comes to John Appleman, eldest son of Leonard Appleman, and Mary Poppino, daughter of Jane (Appleman) Poppino. Both were born in Ohio, John on June 20, 1836, and Mary on March 30, 1837. They were brought as children to LaGrange County, grew up in the neighborhood of Applemanburg, and as a youth John helped his father in the store and on the farm. After his marriage he gave most of his attention to the store and was a prosperous country merchant until his

death in 1865. At the outbreak of the Civil war he offered his services as a volunteer to the Union Army, but was refused on account of physical disability. At his death Mary (Poppino) Appleman was left a widow with three children, Stratton L., Taylor E. and Lulie G. She married for her second husband Griffith F. Hall, a widower with two sons. Mr. Hall had bought a farm including land much of which was formerly a part of Leonard Appleman's tract. On this farm in 1872 he erected the first brick house in Springfield Township. He lived there until his death on October 5, 1906. Mrs. Mary Hall was left a widow for a second time, and as such she still remains. She is now eighty-three years of age, and one of the oldest women in the community. She resides in the old brick house at Applemanburg, in the neighborhood where she has been a witness of past events for nearly seventy years. By her marriage to Mr. Hall she had two daughters, Florence and Grace, the latter dying in infancy. Her other four children are all living: Stratton L.; Taylor, who is a farmer and fruit raiser at Mammoth Springs, Arkansas, married and has a large family; Lulie G., widow of Augustus Sears, living with her mother, her only daughter, Grace, dying in 1911; and Florence, wife of Bruce Stead, a resident of Applemanburg, their son Frank having married Dona Parr and having a son, Basil.

Stratton Leonard Appleman grew to manhood in the neighborhood of his birthplace. He was educated in the local schools, in Normal School at Orland, Kendallville and LaGrange, and subsequently entered the State Normal at Terre Haute. After completing his education there he engaged in teaching for some years and was principal of the Amboy Academy in Miami County, Indiana, for a time. In 1890 he entered the county history business as a salesman and has been engaged in that line ever since. He is now one of the veterans of the business and has probably helped to compile more local histories than any other man in the United States. His work has at various times carried him into about half the states of the Union. He was one of the compilers of this publication.

Through all these years Mr. Appleman has maintained a home at or near the place of his birth. He owns lands in Springfield and Milford townships and has been especially interested in the breeding of Duroc-Jersey hogs, being one of the first to establish that fine strain in the county.

Mr. Appleman first married Ella Goodsell, daughter of Minot and Nancy (Johnson) Goodsell, pioneers of Milford Township and elsewhere referred to. Ella Goodsell was a graduate of the State Normal School at Terre Haute and for some years a teacher. She died December 2, 1895, leaving two sons, Earl and Cecil G. Mr. Appleman married for his second wife Mrs. Alice F. (Hayley) Thompson. She was a widow with three children living at Columbiana, Alabama. Her three children were William, Eva Juanita, now deceased, and Harry. Mr. and Mrs. Appleman have one son, Stratton Leonard, Jr.

Of Mr. Appleman's five sons none are married. The four oldest were in military service during the recent war with Germany. Earl was a flyer at various American fields. Cecil was a motor mechanic, saw service in aviation fields in France and was at the second battle of the Marne. William was in the infantry in a southern camp. Harry was in the Engineer Corps of the First Division in Company B, and spent more than two years in France. He was at the front at Sommerville sector, Ansanville sector, Montdidier sector, Cantigny, Soissons, in the first and second battles of the Marne, and at Argonne and Meuse, Sedan, Coblenz

and Bridge Head and after the armistice was with the Army of Occupation at Coblenz, Germany.

**BENJAMIN FRANKLIN GREENAWALT.** It was by the exercise of a tremendous amount of thrift, industry and good management that the Greenawalt family became established in LaGrange County in the early days. They exemplified all the best standards of thrifty industry and self-sufficiency in former times. In later generations they have been known as progressive farmers and land owners and business men, and Benjamin Franklin Greenawalt runs true to these traditions and reputation.

He was born on Bullfrog Prairie, Eden Township, LaGrange County, March 18, 1883. He is a son of the late Samuel Y. Greenawalt, and a grandson of Adam and Catherine (Yoder) Greenawalt. The grandparents came from Ohio in 1854 and after a long journey with wagon and team arrived in the Hawpath community of LaGrange County. Adam Greenawalt depended upon day labor at 50 cents a day for nine years, and in the meantime had the energetic cooperation of his wife and children, who made good use of the spinning wheel and distaff to supplement his meager wage. Later Adam Greenawalt acquired a farm of eighty acres, and was living there in considerable comfort and prosperity at the time of his death in 1885. He and his wife had thirteen children, John, Joel, Christian, Daniel, Adam, Joseph, Emanuel, Samuel, Jonathan, Mary, Elizabeth, Ann and Catherine.

Samuel Y. Greenawalt was born in Fairfield County, Ohio, June 5, 1851, and was three years old when brought to LaGrange County. On December 24, 1876, he married Catherine Ann Plank. She was born in Wayne County, Ohio, April 20, 1858, a daughter of Christian J. and Mary (Mosier) Plank. More information concerning the Plank family is found on other pages. Samuel Y. Greenawalt and wife had twelve children: Nora Alice, Charles E., Daniel Earl, Benjamin Franklin, Walter, Arthur W., Elva Roy, Lester, who was drowned in 1911 at the age of twenty; Herman Guy, Edna Myrle, Iva Ruth, who died in infancy, and Dennis Christopher.

In 1885 Samuel Y. Greenawalt moved to Springfield Township and located on the place known as the Mallow farm, now owned by his son Benjamin Franklin. His entire life was a synonym of industry and good management. In 1896 he bought 190 acres adjoining the Mallow farm on the south, known as the Joseph Foos farm. In 1916 he bought the Charles Wade property in Applemanburg and lived there until his death on May 5, 1918. While he had acquired his means by slow and thrifty process he was liberal in support of public enterprises, and was especially prominent in the Church of God, serving as deacon for many years, and contributed largely to the building of the Valley Bethel Church. At the time of his death besides his own children he was survived by fourteen grandchildren, also by three brothers, Emanuel K. of Goshen, Jonathan of Charlotte, Michigan, and Christian of Topeka, and two sisters, Elizabeth Plank and Catherine Hooley on the old homestead. Mrs. Samuel Y. Greenawalt is still living at Applemanburg.

Benjamin Franklin Greenawalt was two years old when taken to Springfield Township, and as he grew up on the farm he attended the local schools of Brushy Prairie and in 1905 graduated from the LaGrange High School. During the past fifteen years he has been actively engaged in farming and also in the grain business. In 1907 he and his brother Daniel Earl bought a part of the Mallow homestead, 250 acres, and in 1917 by purchasing his brother's interest he became sole owner of this splendid property. He has improved this land with one of the



best barns in that community, the main part being 36x80 feet, with a wing 36x40 feet. He raises a great deal of good stock. Mr. Greenawalt during the winter of 1905-06 and also in 1906-07 was employed by the Bern Grain and Hay Company at LaGrange. In 1908 he took part in reorganizing this company as the Home Grain Company, and has been one of the directors of the company since it was organized. Mr. Greenawalt is a republican in politics.

April 15, 1908, he married Sophrona Nickell. She was born in Kentucky in January, 1889, and was about eleven years of age when her parents, James Oliver and Virginia Nickell, came to LaGrange County. Mr. and Mrs. Greenawalt have one daughter, Oma, born September 23, 1909.

**H. LYLE SHANK.** The head of the public school system in Steuben County for eight years has been H. Lyle Shank, a teacher of wide and varied experience, who began his work in district schools and who represents one of the old and prominent families of the county.

He was born in Jackson Township September 13, 1880, a son of Norman C. and Emma (Davis) Shank. His grandparents were Cornelius and Rebecca (Ransburg) Shank, both natives of Maryland, who moved to Seneca County, Ohio, where Rebecca died. Cornelius Shank came to Steuben County about 1848, buying land in Jackson Township, where he was a farmer until his death in 1884. Politically he was a democrat until after the Civil war when he became a republican.

Norman C. Shank was born in Seneca County, Ohio, January 29, 1845. He grew up on his father's farm in Jackson Township, attended the public schools, and in 1861, when sixteen years old, enlisted in the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry. This was one of the hardest fighting Indiana regiments in the war, and probably none suffered heavier losses or more casualties. The regiment, including Norman Shank, was in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh, Stone River, Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge. Finally, as a result of losses at Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge, the regiment was so reduced as to exist in name only, the surviving veterans being assigned to guard duty. Norman Shank received two wounds at the battle of Pittsburg Landing, but continued in the service until the end of the war.

Afterward he was a farmer, owning a place of 362 acres in Jackson Township. He died in 1917. He was a republican and a member of the Grand Army Post. He was three times married. His first wife was Caroline Bowerman, and their three children were Nellie, Melvin and Norman. For his second wife he married Emma Davis, daughter of Horace E. Davis. She was born in Steuben County in 1859 and died in 1906. Her children were Ray, H. Lyle, Floy, wife of Lloyd Van Wagner, Cecil, Grant and Earl. Norman Shank married for his third wife Ella Northrup, and by that union there was one child, Aden.

H. Lyle Shank grew up on his father's farm in Jackson Township, attended the district schools there, and in 1902 graduated from the Tri-State College at Angola. In 1909-10 he did post-graduate work in the Indiana State University. His first work as a teacher was done in 1899 in Jackson Township. He had charge of district schools for five years, taught in the high school at Oak Grove in Bloomfield Township, in the Flint High School and one year in the Pleasant Lake High School. He was elected county superintendent of Steuben County in 1911, and has served continuously in that office to the eminent satisfaction of all who are interested in the welfare of the county schools. In

1918 he was honored by election as president of the County Superintendents Association of Indiana.

Mr. Shank is a republican, a member of the Masonic Lodge at Angola, also of the Knights of Pythias and Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his wife are members of the Christian Church. In 1906 he married Miss Lulu Ely, daughter of Daniel Ely of LaGrange County. They have three children, Lawton, Ledger and Lorraine.

Mr. Shank also has a brief military record, having enlisted in 1898, when a boy of seventeen, in the Spanish-American war. He was in the army for seven months.

**FRANK SPAULDING,** the proprietor of the Peach Blow Farm, has played a useful and worthy part in the affairs of Milford Township, and continues the traditions of one of the best families in that part of LaGrange County.

He was born at Brushy Prairie, September 1, 1857. The Spaulding family is of English origin and at one time had its seat at the town of Spalding in Lincolnshire. One of the first ancestors to come to this country was Edward Spaulding, who arrived about 1630 or 1633 and was made a freeman in Massachusetts, May 13, 1640. At that time no one could be made a freeman or be entitled to any share in the Government who was not a member of some one of the churches established in Massachusetts Colony. The Spauldings are a long lived people. One of the ancestors attained the remarkable age of 120 years. Frank Spaulding's grandfather, Miles Spaulding, died at the age of eighty-six while his sister, Julia Baily, was 101 at her death, and though blind for several years, enjoyed good health otherwise.

Dr. A. More Spaulding, a son of Miles Spaulding and father of Frank Spaulding, was born at Crown Point, New York, January 6, 1827. He was one of the most progressive citizens who ever lived in Springfield Township, LaGrange County. October 10, 1850, he married Lovina Holtom, who was born at Belleville in Richland County, Ohio, February 7, 1830. In the spring of 1854 they moved to Brushy Prairie and lived in that community the rest of their lives. Doctor Spaulding was a practicing physician whose services were in demand by the locality for nearly forty years. He died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. J. E. Newnam, in Milford Township, June 7, 1892. He was a graduate of the Medical College of Columbus, Ohio. He was an active republican, was an active member of the Regulators Society and was chiefly instrumental in causing to be organized a Lodge of Good Templars. He was influential in establishing a permanent mail route in his community. His wife died November 19, 1901. Their three children were Frank, Fred and Dora, Fred dying at the age of two and a half years.

Frank Spaulding began farming in Milford Township in the spring of 1877. During 1893-94 he was proprietor of a general store at Brushy Prairie and also postmaster of that village at the same time. In November, 1899, he returned to South Milford, and has since been engaged in agriculture. He has been correspondent for agricultural papers for a number of years and for the local press, and is a student and keeps in close touch with all matters affecting the welfare of his country district. He is liberal in religious views and a republican voter. He was formerly a member of the Masons, Odd Fellows, Knights of Pythias and Gleaners, but now has a demit from all except the Odd Fellows.

June 15, 1893, at Goshen, Indiana, he married Ida M. Bartlett, daughter of John A. Bartlett. Her father was one of the pioneers of Milford Township. He was born in Oneida County, New York, Jan-

uary 21, 1815, and was a carpenter and farmer. In 1838 he came to Milford Township, engaged in farming, and in the fall of 1840 married Salina L. Andrews. He enjoyed the complete confidence and trust of his fellow citizens, served as township trustee, and was a staunch democrat, casting his first presidential vote for Van Buren. He and his wife had four children, two of whom are living, Addie Crofoot of Goshen, and Mrs. Ida M. Spaulding of Milford.

BURTON YOUNG has been a farmer of Steuben County for thirty years, and is widely known as a sheep raiser. His farm is in Fremont Township.

He was born in Greencreek Township of Sandusky County, Ohio, October 2, 1857. His parents were Noah and Orlintha (Brown) Young, both natives of Ohio. His father, who was born in Pickaway County, spent his active life as a farmer in Sandusky County. His children were: Norman, who died in childhood, Emaline, Norton, Sidney, Chauncey, Olive, Burton, Edwin, Nancy Viola and Mary Villa.

Mr. Burton Young acquired a very good education, first in the district schools of his native county and later in high schools and academies at Fremont, Ada and Fostoria, Ohio. He had an early introduction to the vocation of teacher, and followed that work off and on until he was past thirty-one years of age.

In 1889 Mr. Young married Miss Emma Hardenbrook, a daughter of Ferdinand Hardenbrook. Immediately after their marriage they came to Fremont Township of Steuben County and for thirty years have farmed in section 14. They own 139 acres, devoted to general farming and stock raising, with a specialty of sheep. Mr. Young has been a breeder of the Polled Delaine sheep, and at one time all his sheep were thoroughbred. With the exception of seven years spent in Ray he and his wife have lived on their farm ever since their marriage.

FRANK R. WATERHOUSE has spent his active career as a general agriculturist and stock farmer in Noble County. He lives in Kendallville, owns part of the extensive Waterhouse estate, and for nearly thirty years has given his time and abilities to farming on a large scale.

He was born in Milford Township of LaGrange County, Indiana, November 25, 1866, son of Chauncey G. R. and Harriet (Vine) Waterhouse. His father was born in Fulton, New York, March 28, 1827, while Harriet Vine was born in Pennsylvania in 1835. In 1834 the Waterhouse family came west, by pioneer transportation facilities, crossing the country in a wagon, and made settlement in the wilderness of LaGrange County north of South Milford six miles. Later they bought another farm in Milford Township, and in that locality Chauncey Waterhouse grew to manhood and married. In 1868 he moved to Kendallville, lived in the city four years, and then bought a farm northeast of town, which was his home for eight years. During that time he built the large brick house where his son Homer now resides. Both parents died in Kendallville, the father on June 29, 1917, and the mother November 24, 1913. Chauncey Waterhouse was widely known as one of the most successful farmers of Noble County. He accumulated about 2,000 acres of land and made most of his prosperity through his work as a stockman. He was a noted authority on the good points of livestock, was a successful trader and traded and dealt in land as well as livestock. He was a liberal supporter and trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church and as a republican worked for the benefit of his friends, but not

to forward his own aspirations for office. He had four children: A. B. Waterhouse, who lives on North Main Street in Kendallville; Frank R.; John, who was born in 1874 and died at the age of nine years; and Homer, of Wayne Township.

Frank R. Waterhouse grew up on the home farm, attended the district schools to the age of fourteen and after that the Kendallville High School. Farming has been his regular vocation since he attained his majority.

October 12, 1893, he married Miss Catherine Foley, a native of New York State who was brought to Noble County when a girl. She is a graduate of the Kendallville High School. They have one son, Chauncey F., born June 22, 1902, and a graduate of the Kendallville public schools. Mr. Waterhouse is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias and the Elks and in politics is a republican.

GEORGE W. BLAUSER, who has spent most of his life in the northeastern counties of Indiana, is a comparative newcomer in Steuben County, but occupies a place of special usefulness and honor in Jamestown Township, being founder of the local mill at Jamestown and present trustee of the township.

Mr. Blauser was born in Lafayette Township of Allen County, Indiana, July 11, 1861, a son of Noah and Eliza (Seamen) Blauser, the former a native of Fairfield County, Ohio, and the latter of Trumbull County in that state. Noah Blauser, who died at the venerable age of eighty-six, spent his active life as a farmer in Lafayette Township of Allen County. His memory is still cherished in that locality. He was a good man, public spirited as a citizen, and took great pride in managing his farm and other business affairs with a thoroughness and method which did him credit. He acquired a tract of land in a wild condition, put the first buildings on the land, and eventually owned a fine farm of 160 acres, known far and wide as a model farm. It was characteristic of his general farming and business practice that he several times offered a prize to anyone who could find a ragweed on his land. He and his wife had six children, named George, Orleva L., Addie, Joseph, Mary and Noah Webster.

George W. Blauser acquired a district school education in Allen County, and when a young man learned the trade of carpenter. When about twenty-five he started farming independently and followed that vocation for eleven years in Allen County and afterwards in Wells County. Selling his property in Wells County he came to Jamestown, Steuben County, in 1911, and has since been busied with the management of the milling business. The responsibility and honor of the office of township trustee was conferred upon him by election in the fall of 1918, and he has been capably looking after the office since January, 1919. He is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Fremont and also the Knights of Pythias.

Mr. Blauser married, January 21, 1886, Mary E. Keller, a daughter of John and Mary Ann Keller. She was one of their nine children, named in order of birth Rebecca, Fred, Mary E., John, Elizabeth, William, Andrew, Alice and Ellen. Mr. and Mrs. Blauser have five children, named Vernie, John, Bessie, Evelyn and Esther. Vernie is the wife of Charles Smyers and has one child, Cleo. Bessie is the widow of Clarence Semington.

JOHN H. STALLMAN. A capable farmer owning a good farm and identified with all the progressive citizenship and life of his community, John H. Stallman was born in York Township of Steuben County, on the place where he now lives, December



7, 1862. His life has been a comparatively quiet and uneventful one, though every year has been marked by well directed labor and steadily increasing resources. His parents, Louis Frederick and Catherine (Spanger) Stallman, were both natives of Germany, his father born near Berlin. They came to Pennsylvania at the respective ages of twenty and eighteen, were married in that state, and in 1860 moved to Steuben County and settled on a small place of twenty-two acres in the midst of the heavy woods. Louis Frederick Stallman proceeded vigorously to the task allotted to him as an early settler, cleared up some of the land, cut with his own hands the logs with which he built his cabin home, but his industry was interrupted when he was just beginning to see light ahead. He died in 1863, at the age of thirty-one. His widow survived him over half a century and passed away in 1915, at the age of seventy-eight. They had only two children, Emma, wife of Wright Tyrrell, and John H.

John H. Stallman was an infant when his father died. He grew up with his mother on the home farm, afterward succeeded to the ownership, and by the purchase of an additional forty acres now has a good place of sixty-two acres, and for many years has made a good living and put away something for the future. He has had good building and follows the diversified plan of farming.

Mr. Stallman is a democrat in politics, and he and his family attend the Christian church. In 1889 he married Miss Julia Sowle, who was born in Steuben County August 6, 1861, a daughter of Francis and Elizabeth (McMahan) Sowle. Julia Sowle was a teacher in Steuben and DeKalb counties for sixteen years, continuing the profession for three years after her marriage. The Sowle family is one of the oldest and most prominent in Steuben County. The only child of Mr. and Mrs. Stallman is Carl Frederick, who was born March 27, 1893. He graduated from the eighth grade of the public schools of York Township and from the Angola High School, and received the degrees Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Pedagogy from the Tri-State College at Angola, and for two years was a successful teacher in York Township. July 22, 1918, he joined the colors and was in training at Camp Taylor, Louisville, Kentucky, until receiving his honorable discharge on December 29, 1918. He married, May 15, 1918, Miss Lucille Myres, of York Township, a daughter of Arthur and Emma Myres, of York Township. They have a son, Carl F., born March 22, 1919. While in training at Camp Taylor Carl Stallman rose first to corporal, then to sergeant, and when discharged was morale sergeant of Battery B, Fourth Battalion, F. A. R. D. Mrs. Carl Stallman was a teacher before her marriage.

Mr. and Mrs. John Stallman also made a home for two nieces, Margaret and Luana Blackman. Margaret, born January 5, 1895, was nine years of age, when she came to their home, and she is now Mrs. Warren Whaley, of Hillsdale, Michigan. Her baby sister, Luana, born April 2, 1904, was an infant of three weeks when taken by Mr. and Mrs. Stallman, and she is still a member of their family.

**SAMUEL P. CASEBEER.** Counting Mr. Casebeer as head, there are four generations of his family represented in the citizenship of Steuben County. He was a youthful soldier in the Civil war, and during the half century since the war has been identified with farming in Steuben County. In that time he has seen his own children grow up, leave home for homes of their own, and two of his grandchildren are married and there are two great-grandchildren.

Mr. Casebeer was born in Defiance County, Ohio,

August 21, 1845, a son of Adam and Susan (Porter) Casebeer, the former a native of Pennsylvania and the latter of Medina County, Ohio. After their marriage they settled in Defiance County, and later moved to Williams County, Ohio, where Susan Casebeer died about 1857. The father afterward married a Miss Mack and had one daughter, Alice. His first marriage resulted in ten children: John, Calvin, Nathan (who died in infancy), Martha, Elizabeth, Samuel P., James E., Susan, Lee and Theodore. Adam Casebeer spent his last days among his children and died at the home of his daughter Martha in 1888.

Samuel P. Casebeer grew up in Williams County. When he was sixteen years old he enlisted in Company A of the One Hundred and Forty-Second Indiana Volunteer Infantry, and served eleven months. In September, 1864, he enlisted for a second term, and was in service until June 28, 1865. Three of his brothers were also in the war. All of them came through without wounds except Calvin, who was shot in the leg. John and Calvin were both in the Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry, John enlisting in 1861, and being with that noted regiment which suffered more severely than almost any other regiment from Indiana.

After the war Samuel P. Casebeer came to Steuben County. For four or five years he lived at Gilead, Michigan, but with that exception has been a resident of Steuben County ever since. He first owned forty acres east of Nevada Mills, later had another forty acres in the same vicinity, and sold that land to purchase fifty-five acres north of Nevada Mills. He built a home there and lived on that farm until the death of his first wife. In 1891 he moved to the farm of forty-four acres where he is still living. When he settled there the land was a wheat field, but he has developed it with all its modern equipment, including buildings, and also the setting out of a large number of trees. It is a part of the old Robert Lucas farm.

Mr. Casebeer is now practically retired and his son Robert handles the farm. In politics he is a republican, and is a member of the Methodist Church.

In 1866 Mr. Casebeer married Miss Mary Weichman. She died in 1870, leaving no children. On December 26, 1871, he married Jelania Lucas. She was born in Delaware County, Ohio, April 27, 1856, a daughter of Robert and Amy (Cravens) Lucas. Her mother was born in Greene County, Pennsylvania, January 3, 1833, and they were married June 6, 1852. When Mrs. Casebeer was two years old her parents moved to Kinderhook, Michigan, and when she was nine years old came to Nevada Mills, Indiana. Robert Lucas owned the Nevada Mills, being associated in that enterprise with his father, Israel Lucas. Israel Lucas' wife was named Betsey Elizabeth Lucas, and both died near Fremont. Mrs. Casebeer's father finally bought 166 acres, on part of which Mr. and Mrs. Casebeer now live. The farm buildings stood south of the present Casebeer improvements. Robert Lucas died here in 1888, at the age of fifty-six, and his widow survived until June 18, 1911, when she was seventy-eight years, five months and fifteen days old. Their children were Jelania, Thomas, who died at the age of two years, Israel, Joseph, who died at the age of twenty-seven, Jefferson, who died at the age of four years, and Frank, Bell and Jay, the last also deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Casebeer had five children. Jennie May, the oldest, is the wife of Oscar Spade, and their eight children are named Carl, Harvey, Mabel, Ethel, Blanche, Duly, Nellie and Florence. Lee, the second child, married Jennie Nutt, and their family consists of Nola, Edgar, Mildred, Walter, Margaret, and one son, Elmer, who died at the age of four

years. Allie is the wife of Roy Van Fossen, and was the mother of two children, Arlene, who graduated from the Orland High School in 1919, and Wayne, who died in July, 1918, at the age of twelve years. Amy, the fourth child of Mr. and Mrs. Casebeer, is the wife of William Kellum and has two children, Coine and Cecil. The youngest of the family is Robert, on the home farm. He married Lucy Havens and has a daughter, Lucile. The two married grandchildren of Mr. Casebeer are Edgar Casebeer and Mildred. Edgar married Emma Tyler and has a son, Warren. Mildred is the wife of Clarence Beck, and her daughter is named Elnora.

FRANK W. WILLIS, whose honorable career as soldier, journalist, business man, and public official, is familiar to the people of DeKalb County, and especially to those of Waterloo, of which town he was one of the foremost citizens, was born in Syracuse, New York, June 13, 1842, and died at his home in Waterloo, Indiana, May 19, 1913, at the age of seventy years, eleven months and six days. He was a son of Henry and Emerline (Hewitt) Willis, and came to this county in 1844 when his parents located on a tract of land in Richland Township, where they resided until 1864, at which time they removed to Waterloo, when the senior Mr. Willis was elected sheriff of DeKalb County. Frank W. Willis was reared on the farm belonging to his father and attended the common schools. In addition to this he attended the schools at Auburn and Waterloo, and also spent some time at the Orland Seminary. At the age of eighteen years he offered his services to the United States at the time of the Civil war outbreak and enlisted as a member of Company K, Forty-fourth Indiana Volunteer Infantry, serving his country for over three years. During these years of service he spent the best part of his life for his country and engaged in the battles of Shiloh, Chickamauga, Stone's River and other important engagements, and was wounded three different times, but was always ready to do his duty as a soldier.

After his discharge Mr. Willis was appointed assistant assessor and deputy collector of the tenth congressional district, by William Pitt Fessenden, secretary of the treasury under President Johnson. For four years he discharged his duties in this capacity with the full satisfaction of his superiors. Soon after the war he commenced to practice before the Department of the Interior, and as a claim agent secured many pensions for old soldiers and their widows. He was well known among the soldiers of the county and elsewhere, and had many comrades who thought of him during his illness and were kind to him. After his return from the army he was stricken with violent illness and at times suffered greatly, due to his exposure in the service for his country. At times regaining his health, he thought that he would become stronger, and for a number of years was much improved, but after the fire of 1896 he again lost his health, and from that date gradually failed, although he held on to life always with a tenacious grip, and his sturdy constitution gave him courage to live as long as he could, until he had passed the three score years and ten. Many a time he seemed cheerful when he was suffering from severe pain. He enjoyed his home and reared a large family. On January 1, 1884, Mr. Willis formed a partnership with E. P. Dickinson, and the new firm bought out the Waterloo Press, then owned by C. K. Baxter. For a number of years Mr. Willis had editorial charge of the paper and later bought out the interests of his partner and continued The Press, being in editorial charge until the time of his death. In 1867

he purchased the book store of H. K. Davis and with C. K. Baxter, purchasing that of T. Y. Dickinson, the two then consolidated their business under the firm name of Baxter and Willis. In December, 1868, Henry Willis, father of the late deceased, purchased the interest in the book store of Mr. Baxter, and the firm was then known as Willis & Company, and remained so until 1896, when in February of that year their business was destroyed by fire, including that of the Waterloo Press. It was at this time that Frank W. Willis and his son, Herbert C., formed a partnership and continued the publication of the Waterloo Press, and also succeeded the firm of Willis & Company in the book and stationery business, Henry Willis then retiring from active business on account of his age. From the time of his entering the newspaper business Mr. Willis was actively identified with the general interests of the county and community, and always conducted an editorial column in the paper up to the time of his last illness.

In the fall of 1894 he was elected to the state legislature as representative from this county, being elected by the largest majority ever accorded a republican in this county to that office. After serving for two years, during which time he was foremost in the passage of good legislation, he retired from active politics, but was always active in the interests of his party until his health failed to such an extent that he could no longer take active part in the work. However, he was very forceful in his editorial writings, and was ardently enthusiastic in advocating his party principles as long as he believed them right.

When a young man Mr. Willis joined the Presbyterian Church of Waterloo, and remained an active member up to the time of his death. He was an elder in the church for nearly forty years and never missed attending services when he was at home and not detained by illness. As a worker in the Sunday school, he was a teacher fifty years. He also served as superintendent for many years, and took part in Sunday school conventions in the county, and, in earlier years, in the state conventions.

Among the many beautiful tributes to the life, work and character of Mr. Willis was the following from John B. Stoll, the veteran journalist of South Bend and life-long friend of the deceased: "He was what I considered the ideal country newspaper man—discreet, vigilant, intelligent, considerate, conscientious, patriotic. His death is a distinctive loss to the newspaper fraternity, as well as to the community, which for many years enjoyed the benefit of his inspiring example and his well directed efforts for civic righteousness and the moral uplift. Though now numbered among the dead, his splendid record as a man, citizen and patriot will live long in the memory of those who prize nobility of purpose as cardinal virtues of man."

It is eminently fitting that there should be incorporated in this memoir the splendid tribute paid the deceased by his son and business associate. "In the passing away of the senior editor of this paper the community loses one of its oldest citizens, and a man who has been identified with public interests to a very large extent. As a man he lived a life that stood for itself. No comment is necessary as to his character. He was possessed with Christian character that stood foremost in his life. Since a young man he was interested in Sunday school and church work and was active up to the time of his last illness. As a soldier, his active service stands as a tribute to his loyalty to his country. As a man for right he was always found unflinching for all



that was good and honorable. As a business partner the writer has been actively associated with him for the past seventeen years, and during all that time has been in such close relationship that he knew him better than anyone else outside the immediate family circle. As a parent for over two score years, the writer knows that he has always been kind and loving and had a desire that his children should be trained in honorable paths, and that they should live such lives that they would be as ready to be called to their eternal homes as he was. During the twenty-nine years that he has been at the editorial head of this paper he has been honest in his editorial opinions, and while there have been many incidents that perhaps have been left uncovered in his editorial writings, his scope has been so general that it was made plain where he stood on all the important subjects of the day. His writings have been widely copied, and no doubt he will be missed from among the journalists of the state. All the years that he has been broken in health he has done his part in making life cheerful, not only to himself, but others as well. The close association in business causes a grief on the part of the writer that but few can understand. It is hard to fight life's battles, and it is hard to give them up. He has fought for his life and was ready to give up at the call of the Master. He was a good man and no one can dispute that he has been consistent in his life's habits, and that he had the confidence of his friends, and those with whom he had done business. The end came like a shock, and while it has been known for some time that he could not get well, yet while there was life there was hope, and at last that hope vanished. There might be no more fitting tribute to be paid a father by a son than to say he has been a good father and one who has done all he could in rearing a family of nine children, all of whom today survive."

On September 27, 1868, Mr. Willis was united in marriage with Josephine Dickinson, who was born in Auburn, Indiana, on May 17, 1850, the daughter of Timothy R. and Mary (Youngman) Dickinson, her father having been at one time one of the most prominent attorneys in DeKalb County. During the Civil war he was drafting officers for this county, and thus filled a very difficult position, which inevitably aroused animosity and enmity among many, especially those southern sympathizers who then infested this locality and who assaulted him with stones, eggs and other missiles, so that at times it was necessary for him to be guarded by his friends. He was even asked by a committee from his church to resign his membership because of his strong anti-slavery views, but he was fearless and upright, stood staunchly for freedom and the perpetuity of the national union. Soon after the war he bought a tract of land north of Waterloo, and laid it out, naming it Waterloo cemetery and incorporating an association to own and control it. There have been several additions to this cemetery, the last one being laid out by Frank W. Willis. Probably twice as many people have been buried there as comprise the present population of Waterloo. For awhile Mr. Dickinson practiced law in Auburn, but eventually moved to Waterloo, where he lived during the remainder of his life. Mrs. Willis, who lived at home until her marriage to Mr. Willis, had attended Oberlin College, and also had received some academic instruction. To Mr. and Mrs. Willis were born nine children, six sons and three daughters, namely: Herbert Clyde, who was his father's business partner and associate for a number of years, and who is now editor and owner of the Waterloo Press; Mary Gertrude, wife of James P. Hornaday, newspaper correspondent at

Washington, D. C.; Fred L., who is connected with the Central Rubber and Supply Company at Indianapolis; Raymond E., of Angola, Indiana, and part owner of the Steuben Republican; Edward D., also interested in the Steuben Republican; Dora E., wife of R. G. Dilts, of Angola; Frank B., engaged in the automobile business in Denver, Colorado; Josephine, who lives in Washington, D. C., employed in the War Risk Insurance Bureau; and William H., a resident of Indianapolis. These children all received good educations and have been reared to honorable manhood and womanhood, a credit alike to their community and an honor to their parents.

HERBERT CLYDE WILLIS, printer and stationer, editor and owner of the Waterloo Press, is in point of continuous service the oldest newspaper man in DeKalb County. He is also the present representative from DeKalb County in the Indiana Legislature.

Mr. Willis was born at Waterloo December 15, 1871, son of Frank W. and Josephine (Dickinson) Willis. His maternal grandfather the late Timothy R. Dickinson was a member of the Indiana Senate during the Civil war, and besides his legislative duties he was also drafting officer for DeKalb County. The Frank W. Willis was a Union soldier during the Civil war, and also sat as a member of the House of Representatives in the General Assembly in 1895. Thus the public record of the family is well established.

The Waterloo Press is one of the oldest republican papers in the state, having been established in 1859 by an uncle of Herbert C. Willis its present editor and owner. For many years the late Frank W. Willis was editor and owner of the Press which for sixty years has been in the nature of a family institution in the Willis family.

Herbert C. Willis grew up at Waterloo, secured a practical education in the grammar and high schools, and in the summer of 1884 at the age of thirteen began learning the printing trade. A year before graduating from the Waterloo High School Mr. Willis and one other person did all the job work and all the mechanical work of publishing the Press. He learned the printing trade under old time conditions, and early became a valuable assistant to his father. In 1891 after finishing his high school course he made a tour of the southwest. He then resumed employment with his father. In February, 1896, the plant was totally destroyed by fire. Herbert C. Willis then joined his modest savings and capital with his father and became a partner in the ownership of the Press. Father and son continued the publication until the death of Frank W. Willis in 1913. Then Herbert C. Willis bought and became sole owner of the plant, and for many years has conducted his own editorial page of the Press. He also operates a high class printing establishment for catalog and general stationery printing and has developed a business covering many counties besides DeKalb.

Mr. Willis as a boy became interested in military affairs and at the age of eighteen was a charter member of Company I, Third Regiment, Indiana Legion, subsequently a part of the Indiana National Guard. He served six years. After being out a year he enlisted in the Indiana National Guard and became sergeant major on Col. S. A. Bowman's battalion staff. He was on duty at the Hammond riot in 1894. He enlisted his paper and all his personal influence in behalf of the late war, and in August, 1917, was appointed government appeal agent in DeKalb County. He served in that capacity throughout the conscription of the army for the war with Germany.

During the campaigns of 1914 and 1916 Mr. Willis was chairman of the Republican Central Committee for DeKalb County. In 1916 he spent seven weeks at Indianapolis as chairman of the publicity bureau under the direction of State Chairman Will H. Hays. He was nominated for representative in the 1918 primaries after a contest, and in November was elected by a majority of 348 over his opponent, who in 1916 had been elected to the legislature by a majority of 480.

Mr. Willis was one of the organizers of the Waterloo High School Alumni Association. He is now serving his second term as school trustee at Waterloo. Since boyhood Mr. Willis has been a member of the Presbyterian Church and has served it as elder and superintendent of the Sunday school. He is affiliated with Lodge No. 221 of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and Lodge No. 307 of the Masons.

June 24, 1896, he married Miss Martha L. Gonser. She was born April 6, 1872, on a farm near Auburn, daughter of Moses and Louisa (Wright) Gonser. Her father was a native of Pennsylvania, came to DeKalb County in pioneer times, and not long after the birth of Mrs. Willis he sold his farm west of Auburn to the county and located along the county line in the southern part of Steuben County. He was county commissioner of Steuben. Louisa Wright was a native of New York State and was brought to DeKalb County when a girl. Her father had a general store in Fairfield Township in the early days, did much business with the Indians, and conducted an "ashery" for the manufacture of potash from wood ashes. Mrs. Willis is a graduate of the Tri-State Normal at Angola, was teacher in the district schools, graduated in 1893 from Earlham College at Richmond, and for two years was principal of the high school at Waterloo. During that time she began her acquaintance with Mr. Willis, though their families had been close friends in an earlier generation. Mrs. Willis served as secretary of the Waterloo Public Library Board for the three years during the organization and building of that institution. She carried the county contest work in the Woman's Christian Temperance Union for several years and is at present county chairman of the Franchise League. Her sympathies have ever been thrown deeply in the home and public work for progress and loyalty. Mr. and Mrs. Willis have two children: Louise, born September 7, 1897, and Herbert G., born November 21, 1904. The daughter is a graduate of the same school as her father, during 1918-19 was assistant principal of the high school at St. Joe, Indiana, and is now in her fourth year at Earlham College. The son Herbert is a junior in the high school.

JOHN H. RUBLEY OWNS and occupies a farm in Jamestown Township that has been in the Rubley family for over half a century. His personal management reflects the sturdy characteristics of his first ancestors, who were among the pioneer homemakers in Steuben County.

Mr. Rubley was born in Jamestown Township March 10, 1869, a son of John and Mary Ann (Frick) Rubley. His mother was born in Canton, Ohio, in 1841, a daughter of Henry and Christina (Smith) Frick. She died December 2, 1917. John Rubley was a son of John J. and Margaret (Snyder) Rubley, both natives of Switzerland. Several of their children were born in that country, and they then came to America, first locating in Richland County, Ohio, and in 1848 moving into the woods and prairies of Jamestown Township. They located at Nevada Mills, and after a few years moved to the

east bank of Lake Pleasant, where John J. Rubley spent the rest of his life. His children were: Susan, who married Benjamin Nettleman; Elizabeth, who became the wife of Frank Nettleman; and John, David and J. J.

John Rubley acquired a district school education in Jamestown Township, and when a young man began farming the place now owned by his son. He had eighty acres, and during his lifetime cleared up and put in cultivation about sixty acres and erected all the substantial buildings. He and his wife had two children, John H. and Elizabeth.

John H. Rubley supplemented the advantages of the district schools of his native township by a course in the Tri-State Normal College at Angola. He began farming with his father when a young man, and after the death of his mother he bought the homestead and has been quietly and efficiently increasing and developing his enterprise, particularly as a stock raiser. He is a breeder of Short-horn cattle.

June 17, 1916, he married Edith Sultz, a daughter of Jacob and Estella (Pothoof) Sultz. They have one daughter, Mary Elizabeth.

WILLIAM A. BARROWS in recent years has become a prominent factor in the Orland community, owning and operating a splendid farm near that village and acting as manager for two of the leading organizations of producing farmers in that locality.

Mr. Barrows was born in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County, Indiana, November 11, 1871, son of John and Marinda (Gillmore) Barrows. Some of the history of his parents and other members of the family is found on other pages of this work.

William A. Barrows grew up on the homestead in LaGrange County, and lived there until he was thirty-three years of age. He acquired most of his education in the grammar and high schools of Orland. It was in 1905 that he bought thirty-six and two-thirds acres in Millgrove Township, and he subsequently bought a quarter section, all of which constitutes a model farm with model improvements, lying just north of the village of Orland. He does a big business handling live stock, especially hogs.

He is manager of the Orland Shippers Association and the Farmers Supply Company, and is also a member of the Farm Loan Association. In politics he is a democrat, and Mrs. Barrows is a member of the Congregational Church.

In 1894 he married Miss Addie L. Dudley, a daughter of Grove H. and Mary (Closson) Dudley. A sketch of her father appears on other pages. Mr. and Mrs. Barrows had two children, Rex, who was born September 24, 1910, and died September 16, 1911, and Maxon Dudley, born March 19, 1916.

ORLEY CLEVELAND. During the thirty odd years of his mature life spent in Jamestown Township Orley Cleveland has been successfully engaged in farming, is a veteran thresherman, and in addition to his constructive part in the agricultural welfare of the community has always maintained a reputation as a man of integrity, public spirit and prompt to respond to movements affecting the life and welfare of the community at large.

Mr. Cleveland was born in Jamestown Township, May 7, 1867, a son of William and Mary C. (Hunter) Cleveland. His mother was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, a daughter of John A. and Eliza (Rathbun) Hunter. John A. Hunter was a native of Indiana, and when a small child his parents, Robert and Abigail (England) Hunter, moved to Ohio. He married Eliza Rathbun in 1847 and in 1863 came to Steuben County, Indiana, where he



developed a farm and gave particular attention to stock raising, having some of the finest horses in the county. William Cleveland was born in Sandusky County, Ohio, March 3, 1842, a son of Clark and Eliza (Grover) Cleveland. His parents were farmers of Sandusky County. Their children were Moses, Sally, William, Thomas, Jemima, Mary and Elizabeth.

William Cleveland was married October 2, 1863, and the same year moved from Ohio to Jamestown Township in Steuben County. He bought eighty acres of land in section 18, put up all the buildings and made other improvements, and lived there until his death in 1910. He and his wife had four children: Ward C., Orley, Bell (who became the wife of Orson Dickinson) and Clifford.

Orley Cleveland attended the Collins School in Jamestown Township, and from early manhood has busied himself with farming and the operation of threshing outfits. He has used practically all the threshing machinery in vogue during the last thirty or forty years. He is a good business man, has a thorough knowledge of machinery, and has furnished a valuable service to the grain growers in Steuben County. About 1900 he and his brother, Ward, bought the place where he now lives in section 20. Mr. Cleveland has put up all the buildings there and has a well improved farm. When he bought it only ten acres had been cleared, but the entire tract is now under cultivation. He keeps a number of good livestock. Mr. Cleveland is affiliated with the Masonic Lodge at Orland.

December 23, 1907, he married Imo Alta Shipe, a daughter of Isaiah and Anna (Lock) Shipe. They have three children: William L., born December 30, 1910; Orley M., born May 6, 1913; and Marcelia, born December 30, 1914.

GEORGE TIMMIS, one of the county commissioners of LaGrange County, is a veteran retail meat dealer of LaGrange, having been in business continuously for over thirty years. Many boys and girls who used to come to his shop to buy meat for their parents are now sending their own children to his market.

Mr. Timmis, who throughout his business career has been one of the diligently public spirited citizens of the community, was born in Van Buren Township of LaGrange County, July 3, 1864, a son of William and Harriet (Timmis) Timmis. His father was a native of England. His parents were married at Buffalo, New York, and on coming to LaGrange County settled in Van Buren Township and lived on a farm for nearly half a century. His father died at White Pigeon, Michigan, and his mother died in Van Buren Township in 1872. Their children were Henry, now deceased, William, Richard, Frank, John, George, Hannah and Harriet.

George Timmis grew up on a farm, attended local public schools and was in the high school at White Pigeon. Beginning in 1880 he lived for four years in Texas. He returned to LaGrange in 1885 and on May 10, 1886, engaged in the meat business with William Mininger. After a brief time he and his brother William established a shop under the name Timmis Brothers, and that was the title under which they did business until 1916, at which time the partnership was dissolved and Mr. George Timmis has since been alone.

Mr. Timmis has always vigorously supported the policies of the republican party. He served as a member of the town council eleven years and while in that body he and Mr. Platt were the men chiefly instrumental in promoting the movement for paved streets and a sewer system. Mr. Timmis was elected

county commissioner in 1916 and re-elected in 1918. He is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, the Knights of the Maccabees at LaGrange, and his wife is a member of the Methodist Church, the family attending that church with her.

January 13, 1891, Mr. Timmis married Miss Amelia C. Haberstroh of LaGrange. They have two children: Hilda, the daughter, was born December 4, 1892, is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and attended the Tri-State College at Angola and the Western College for Women at Oxford, Ohio. She is now engaged in mission work in New York City. Vernon V., the son, was born February 27, 1895, is also a graduate of the LaGrange High School, and for several years has been in business with his father. Vernon Timmis was the first young man to enlist from LaGrange in the World war. He volunteered April 4, 1917, and became a private in the One Hundred and Fiftieth Field Artillery with the Forty-Second or Rainbow Division. With that famous organization he went overseas in November, 1917, and came into the zone of action on February 28, 1918. He was on almost constant duty at the front until the signing of the armistice more than eight months later. With the Rainbow Division he reached the Rhine on December 15, 1918, at Bad Neuenahr, and left Germany April 10, 1919. He landed in the United States April 27, 1919, and was honorably discharged on the 10th of May. At his discharge he held the rank of stable sergeant. June 27, 1917, Vernon Timmis married Iva Sunday of Rome City, Indiana.

DANE D. SECRIST, who has an honorable discharge from the army after serving during a part of 1918, is cashier of the Farmers' State Bank at Topeka and member of an old and well known family of Northeast Indiana.

He was born in Sparta Township of Noble County February 9, 1884, a son of Lewis and Esther (Hooper) Secrist. His father was born in 1850 near North Webster, Indiana, and his mother in Adams County, this state, in 1860. Lewis Secrist was one of the first business men at Cromwell, Indiana, but later became a farmer and died in 1910. The mother is still living, a member of the United Brethren Church at Indian Village, in Noble County. Lewis Secrist was a republican. There were three children in the family: Dane D., Keith K., who is a graduate of the Cromwell High School, and is an American soldier with the Army of Occupation in Germany; and Paul H., who is a graduate of the Cromwell High School.

Dane D. Secrist grew up at Cromwell, graduated from the high school there, and before he went into the army was assistant cashier of the Cromwell Bank. Upon his enlistment in the service he was assigned to the Quartermaster's Corps but later was transferred to the artillery. He served with the rank of second lieutenant, and received his honorable discharge December 13, 1918. Soon after his return home he was elected cashier of the Farmers' State Bank of Topeka.

Mr. Secrist, who is unmarried, is affiliated with Cromwell Lodge No. 705, Free and Accepted Masons, is a thirty-second degree Scottish Rite Mason and a member of the Mystic Shrine. Politically he is a republican.

SAMUEL WEIR, former county treasurer and a prominent banker of LaGrange, is member of a family that did its part as pioneers and in all subsequent stages and epochs of progress and development in this section of Northeast Indiana.

He was born on the old Weir homestead April 16, 1859. He spent his early life in the country, having a common school education, and was a successful practical farmer before he became identified with the county treasurer's office. He acquired 105 acres of the old homestead and has increased this to 185 acres. This fine farm lies in Springfield and Bloomfield townships and is now occupied by his son Lester.

Samuel Weir since January 1, 1919, has been assistant secretary of the LaGrange County Trust Company. He was elected county treasurer in 1908 and filled that office to the satisfaction of all concerned for two terms. He is a republican, has been a member of the township advisory board of Bloomfield Township, and is affiliated with the Odd Fellows and Knights of Pythias.

In 1881 Mr. Weir married Miss Louise B. Brown, a daughter of Ira W. and Julia P. Brown. Her father was one of the Brown brothers who were long prominent as constructive factors and business men in the upbuilding of LaGrange. Mr. and Mrs. Weir have two children. The son, Lester, mentioned above married Cleopatra Price and has two children, Robert Norman and Lester Samuel. The daughter Hazel L. lives at home with her parents and assists in The LaGrange County Trust Company.

Samuel Weir is a son of Norman Weir who was born in New York State November 17, 1818, son of Samuel Weir, a native of Schoharie County, New York. Samuel Weir the elder died in New York State, and his widow Sarah Weir came to LaGrange County in 1837. Norman Weir was at that time nineteen years of age, the other children of his widowed mother being Elijah, Nancy and Hepsie. The mother of Norman Weir bought the land where Lewis Weir now lives, comprising 120 acres. Norman Weir died on that farm in August, 1896, having in the meantime increased his holdings to nearly 400 acres. He was accounted one of the leading farmers of LaGrange County. His widow is now living at LaGrange, with her daughter Mrs. Gertrude Gage. Norman Weir was a republican in politics and his brother Elijah was at one time a member of the legislature.

May 4, 1851, Norman Weir married Miss Angeline Scidmore. She was born in Steuben County, New York, May 15, 1827, a daughter of Solomon and Ruhamah (Bowels) Scidmore. Her father was a native of Saratoga County, New York, and her mother of Hagerstown, Maryland. Mr. and Mrs. Scidmore were married in New York and in 1835 they were among the pioneer settlers of Bloomfield Township, LaGrange County, their home being at the present site of Plato, where they took up a homestead of 160 acres. This land was afterwards acquired by their son, a former sheriff of LaGrange County. Solomon Scidmore died in 1859 and his wife in 1863.

Norman Weir and wife had six children: Charles who died in 1880 at the age of twenty-eight; Mary who died in 1885 aged thirty; Samuel; Tremont, a farmer at Plato, Indiana; Lewis, who occupies the old Weir homestead; and Gertrude, wife of George Gage, present county recorder of LaGrange County.

**FRANK ASHLEY.** The birthplace of Frank Ashley is Springfield Township, LaGrange County, on the farm he occupies today. He was born May 18, 1853. The increasing strength and skill of his boyhood days were directed to cultivating some of these fields, and for sixty-six years or more he has remained there and has become a man of substance as a farmer and a citizen whose public spirit is widely known and appreciated. When he was six

months old his mother, Helen Elizabeth (Jefferds) Ashley, died. She was a native of Connecticut. His father, Robert Ashley, was born in Sheffield, Massachusetts, June 19, 1809. His parents were married in the east in 1840, and located on the farm in Springfield Township. Robert Ashley, however, had been in the West several times before that. He first came to LaGrange County in 1833, when all Northern Indiana was virtually a wilderness. He had traveled west by river and lake as far as Detroit, and came across the country to LaGrange County on foot. It was in 1837 that he bought from the Government the land which his son Frank now owns. This was a tract of eighty acres, covered with timber, and when he brought his wife there he settled in the midst of the woods and put up a log house as their first home. Later he built most of the buildings which are standing today. He was a tinner by trade and also had a practical knowledge of the gunsmith's trade. In early days he planted an acre and a half to grapes, and was one of the pioneer vineyardists and wine makers of LaGrange County. He died on the old homestead. His second wife was Mrs. Mary Douglas Long, formerly of Ohio.

Frank Ashley was the youngest of five children, and he remembers only two of them, Charles and Ralph. Charles, the third in age, died in 1868. The two oldest were Eugene and Ralph. Ralph was born in 1843, and died in 1905. A daughter, Senitt, died in 1854, and Asenith died when young. Frank Ashley was educated in the local schools, and as a farmer he has diversified his industry by breeding spotted Poland hogs.

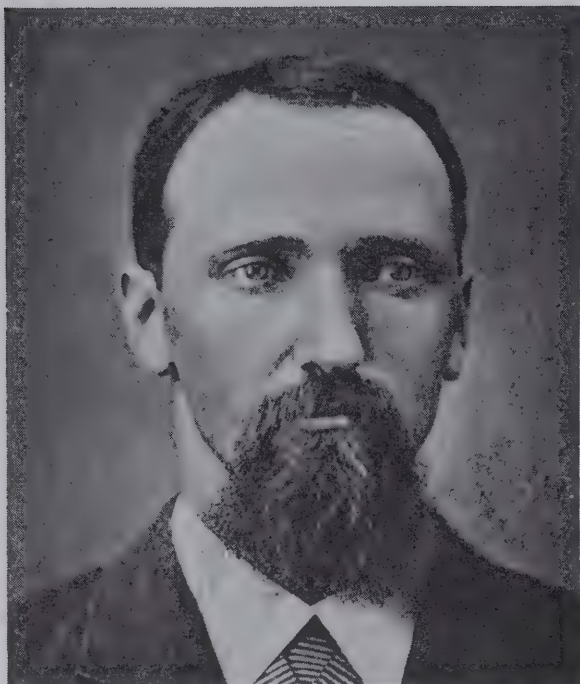
In 1880 he married Miss Adelia A. Clark. She was born in Canada, her family name being Brown, but she was reared as the adopted daughter of William Clark. Mrs. Ashley was a member of the Methodist Episcopal Church. After thirty-seven years of married life and after her children were grown to maturity she died August 14, 1917. Nettie, their oldest child, is the wife of Claud Preston, of Brushy Prairie; Charles lives in Akron, Ohio; Robert has been away from home and his movements have not been known to the family for the past few years; Richard lives on the home farm, is a farmer, and for a number of years has been a thresherman; and the youngest, Helen, is the wife of J. L. Lovel, of LaGrange County.

As a treasured family heirloom Mr. Ashley possesses a set of knives and forks that have been handed down from generation to generation from the original Ashley ancestor who came from England to America several hundred years ago.

**HERMAN HASKINS** is prosecuting attorney for the circuit composed of Elkhart and LaGrange counties, and his reputation as a lawyer and public official is well known over all the northern counties of the state. Mr. Haskins has distinguished himself as a young man of force, courage, and thorough ability both as a lawyer and man of affairs.

He was born at Mongo December 26, 1880. Concerning his family and his parents Albert and Amy (Huss) Haskins, more is said on other pages of this publication. Herman Haskins was educated in the grammar and high schools of LaGrange, graduating from high school in 1901. He took his law course in the State University, completing it in 1905. The following two years he practiced with Otis L. Ballou and since 1907 has handled an individual practice. He was appointed deputy prosecuting attorney in 1911 and has also served several years as county attorney. He was elected prosecuting attorney for the district of Elkhart and LaGrange counties in 1916. He began his official du-





*Mr & Mrs Frank Ashley.*





ties in 1918 and was reelected for a second term in 1918. During the period of the war Mr. Haskins was chairman of the four-minute men of LaGrange County, and was also a member of the legal advisory board and chief clerk of the local exemption board. These duties imposed many burdens upon him in addition to the regular routine of his profession and his office as prosecutor.

Mr. Haskins is a member of the LaGrange County Bar Association, is affiliated with the Knights of Pythias, Masons and Elks, and in politics is a republican, having been secretary of the republican county central committee in 1914. October 21, 1913, Mr. Haskins married Miss Bessie C. McKinley, daughter of Thomas Franklin and Flora (Custer) McKinley of Mongo. They have one son Gerald, born August 13, 1915.

WALTER FRANK GRAVITT is one of the young and hustling farmers of Springfield Township, and has the enterprise and all the varied qualifications that make the successful agriculturist. His life has been almost entirely spent on the old Millis homestead where he was born December 29, 1887. That is one of the fine farms of LaGrange County, and for several years it has been operated by Mr. Gravitt.

He is a son of Charles Henry and Marian (Millis) Gravitt. His mother who is still living was born on the Millis homestead September 14, 1863, a daughter of Edward and Eleanor M. (Griffin) Millis. Concerning this well known old family of the county more information will be found on other pages. Charles Gravitt was born in Cayuga County, New York, in October, 1857, and came to LaGrange County about 1879. He worked a couple of years, spending one year with Samuel Newnam. On December 25, 1882, he married and then rented the farm of Edward Millis. Later he bought eighty-seven acres, forty acres in Springfield Township and forty-seven acres in Steuben County. He lived there three years and sold out and returned to the Millis farm, which he occupied and managed until his death on April 23, 1909. Mrs. Charles Gravitt is now living at LaGrange. They were the parents of four children: Jessie, wife of the present county surveyor of LaGrange County and the mother of Wayland, Gaylord, Paul and Emily Spears; Walter Frank; Ralph who married Blanche Stayner; and Roscoe, unmarried.

Walter Frank Gravitt as a boy attended the common schools and the Springfield Township High School, and steadily since early manhood has been a farmer. The Millis place which he rents contains 210 acres, and under his management is devoted to general crops and livestock. Mr. Gravitt is a republican, is a member of the Ancient Order of Gleaners and with his wife is a regular attendant at the East Springfield Methodist Church.

March 11, 1908, Mr. Gravitt married Mary Ann Coney. She was born in Springfield Township April 25, 1885, a daughter of Robert and Mary Ann (Rasler) Coney. Her mother was born in Noble County, Indiana, March 15, 1848, a daughter of George and Margaret (Neff) Rasler. Robert Coney was born in Lincolnshire, England, November 15, 1841, and was seventeen years of age when he and his parents left England on April 9, 1858, and six weeks later arrived in St. Joseph County, Michigan. Robert Coney was a son of John and Susanna (Pant) Coney. In the spring of 1868 Robert came to LaGrange County and in the fall of the same year his parents joined him and settled on eighty acres bought from Valentine Fry. The father of Robert Coney died there in 1874 at the age of sixty and the mother in December, 1885, aged sixty-nine. Of

their large family of thirteen children five died in England. The six to come to the United States were Robert, Ann, William, Fannie, Rebecca and John. Two others were born in this country, Henry at Constantine, Michigan, and Mary at Mendon, Michigan. All are living except Rebecca who became the wife of Henry Neff and died in 1913.

Robert Coney after coming to LaGrange County lived in Milford Township until 1877 when he moved to Springfield Township and bought forty acres. After eight years he went back to Milford, buying thirty acres in that township. The last eleven years of his life he spent in Springfield among his children. He and his wife were married January 10, 1868, by Squire Hoff. Mrs. Coney died July 9, 1804. Their children were George, John, Aaron and Susanna, twins, both deceased, William, Margaret, Mary Ann, and Melissa, deceased.

Mr. and Mrs. Gravitt have three children: Florence, born June 29, 1910; Charles, born June 25, 1912; and Frank, born February 22, 1915.

TOBIAS C. ESCH, who still lives on his fine farm on the northwest quarter of section 9 in Eden Township, has had a career notable not because he has held conspicuous offices in the government, but for the self-denial, sacrificing efforts, toil and steadfast fidelity with which he has pursued his private affairs and as a result of which he has provided well for his family.

He was born in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, August 11, 1847, and has passed the age of three score and ten. He is a son of Christian and Susanna (Sees) Esch. His father was born in Somerset County January 8, 1820, a son of Jacob and Martha (Layman) Esch. Jacob Esch was born in Germany in 1797 and came to the United States early in the nineteenth century, locating in Pennsylvania, where he spent the rest of his life. His children were named Rachel, Christian, Isaac and Mary. Christian Esch lived out his life in Pennsylvania, where he died March 16, 1854, his widow surviving until 1863. They had five children: Daniel, who died February 10, 1906; Martha, widow of David Dishong; William C. of Middlebury, Indiana; Mary, widow of Christ Bandle; Tobias C.

Tobias C. Esch was only five years old when his father died. The family were in poor circumstances and for ten years he lived in the home of John Petersheime, working at tasks suited to his strength and age and attending district schools in winter. In 1864 he went out to Iowa with Mr. Petersheime and remained there on a farm for four summers. Returning East he located in Elkhart County where he married Saloma Garber. She was born in Holmes County, Ohio, October 5, 1848.

Mr. Esch has been a man of great enterprise, and has handled successfully nearly every undertaking with which he has been connected. One of his early ventures in Northeast Indiana was the purchase of a saw mill, the purchase price being \$2,800. After a year of operation the plant was burned, leaving him \$2,400 in debt. He started in again, and for twenty years cut into merchantable lumber much of the hard wood products of the forests of Northeast Indiana. He also bought a farm of ninety acres and lived there until he came to his present place in 1898. Mr. Esch has 160 acres in his home farm and has improved it in many ways. At one time he owned 540 acres and sold this fine property for \$46,000.

Mr. Esch is the father of fifteen children, eleven of whom are still living: Daniel, Jonathan, Mary, Fannie, Elizabeth, John H., Noah, Tobias, William, Samuel and Gertrude. The son John married Ida Beachey and has eight children. Mr. Esch and

family are members of the Amish Mennonite Church and he was a leader in the church singing for fifty years.

JOHN SMITH, who passed from earth's shining circle, July 24, 1919, at the advanced age of ninety-five years, was born near Springfield, Clark County, Ohio, October 24, 1823. He was a son of David and Elizabeth (Hurd) Smith, being the third son in a family of two daughters and eight sons. In the spring of 1825 the parents moved to Marion, Ohio, where the family lived until the fall of 1833, when they came to LaGrange County, Indiana, being one of the pioneer families of this community.

Mr. Smith was reared on the home farm, receiving only such an education as the common schools of his time afforded. He made good, as the modern saying is, as a farmer and after his father's death purchased the homestead and made it one of the substantial farms of the county. He was as early as the seventies and eighties, noted more especially hereabouts because of his success as a stock grower and breeder. Politically, Mr. Smith was at first a whig, and later supported the republican party the remainder of his days. In his religious faith he was a member of the Baptist Church, and for many years one of its staunch supporters.

Concerning his domestic relations let it be said that he was united in marriage in 1854, to Romilda Parker, and to them was born a daughter Annabelle, now Mrs. Stephen McKee. Mrs. Smith died in 1860, and on January 23, 1862, Mr. Smith married Miss Serena Craig, who was born November 19, 1827, in Columbia County, Pennsylvania. She died in 1909. Of this union two children were born, Mary Jane and Charles C., the daughter dying in early childhood. Besides his son and daughter Mr. Smith left surviving him, four grandchildren, J. Russell Smith, Margaret and Katharine Smith and Mildred McKee, and two great-grandchildren.

After a long and well spent life as an agriculturist, he of whom the brief memoir is written, just as the autumn leaves were turning to amber and gold, and when he had almost reached the ninety-sixth milestone, passed on to other scenes in a land in which he had so long believed as a true and obedient Christian.

ROSCOE L. COGGESHALL is well known in the business community of LaGrange County as salesman for the Mt. Pisgah P. of I. Mercantile Association at Stroh.

Mr. Coggeshall was born in Randolph County, Indiana, July 6, 1889, son of A. T. and Emma (Hoover) Coggeshall. His parents reside at Carlos, Indiana. Roscoe grew up on a farm in his native county and graduated from the district schools in 1904. Since then he has had a busy career, being employed in a grain elevator at Carlos three years, for two years in the elevator at Modoc, Indiana, and then for three years was associated with Roy B. Ford in the general mercantile business at Stroh. On January 1, 1919, Mr. Coggeshall was placed in charge of the store of the Mt. Pisgah Mercantile Association, one of the oldest organizations of its kind in the Middle West.

Mr. Coggeshall married Lola Hutchens in 1911. She was born in Randolph County, Indiana, in 1890. They have three children, Marvin, Rhuie and Venus. Mr. Coggeshall is affiliated with Philo Lodge No. 672, Ancient Free and Accepted Masons, of which he is Past Master, and in politics is a republican.

EUGENE GOODSSELL, now enjoying the comforts of a good home in Ashley, has achieved the dignity of three score and ten years, and most of those years

have been spent in LaGrange County. He is a native son of this county and his people were among the very earliest pioneers and homemakers in Milford Township.

Mr. Goodsell was born in that township August 19, 1849. He is a son of Mynott and Ellen (Dyer) Goodsell. Mynott Goodsell, who was born at Litchfield, Connecticut, was the only son of Stiles and Lucinda (Bostwick) Goodsell. Soon after his birth his parents moved to Pennsylvania, and in 1832 they started for the West, arriving in Lima, Indiana, October 26th. Stiles Goodsell was the second permanent settler in Milford Township, and he and his family lived in a rude log house for several years. Wild game supplied the meat for the table, and for groceries and other supplies he went to Toledo, a trip with ox teams requiring twenty-one days. After the canal was completed supplies were obtained from Fort Wayne. Stiles Goodsell died February 22, 1850. Mynott Goodsell as a youth had taken charge of the home farm, and was noted for his ability as an axman and in other frontier virtues. When only a boy he cleared off ten acres of timber-land in twenty-six days. He was also fond of hunting and fishing. As a hunter the feat is credited to him of killing three deer at one shot. On March 3, 1840 he married Ellen Dyer, who came to LaGrange County in 1833. They had seven children: Marshall, Josephine, Mills, Eugene, Ida, Augusta and Frederick. Of these only Marshall and Eugene are now living. Their mother died August 24, 1856. On November 22, 1857, Mynott Goodsell married Nancy Johnson. She was born in Ohio February 15, 1840, a daughter of John and Eliza Johnson. To the second marriage were born five children: Jennie, Ella, George, Imogene and Theodore M.

Mynott Goodsell acquired 450 acres of land and was a prosperous stock farmer. He was a man of great influence in his community, always worked for temperance, was a democrat in politics and for sixteen years held the offices of trustee and justice of the peace. He died in 1882.

Eugene Goodsell grew up on the home farm and supplemented his advantages in the country schools by attending the LaGrange County Collegiate Institute and the Orland Academy, also the Kendallville High School. As a young man he took up farming as his definite vocation and in 1876 bought ninety-seven acres in Springfield Township. He added to this until he had 120 acres, and he still owns his farm in Springfield Township. For two years he was also engaged in the mercantile business at Mount Pisgah during the '80s, and for five years was manager of the Mount Pisgah Mercantile Association. He also spent some time in the South in the states of Tennessee, Arkansas and Oklahoma. He then resumed his place on the farm and in 1917 turned over its management to his son Clifford and moved to Ashley.

Mr. Goodsell was one of the organizers of the Farmers State Bank of Stroh and has been a director since the bank opened for business. He is a democrat, but makes no pretensions to public office. He is affiliated with Lodge No. 672 of the Masons and also with the Knights of Pythias at Mongo.

July 3, 1873, Mr. Goodsell married Miss Emma Hall. She was born in Springfield Township October 2, 1854, a daughter of Rufus and Clarissa (Bell-knap) Hall. Her parents were both natives of New York State, her father born in 1808 and her mother in 1810. They came west by canal and lake, and on Lake Erie their boat was overtaken by a storm and they were two weeks in crossing. It was the last trip that boat made. On coming to LaGrange County the Halls bought eighty acres and later forty acres, and



at the time of his death Rufus Hall had his 120 acres in the condition of a highly improved and efficient farm. He was a democrat in early life and later a republican, and for twenty years held the office of justice of the peace. In the Hall family were four children: Lucius, deceased; Harvey, who served with the rank of captain in the Civil war and died from the effects of wounds; Lydia, deceased; and Emma, Mrs. Goodsell.

Mr. and Mrs. Goodsell have two sons. Fred, the older, was educated in the public schools, in St. Mary's Institute at Dayton, Ohio, and also the Tri-State College at Angola. His first experience was farming and later he spent about two years at Kalamazoo employed by the Electric Light Company, and then became manager of the Indiana & Southern Michigan Telephone Company at Ashley. After six years he moved to Fort Wayne and engaged in the garage business four years, and on returning to Ashley established a garage which is now the most popular enterprise of its kind in that locality. Another experience of his younger life was two years in dredge work employed by the Harding Brothers. In 1897 Fred Goodsell married Anna Joyce of Vincennes, Indiana. They have a daughter, Alleen E., who completed her education in the Ashley High School.

Clifford H. Goodsell, the second son, had a public school education and for seventeen years was engaged in dredge work, beginning as a common laborer but finally promoted to dredge manager. In 1917 he returned to LaGrange County and is now renting his father's farm. February 28, 1915, Clifford Goodsell married Miss Clara Forst, a daughter of Andrew and Mary (Fry) Forst, of Milford Township. They have a son, Andrew Eugene.

TASSO K. SMITH, though now a resident of the State of Washington, is a member of one of the old and prominent families of LaGrange County where he resided until 1919.

His father was James Smith. James Smith was born in Clark County, Ohio, June 16, 1820, son of David and Elizabeth (Hurd) Smith, the former a native of Virginia and the latter of Maryland. The Hurd and Smith families settled in Clark County, Ohio, during the War of 1812. The Smiths are of Irish and the Hurds of German ancestry. David Smith was a soldier in the War of 1812 under General Harrison. In 1833 David Smith brought his family to Indiana and bought 360 acres of land in Lima Township of LaGrange County. He lived there until his death and was not only a successful farmer but a very progressive minded citizen. He worked heart and soul for the abolition movement before the Civil war. He was one of the first county commissioners and he was an advocate and practitioner of temperance and frugality.

James Smith was thirteen years old when brought to LaGrange County. He finished his education in Lima Township and bought eighty acres of land there, subsequently buying another eighty. On April 4, 1849, he married Miss Sarah Burnell. She was born in England, where her mother Eleanor Burnell died. Her father came to Indiana in 1830 and died at Lexington, now Brighton, in Greenfield Township. James Smith and wife in 1863 moved to Greenfield Township and bought 134½ acres. He served as county commissioner for eighteen years and for one term was assessor, and also filled the office of representative in the Legislature. He and his wife had ten children: Jewison, David T., Frank M., Burnell S., deceased; James C., Tasso K., Clyde H., deceased; Nellie B., Maggie E., and Joseph. Several of these children are mentioned on other pages of this publication.

Tasso K. Smith was born in Greenfield Township May 5, 1860, and grew up on the old homestead, acquiring a common school education. In early manhood he moved to Kansas, lived in that state four years, following the business of livery and farming and later went to Seattle, Washington, where he spent some time as a contractor. In 1891 he returned to LaGrange County and in 1895 bought 120 acres in Springfield Township. He increased this farm by sixty-five acres more and lived there in prosperous circumstances until 1919 when he removed to Washington, where he now resides. For a number of years he was a breeder of Percheron horses, and some of his stock won prizes at fairs and exhibitions.

Mr. Smith is a republican and served as assessor of Springfield Township. He was also a member of the local Grange, the Gleaners and the Knights of Pythias Lodge at Mongo. In 1884 he married Miss Carrie C. Keyes. She was born at Orland in Steuben County in 1865, a daughter of Hiram, a Civil war veteran and Mary (Newton) Keyes, early settlers of Steuben County, who subsequently lived at Mongo, where her father died about 1911 at the age of eighty-two and where her widowed mother is still living at the age of seventy-eight. In the Keyes family were seven children: Jessie, deceased, Newton, Carrie C., Matie, Susan, Harvey and a son that died in infancy.

Tasso K. Smith and wife had three sons. Lloyd, the oldest, born August 20, 1885, in Greenfield Township, had a public school education, finishing in the Springfield Township high school and also attended the Tri-State College. Though a farmer he has also been interested in the county history business for a short time. For two years he rented land in Springfield Township, then bought sixty-five acres which he improved with good buildings and sold this in 1915, and in 1917 bought the old homestead of 120 acres. He sold this farm in 1919.

Don Smith, the youngest of the three sons, was born at Seattle, Washington, November 3, 1891, but grew up in Springfield Township and is a graduate of the Springfield Township High School and the LaGrange High School. He was a teacher in North Dakota, worked in a grain elevator in that state, and for about three years was a farmer in LaGrange County. In 1916 he married Miss Edna Greenawalt, daughter of Samuel Greenawalt. They have one daughter Mona Jean.

Carl T. Smith was born in Kansas November 26, 1886, and was five years of age when his parents returned to LaGrange County. He gained a liberal education, graduating from the eighth grade in the common schools, the Springfield Township High School, the LaGrange High School, and in 1915 completed his course in DePauw University at Greencastle. He was a successful teacher in the public schools of Springfield Township. He had been following the business of solicitor for county histories for several years when America entered the war with Germany. May 12, 1917, he enlisted, joined the training camp at Fort Benjamin Harrison, and was commissioned second lieutenant of Field Artillery, August 15, 1917. Shortly after being commissioned he was sent to Camp Shelby at Hattiesburg, Mississippi. There he was assigned to Battery F, One Hundred and Thirty-seventh Field Artillery of the Thirty-eighth Division. He served continuously with that regiment until it was mustered out in January, 1919. On December 22, 1917, he was promoted to first lieutenant. In the fall of 1918 he was sent overseas to France, was returned to America receiving his honorable discharge early in 1919. He then resumed his former work and is now a salesman for the Lewis Publishing Company of Chicago. March 9, 1918, Mr. Smith married Miss Mae Parker of

Mississippi and they have one son Carl, Jr. Mr. Smith is a republican and a member of the Masonic Order.

ABRAHAM M. JACOBS is one of the successful men of Noble County. With a wide range of culture and education acquired both in this country and abroad, he was well fitted for the duties and responsibilities of mature years and has acquired positions in business affairs which are not only a reflection of his personal ability, but also the judgment of people in his integrity and high character.

Mr. Jacobs is president of the Noble County Bank, an institution with thirty years of successful history to its credit. He is also president of the Kendallville Trust & Savings Company and president of the Merchants and Farmers Bank at Avilla and of the Farmers Bank at South Milford and he is a director in the Auburn State Bank of Auburn, Indiana. These are all well known financial institutions in this section of Northeast Indiana and all of them were promoted through his initiative and co-operation. He is also a member of the firm of J. Keller & Company, founded by his father, Moses Jacobs, owners of a large department store in Kendallville. He is also the president of the Specialty Display Case Company of Kendallville, manufacturers of show cases and is one of the founders and treasurer of the Kendallville Manufacturing Company, manufacturers of cotton gloves and mittens with branches at South Bend and LaGrange, Indiana.

Mr. Jacobs was born at Kendallville February 8, 1864, son of Moses Jacobs, one of the pioneers of Noble County. At the age of eight years A. M. Jacobs, who had up to that time lived in Kendallville, went with his parents to Europe and he remained there to the age of eighteen, acquiring a thoroughly liberal education at the Gymnasium in Darmstadt, Germany, and benefiting by travel and residence abroad. He specialized in music while in Germany and returned a pianist of brilliant attainments, possessing the natural and rare gift of improvisation which has frequently been designated by the master pianists as a lost art. On returning to the United States he took a course in the Bryant and Stratton Business College at Chicago from which he graduated, and immediately afterwards began his active career at Kendallville, with the firm J. Keller & Company. He was later cashier in the Keller & Kann Bank, was promoted to larger responsibilities, and when the Noble County Bank was organized in 1889, he became its first cashier. For about twenty-five years he held that position, and since then has been its president. October 23, 1889, he married Miss Nannette Keller, daughter of Jacob Keller, one of the founders of J. Keller & Company and first president of the Noble County Bank. She was born in Kendallville July 11, 1867. They have two children. Rosalie M. is a graduate of Milwaukee Downer College and is the wife of L. S. Levy, vice president of the Specialty Display Case Company of Kendallville. The only son Milton Keller is a graduate of the Kendallville High School and the University of Michigan, and is now with the Radio Intelligence Corps in the United States Army.

Mr. Jacobs is affiliated with Lodge No. 276 F. & A. M., and has been its treasurer for over thirty years and is a member of the Kendallville Rotary and Golf clubs. He is a democrat in politics. He has served as a member of the city council of Kendallville for several terms and has at all times taken the keenest and most active interest in the civic affairs of his home city. He is president of the board of governors of the Lakeside Hospital and vice president of the Kendallville Public Library. His World war activities were characterized by untiring

devotion to the interests of our nation. He served as county chairman for Noble County during the First, Second and Fifth Liberty Loan campaigns in each of which his county went brilliantly "over the top." He was also a director of sales for Noble County for the United States Certificates of Indebtedness campaign. He was also chairman of the Kendallville War Chest Fund, an organization of citizens from every walk of life who contributed nearly \$30,000 to a fund out of which every demand upon Kendallville for war relief purposes of every nature was promptly met.

A. M. Jacobs is constantly endeavoring to demonstrate the principle that a good and loyal citizen must unselfishly give many hours of his valuable time to the solution of all problems that make for the uplift and development of the community in which he lives and that a man can not be called successful unless he is willing to do this.

HON. JOHN B. HOWE. He whose name heads this article was among the foremost men of Northern Indiana—a pioneer of pioneers—a man of intellect and heart, of whom the world has none too many. The village name was changed in memory of his life and career here, it formerly being called Lima. Mr. Howe was born of English parents in the City of Boston, March 3, 1813, was destined by force of character, and by natural ability, to achieve a great place in the annals of Indiana. His father, the Rev. James B. Howe, an eloquent minister of the Episcopal Church and his beloved mother, whose maiden name was Sarah Badlam, were Puritans, who gave fair education to their children. The father was a graduate of Harvard College, and an earnest advocate of education and morals. Stephen Badlam was brigadier general of militia, who joined the Colonial Army in 1775, and the following year, as major of artillery, took possession July 4, of the point which, from the circumstances, was named Mount Independence. After the war he located at Dorchester, where he became magistrate, and a deacon of the church. At the age of sixteen, John B. Howe entered Trinity College, from which institution he graduated at the age of nineteen. This was in 1832 and in the autumn of that year he went to Detroit, thence to Marshall, Michigan, and in 1833 he moved to Lima. He had read law in Michigan, and was subsequently admitted to the bar, and for a number of years practiced with success. In later years he took up banking for an occupation. He was the author of numerous books—several volumes on Political Economy and Finance. He was a member of the Indiana State Legislature in 1840, representing the counties of Steuben, DeKalb, Noble and LaGrange; and in 1850, was a member of the Indiana State Constitutional Convention, at which time he, as a whig, advocated measures regarding the slave, identical with those afterward adhered to by the majority of justices in the Dred Scott Decision.

In 1846 Mr. Howe was married to Miss Frances Gidden of New Hampshire, who was born in 1825. They lived a beautiful and happy life till overtaken by old age. It was Mr. Howe who accomplished much toward the many educational institutions of Lima, including the private and public high schools. The present Howe Military School, of Howe, was founded largely by a bequest of his in 1884 and added to by his wife later. (See history of this school in Educational chapter.)

Mr. Howe died January 22, 1883, and his remains, with those of his wife are deposited beneath the Chapel of the Episcopal Church at Howe.

CHARLES EDWIN BRANT, who while his duties keep him on the road traveling, spends little of his time



in Northeast Indiana, is member of an old and prominent family of LaGrange County and was born in the City of LaGrange December 18, 1879. He was educated in local public schools, attended the University of Wisconsin, and was in the drug business, the line which his father followed for so many years until 1907. He then joined his half-brother, S. A. Brant, a well known publisher at Madison, Wisconsin. For a time he was also with the S. J. Clark Publishing Company of Chicago. From 1913 to 1916 he lived at Cherokee, Iowa, and was director of the Cherokee Concert Band. Since then he has been connected with the Brant Publishing business. He is independent in politics and is a member of the Delta Gamma Chapter of the Delta Tau Delta Fraternity in the University of Wisconsin.

December 26, 1907, he married Miss Enid E. Duff, daughter of W. H. and Harriet (Keith) Duff of LaGrange. She was born at Lima, now Howe, Indiana, December 26, 1885, and was educated in the schools of LaGrange, the Terre Haute Normal.

The late Charles A. Brant, father of Charles E. Brant, died December 23, 1911. He was born in Ashland County, Ohio, January 31, 1829, a son of Jabez and Armina (Kirby) Brant. His youth was spent in various occupations, mostly farming, and he had a good common school education. In 1855 he married Armina Ensign and in March of the following year moved to Decatur County, Iowa, where he engaged in farming. In 1862 he returned east to Michigan and in 1863 settled at LaGrange, where for eleven years he made his headquarters while in business as a traveling salesman. In 1875 he established himself in the drug business at LaGrange, and followed that until within a few years of his death. He was succeeded by his son Charles E. Brant.

His first wife died September 4, 1866, the mother of four children, only two of whom reached mature years, Selwyn A., the Wisconsin publisher, and Addie M., deceased (wife of Dr. C. A. Seymoure), of Wawaka, Indiana. On July 1, 1873, Charles A. Brant married Louisa V. Chase, who is still living and Charles E. Brant is their only child. The late Charles A. Brant was always a democrat in politics, was member of the Town Council and affiliated with the Masonic fraternity. Mrs. Charles A. Brant is a Presbyterian, and is now living in San Jose, California. She was born in Illinois April 3, 1846, a daughter of Rufus B. Chase.

ROBERT M. WADDELL was born in Wabash County, Indiana, the son of Dr. Charles and Alice (Hosmer) Waddell. His father was a soldier in the war for the Union. Both of his parents are dead. He came to LaGrange in 1884, attended the public schools and while in school was employed in the newspaper offices of the town. His newspaper activities include a year with the Grand Rapids (Michigan) Herald, a morning daily, and several years as the managing editor of the Evening News, a daily, and the News and Express, a weekly, at Cadillac, Michigan. Hon. Perry F. Powers, the owner, prominent in Michigan politics, being absent from home much of the time. Mr. Waddell returned to LaGrange in 1906 and has since been connected with the Standard.

He is a republican in politics, a member of the LaGrange board of education, secretary of the republican county committee and president of the Corn School Week. He belongs to the Masonic lodge.

Mr. Waddell is married and the father of three children. Mrs. Waddell is a daughter of Captain and Mrs. Samuel P. Bradford, the former a soldier in the war for the Union and for eight years clerk of the LaGrange Circuit Court. Mrs. Waddell was educated in the LaGrange public schools and in St. Mary's Academy at Notre Dame, Indiana. The chil-

dren are Ruth Marian, Rose Marjorie and Robert M. Waddell, Jr., all students in the LaGrange public schools.

Mr. Waddell was publicity chairman in connection with all of the World war drives in LaGrange County, was chairman of the first war organization, and in connection with this work has spoken in nearly every voting precinct in LaGrange County at public meetings.

WILLIAM KLINE has spent his life in Huntington and LaGrange counties, was reared and trained to farming, and though identified with other pursuits for a number of years he finally answered a call back to the land and recently moved to one of the good farms in Springfield Township of LaGrange County.

He was born in Huntington County September 13, 1858, a son of Peter M. and Lucetta (Sellers) Kline. His parents were both natives of Pennsylvania, his father born in 1822 and his mother in 1828 near Harrisburg. After their marriage in Pennsylvania they moved to Perry County, Ohio, and from there to Huntington County, Indiana. They arrived in Huntington County when the present City of Huntington contained only a few houses. They were farmers in that section of Indiana the rest of their lives. Peter Kline died in 1892 and his wife in 1914. He was a republican and very active in the party and he and his wife were members of the Christian Church, formerly identified with the New Light branch of that church. In their family were eleven children, Rebecca, James, Samuel, Sarah Ann, Peter, Lucetta, John, Levi, Mary Jane, William and Amos.

William Kline attended the public schools of Huntington County, was reared on a farm, had his first trials in agriculture in that county, and in 1896 moved to LaGrange. Here he followed different occupations for several years and for eight years was town marshal. In the spring of 1919 he bought a farm of 78½ acres in Springfield Township. This is a part of the Prentiss farm and is land once owned by Leslie Appleman. Mr. Kline does general farming and stock raising and during his first year showed the quality of his experience and ability as a farmer in the fine crops he raised. He has good buildings, rich soil, and is in a position to enjoy independence and comfort. Politically he is a republican.

In 1896 he married Mrs. Margaret C. Mygrants of LaGrange. They have one son Lea A., born May 13, 1904, and now being educated in the public schools of LaGrange.

FREDERICK JACOB BROWN. For a great many years the Brown family have been one of splendid initiative, business energy and progressive character in the citizenship of LaGrange. There were several Brown brothers who did important things in the up-building of the city. One of the present generation is Frederick Jacob Brown, for many years a prominent druggist in the city.

Frederick J. Brown was born at LaGrange August 11, 1871, is a graduate of the LaGrange High School and took the pharmacy course at Northwestern University in Chicago. He entered the drug business in June, 1896, and has continued it without interruption for twenty-three years. He is a republican, is interested in local affairs, is a member of the LaGrange School Board, and is affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows. He and his family attend the Presbyterian Church of which his wife is a member.

June 29, 1899, he married Miss Mary Catherine Roy. She was born in Clear Spring Township, LaGrange County, October 3, 1873, a daughter of William and Mary Catherine (Musser) Roy. Her father was born in LaGrange County in 1848, a son



of Charles and Jane Gray (Oliver) Roy. The Roes were among the early settlers of Springfield Township, where Charles Roy bought a farm of 240 acres and cleared up most of the land and made it productive and valuable. He and his wife both died there. William Roy also acquired a farm in Clear Spring Township. As a youth he did his part as a soldier in the Civil war and for many years was affiliated with the Grand Army of the Republic. He was a republican, served as trustee of Clear Spring Township, and many other facts are remembered to his credit. He and his wife were married November 7, 1867, and he died October 8, 1902, while Mrs. Brown's mother passed away March 17, 1917. She was a member of the Methodist Church. In the Roy family were six children: Irva, deceased wife of R. L. Thompson; Jennie, unmarried; Jessie, wife of H. S. Zimmerman; Mary Catherine, Mrs. Brown; Harry E.; and Edith, wife of A. W. Davidson.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown had four children: Sarah Margaret, born September 29, 1902, now a senior in the LaGrange High School; Jacob S., born December 18, 1905, who is in the first year of his high school work; William Roy, born August 5, 1911; and Barbara, born April 13, 1914.

The father of the LaGrange druggist was the late Jacob S. Brown. His father, Abijah Brown, was born at Adams, Vermont, May 30, 1799. When a boy his parents moved to Herkimer County, New York, where the father and mother of Abijah died. Abijah at the age of twenty-one married Maria Shoff. In 1826 he settled in Allegany County, New York, and in 1838 moved to Huron County, Ohio. He had bought land in LaGrange County as early as 1845. However, it was not until 1865 that he disposed of his property in Ohio and joined his family in LaGrange County. On December 30, 1867, his wife died in this county and he survived her less than five years, passing away January 8, 1872, both are buried in the LaGrange Cemetery. Abijah Brown and wife had seven children: Electa, Ira W., Charlotte L., Jacob S., Julia M., Adrian D. and one that died in infancy.

Jacob S. Brown was born in New York State May 22, 1829, and grew up in Huron County, Ohio. In the fall of 1854 at the age of twenty-five he came to Indiana and located near the south line of Bloomfield Township. Here he established the first steam sawmill in Johnson Township. The following spring his brother Ira W. came out from Ohio, and they shared the responsibility of operating the mill for two years. Jacob then sold out his share in the property and went back to Ohio, where for three years he followed farming. His younger brother Adrian who was born in Huron County, Ohio, December 17, 1840, came to LaGrange County in 1865, and in the summer of the same year as noted above Abijah Brown and his son Ira bought the Boyd property. In the spring of 1867 Adrian and his father engaged in the drug business. Thus Frederick Jacob Brown as a druggist is in a measure continuing a business that has been in the family for half a century or more. Adrian and his father continued as druggists until the winter of 1871, when Jacob S. succeeded to his father's place. About that time Jacob, Ira and Adrian Brown began the erection of the Brown Hotel Building, which was completed in the spring of 1872. A four-story brick block 48 by 100 feet with basement, it stood as the largest and most conspicuous improvement in the business district of LaGrange for several years. The building was leased, the lower rooms being occupied by business firms. In one of them Jacob S. and Adrian Brown continued their drug business, while the bank occupied another part of the building. This structure was destroyed by fire January 7, 1877, entailing

a loss of over \$18,000. In 1878 the ground was divided and Jacob S. and Adrian D. began the improvement of their holdings, constructing what has ever since been known as the Brown Block. Adrian D. took the north lot 22 by 100 feet, while Jacob acquired the three lower lots, 22 by 80 feet. The second story of the Jacob S. Brown building contains Brown Hall, the best hall in town, with a seating capacity of 800. This was one of many evidences of the progressiveness of the Brown brothers as business men and property improvers in LaGrange. After Jacob S. Brown left the drug business he was a grocery merchant, and finally sold out all his mercantile holdings and lived retired. He was very successful though his prosperity had come to him largely after he was fifty years of age. He died October 27, 1906.

On May 11, 1856, he married for his first wife Elizabeth Ingraham. Of their five children only two grew up: Ellen M., who was educated in the LaGrange High School and the County Normal School, was a successful teacher, later for some years was employed with the George P. Bent Piano Company in Chicago, and is now living at Highland Park, Illinois, unmarried; and Catherine E., who is the wife of Ira White, for many years a druggist in South Bend, and they have a daughter Jane, wife of William Duff, Jr., of LaGrange.

Jacob S. Brown and his second wife, who died January 5, 1917, aged seventy-two, had two children: Frederick J. and Caroline G., the latter the wife of Dr. H. B. Roberts and lives at Highland Park, Illinois.

Adrian D. Brown married Helena C. Chamberlain, a sister of his brother's wife. They had five children, Guy C., Harold, Mabel, Thaddeus and Charlotta, who is now deceased.

ROBERT BRUCE STEAD, who is one of the leading automobile salesmen in Northern Indiana, with home at LaGrange, was born in Greenfield Township of LaGrange County March 11, 1863, son of Jacob Pickett and Nancy Elizabeth (Elya) Stead, the former a native of England and the latter of New York State. The paternal grandparents were William T. and Hannah (Pickett) Stead, both born about seven miles from Leeds, Yorkshire, England. During the '30s they came to America and from White Pigeon, Michigan, settled in Greenfield Township, where William T. Stead died in 1867, when about seventy-three years of age, his wife having passed away in 1863. Their children were William, John, Thomas, George, Hannah, Joseph, Robert and Pickett. Jacob Pickett Stead grew up in LaGrange County, had a public school education, and owned a farm of eighty acres in Greenfield Township, now known as the Garletts farm. In 1873 he sold that place and moved to Mongo, and his wife died there in 1877. After that he lived in Greenfield Township until his death on February 19, 1905. He was for about fifteen years an extensive stock dealer. Politically he was a democrat, member of Orland Lodge of Masons, and one of the well known citizens of the county. His wife Nancy Elizabeth Elya was a daughter of David and Elizabeth (Green) Elya, who came from New York to LaGrange County in 1847 and settled in Springfield Township. David Elya was a carpenter by trade, and he and his two brothers-in-law, Francis Smith and Nathan Green, also carpenters, worked together and erected many of the old houses, barns and other buildings in Springfield and Springfield Township and also in Steuben County. Jacob Pickett Stead and wife had three children, Willis, the oldest, born in 1861 and dying in 1867; Robert Bruce was the second in age; Matilda was born December 6, 1870, became the wife of Harley Anderson. Her



two children were Charles, a farmer in Greenfield Township, who married a daughter of B. F. Swihart; and Lulu, wife of C. E. Truby. Mrs. Matilda Anderson died in 1896.

Robert Bruce Stead lived in Greenfield Township until he was ten years of age, and then lived at Mongo. He attended the public schools there. Since October, 1884, his home has been in Springfield Township. In 1887 he engaged in the mercantile business at Brushy Prairie and in 1891 rented the farm of Griffith F. Hall, his father-in-law, and continued farming until 1904. In the spring of that year he left the farm and became a salesman for the Belleville Foundry Company of Belleville, Illinois, and was on the road for that company for eleven years. In 1915 he began selling automobiles for the LaGrange Auto Company. Mr. Stead is a republican in politics.

October 30, 1886, he married Miss Florence Mabel Hall, who was born in Springfield Township October 10, 1870. Her father Griffith Foos Hall was born in Clark County, Ohio, April 2, 1832, a son of William and Lucinda (Hall) Hall. Griffith Hall was brought to Springfield Township by his parents in 1835 and grew up in the Brushy Prairie community. As a young man with a capital of \$1,000 he moved to Cass County, Michigan, and contracted for a \$10,000 farm. Through misfortune he was compelled to lose his investment and returned to Springfield Township with only \$600. In 1860 he bought 256 acres north of Brushy Prairie, adjoining the village, built a fine brick house, the first of its kind in the township, and was always known as one of the substantial men of that community. His first wife was Lucinda Bradford, daughter of Elder Bradford. They were married in 1857 and had three children, Charles, Franklin and Lucinda, all of whom are now deceased.

On December 31, 1865, Mr. Hall married Mrs. Mary A. Appleman, a daughter of David L. Poppino and widow of John W. Appleman. To their second marriage were born two children, the second dying in infancy.

Mr. and Mrs. Stead had two children. Frank C., born August 27, 1887, was educated in the Springfield Township High School, is a farmer by occupation but is now a salesman for the LaGrange Auto Company. December 25, 1905, he married Miss Dona Parr, who was born in Steuben County May 30, 1887, a daughter of John and Sylvia Parr of Kendallville. They have one child, Basil, born November 7, 1906. The second child of Mr. and Mrs. Stead was Bessie born December 1, 1898, and died February 8, 1900.

**CLAUDE L. CARPENTER.** Many of the government officials, especially those in charge of the postoffices of the country, have been appointed to these responsible positions as an honorable reward for party service rendered, but in no instance are they thus chosen unless fitted for the work in question and having the endorsement of the responsible men of their community. Claude L. Carpenter, postmaster of Pleasant Lake, Indiana, is one of the most efficient young men of Steuben County, and his selection for this office met with almost universal approval not only from the men of his own party but those of the opposing forces, who recognized his capabilities and sterling integrity. The original appointment was secured by civil service examination in competition.

Claude L. Carpenter was born at Pleasant Lake, Steuben County, Indiana, June 26, 1883, a son of Joseph J. Carpenter, grandson of John Carpenter, great-grandson of Thomas Carpenter, and great-great-grandson of John Carpenter. The last named gentleman was born in Virginia, and had the mis-

fortune to be captured by the Indians about 1750. As was the custom in those days, he had turned his horses loose in the woods, and went out to get them, when he was surprised by a band of hostile redskins and taken prisoner. They bound his hands with a leather strap, still preserved as a trophy by the Carpenter family, and led him away with his two horses. After they had journeyed about 150 miles, during which time John Carpenter learned that they proposed to take him to their village still several days' journey away, where he would be put to the torturous Indian death, and, watching his opportunity, he effected his own escape while the vigilance of his captors was relaxed, and also of his horses. Although the territory was entirely strange to him and he was without compass, his knowledge of woodcraft was such that he made his way back over the 150 miles, through dense forests a portion of the way, and crossed the Ohio River just one-half mile away from the point over which the Indians had taken him. His son, Thomas Carpenter, was born in a rail pen, near Marietta, Ohio, and is supposed to have been the first white child of the male sex born on this side of the Ohio River.

John Carpenter, son of Thomas Carpenter and grandson of John Carpenter of Virginia, was born in Coshocton County, Ohio, and his wife, who bore the maiden name of Sarah Casey, was born in Jefferson County, Ohio. After his marriage John Carpenter became a farmer of Defiance County, Ohio, and there he died in 1894, and his widow in 1904. Their children were as follows: William, Hannah, Poe, Ellen, John, Donia, Joseph J., and Susan.

Of the above named children, Joseph J. Carpenter is the father of Claude L. Carpenter, postmaster of Pleasant Lake, and his birth occurred in Defiance County, Ohio, December 3, 1854, while his wife, whom he married in 1882, was born in the same county, she having been Nellie J. Barr prior to her marriage, a daughter of James and Lucy (Close) Barr. Their children were as follows: Claude L., Nina M., Clair J., William B., and John W. In 1882 Joseph J. Carpenter came to Steuben County, Indiana, and, locating at Pleasant Lake, conducted a livery business here for about nine years, but in 1891 sold it and went back to Ohio. In the early part of 1897 he returned to Steuben County and bought a farm in Salem Township, which he conducted until February, 1908, when he sold this property and moved to Michigan, leaving it in December, 1909, to go to Virginia for two years. Once more he returned to Steuben Township, and is now engaged in operating his farm of forty acres in section 22, Steuben Township.

Claude L. Carpenter was reared at Pleasant Lake, where he received his intellectual training for a period, supplementing it with attendance upon the schools of Ohio and those of Salem Township, and completing his studies in the high school of Hudson. When he attained his majority he began farming in Salem Township, from which he moved after two years to Steuben Township and spent two years more. In October, 1909, Mr. Carpenter went to a farm in the vicinity of Newport News, Virginia, and was there engaged in business for four years, but left in January, 1913, to locate permanently at Pleasant Lake. While he was in Virginia he was a general salesman for the Auto Tread Company, his territory embracing Maryland, Virginia and North and South Carolina. For the first two years after his return to Pleasant Lake he was connected with the Lake Shore Railroad, leaving it to accept appointment as postmaster of Pleasant Lake on October 16, 1914. At that time the office belonged in the fourth class, but through his efforts the business

was so increased that it was put in the third class. He received the presidential appointment from President Wilson December 20, 1916, and has since continued in office.

On July 3, 1904, Mr. Carpenter was united in marriage with Leona Odessie Ransburg, a daughter of George W. Ransburg. Mr. and Mrs. Carpenter have the following children: Ruth V., who was born May 11, 1906; Frances O., who was born August 19, 1913; and Robert L., who was born July 18, 1916. Mr. Carpenter is a Mason. He has lived up to the best conceptions of manhood, and has rendered his government efficient and valuable service in his present position, as well as in a private capacity during the late war. He and his family, from which three brothers went into the army to fight against Germany, are recognized as being 100 per cent loyal Americans.

EDMUND BARNES, a well remembered citizen of LaGrange County, was born in Bloomfield Township February 28, 1853, a son of Edmund and Susan (Beardsley) Barnes. His parents came from Ohio to LaGrange County at a very early day, and acquired the land where their son Edmund was born, and in the midst of a clearing in the woods built their log cabin home. They lived there the rest of their days. Their family consisted of ten children: Matilda Maria, Jehile, Harriet, John, Elizabeth, Jane, Ephraim, William, Alice and Edmund. Of these Jehile was killed while a Union soldier. Only two are now living, Matilda and Harriet.

Edmund Barnes after his father's death remained on the homestead with his widowed mother, and when she died he went out to Kansas and spent two years. In 1881 he bought forty acres one mile north and one-quarter east of Plato, and his family have lived there since 1882. Later he added thirty-five acres and improved the land with good buildings before his death, which occurred in 1896.

On March 1, 1882, he married Charlotte Campbell. She was born in Ingham County, Michigan, a daughter of Marshall and Maria (Boyer) Campbell, who came from Pennsylvania and were early settlers in the woods of Ingham County. They had twelve children, Boyer, Catherine, Sarah, Daniel, Mathew, William, Homer H., Angeline, Mrs. Charlotte Barnes, Joseph, Marshall, Jr., and Maria. Of the twelve children Boyer, Daniel, William, Charlotte and Marshall are still living.

Mrs. Barnes, who with her son Walter and family live on the old homestead, had two children, Jennie M., born May 1, 1884, and Walter E., born December 24, 1885. Jennie is the wife of Claud C. Smith, a Mongo merchant and business man. Walter E. was born on the old home farm, and owing to the death of his father he has had the practical responsibilities of running the farm since he was fifteen years old. On May 6, 1908, he married Miss Cordelia Horner, a daughter of Elias M. Horner. They have two children: Ralph D., born September 20, 1910, and Mildred Arlene, born July 23, 1914.

CLAUD C. SMITH. A great deal of the business history of the old Village of Mongo centers around members of the Smith family. Claud C. Smith has been a business man there for fifteen years or more, formerly a hardware merchant, and now a partner in the grain elevator.

His father, the late well remembered and stanch old character of Mongo, George Smith, helped make business and community history in this part of LaGrange County. George Smith was born in Springfield Township, on his father's farm, in 1843, a son of George W. and Jane (Gray) Smith, the former a native of New York State and the latter of Con-

necticut. George W. Smith came at a very early date to Indiana and located at Mongo, where he conducted what was probably the first real hotel in the village. That hotel stood on the site now occupied by the Dan Garlets residence. This was in stage coach days, and the stage between Fort Wayne and Sturgis made regular stops at the Smith Inn or hotel. George W. Smith was in the hotel business only about a year and then moved to the farm where his son George lived so long. George W. Smith acquired 500 acres of land in Indiana and cleared up much of it and made the first improvements. Later he and his wife retired from the farm and spent their last days in Mongo. Their children were three, George, Sophia, wife of Emory Rodgers, and Charles.

George Smith received his education in the old Ontario Seminary and attended school there one year after his marriage. As a young man he was a farmer and teacher, but later went back to his father's old farm and had 200 acres which received his particular attention. He put up good buildings, but in 1906 he built a home in Mongo and lived retired there until his death December 12, 1912. He was a township trustee many years and active in all local matters. He was also affiliated with the Independent Order of Odd Fellows as a charter member of the Lodge at LaGrange, and as a Knight of Pythias helped build the Knights of Pythias Hall at Mongo. He married, March 12, 1871, Miss Mary Adaline Colwell. She was born at Mongo, a daughter of John and Margaret (Wilson) Colwell, both natives of Ohio. The Colwell family also had a part in the early activities of Mongo. John Colwell on coming to Indiana established a blacksmith shop on the site now occupied by the home of Alice Garlets. He was the village blacksmith for many years. He and his wife lived in the home now occupied by Doctor Grubb, and died there. In the Colwell family were five children: Wesley, Catherine, Charles, Mary Adaline and Hugh, Mrs. George Smith being the only survivor. She became the mother of three children: Harriett, Claud C. and Opal, and of these Claud C. alone remains.

Claud C. Smith was born at Mongo November 19, 1879, attended the Mongo High School and the Tri-State Normal at Angola, where he graduated in 1899 with the Bachelor of Science degree. While a student at Angola he enlisted June 21, 1898, in Company H of the One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Volunteer Infantry. Like most of the volunteers of the Spanish-American war, he spent his time in a training camp, being sent to Fort Tampa and also to Ferninda. On the first of October he was returned to Indianapolis, where he was mustered out. Mr. Smith taught one year in Steuben County and for five years was principal of the high school at Mongo. Another two years he farmed his father's place and then engaged in the hardware business, establishing the first exclusive hardware stock in the village. His stock was first housed in an old frame building on the west side of Main Street. When this building burned it was replaced by Mr. Smith by a substantial brick block which still stands as a monument to his enterprise. He individually built and owned the block, but for five years his business partner as a merchant was L. Haskins. He sold out his mercantile interests in 1915. Besides handling hardware the firm also did an extensive business in the buying and selling of live stock. For the past four years Mr. Smith has been a partner with Mr. Wingard in the grain elevator at Mongo, which they bought from William Hawk.

Mr. Smith is affiliated with the LaGrange Lodge of Masons, with the Knights of Pythias at Mongo, and with the Elks Lodge at Kendallville. He mar-



died April 19, 1905, Jennie M. Barnes, of LaGrange County, daughter of Edmund Barnes. They have one son, Hubert B., born September 25, 1906.

DR. C. A. GARDNER. Among the professional men of Kendallville, Indiana, is Dr. Cyrus Alvin Gardner, who has been in the practice of medicine and surgery in that place for the past fifteen years.

Doctor Gardner was born in Fairfield Township, DeKalb County, Indiana, January 10, 1875, a son of Henry and Sarah (Miller) Gardner. His father was a native of Pennsylvania and his mother of Ohio. His father, at the age of six years, moved with his parents to Holmes County, Ohio, where he grew to manhood. In 1845 he located on a farm in DeKalb County, Indiana, being one of the early pioneers of the county. He remained on the same farm until 1899, when he moved to Kendallville, where he lived until his death.

Doctor Gardner was born and reared on a farm. He received his preliminary education in the district school, graduating from the grades in 1893. In September of the same year he entered the academic department of Wittenberg College at Springfield, Ohio, graduating from that department in the spring of 1895. In the fall of the same year he entered Wittenberg College, completing the course in the spring of 1899 with the degree of A. B. He was prominent in student affairs in college. He was president of his senior class and was also especially active in athletics. He was a member of the college track team and of the varsity football team, being captain of the college team when Wittenberg gained the Ohio championship. He is a member of the Greek letter fraternity, Phi Gamma Delta.

In the fall of 1899 Doctor Gardner entered Rush Medical College at Chicago and completed his course there June 18, 1902, receiving the degree of M. D. The same year he received from Wittenberg College the degree of A. M. Immediately after graduating from Rush Medical College Doctor Gardner located in Kendallville, Indiana, where he has gained a high reputation in medical circles. He is secretary of the Board of Health and Charities of Kendallville, is surgeon for the Ft. Wayne and Northwestern Railroad, and was acting surgeon for the New York Central Lines in 1918. He is an active member of the Noble County Medical Society, the Indiana State Medical Society and of the American Medical Association.

Doctor Gardner was married in Chicago November 12, 1901, to Etta Mae Barringer of Springfield, Ohio. They are members of the Presbyterian Church and he is a Knight Templar Mason.

WILLIAM H. DUFF, who has been a resident of LaGrange County for half a century, and has been prominent as a farmer, teacher and public official, was born at Rochester, New York, December 26, 1852, son of William and Eliza (Burns) Duff. William Duff was born at Ballina, County Mayo, Ireland, and was married in that country and about 1849 crossed the ocean to Montreal, Canada, and the following year came to the United States. He and his family located in Indiana in 1860. The parents of Eliza Burns were Edward and Mary (Wilson) Burns, natives of Ireland, who came to the United States about 1859.

William H. Duff was seventeen years old when he came to Indiana. He had attended common schools and finished his education in the Collegiate Institute at Ontario. For fourteen years in the town of Lima he farmed and taught school. He has also served as justice of the peace, was clerk of the circuit court from 1893 to 1901, was prosecuting attorney two years, and served as juvenile judge

in vacation. A prominent republican, he served as county chairman of his party in 1894-96.

Mr. Duff is a charter member of Lima Lodge of the Knights of Pythias and a member of the Methodist Church.

March 30, 1876, at Ontario, Indiana, he married Harriet M. Keith, daughter of James M. and Catherine A. (Brown) Keith. She was born at Lima, Indiana, in 1853. Her father, James M. Keith, was born at Nelson in Madison County, New York, February 25, 1811, son of Simeon and Hannah (Taft) Keith. Catherine Abigail Brown was born in Columbia County, New York, December 8, 1817. She and James M. Keith were married at Lima in LaGrange County, December 17, 1837, and they and their family constituted pioneers in Northeast Indiana.

Judge Duff and wife have four children: William Burns Duff, a native of Lima, who married Jane E. White of LaGrange; James K. Duff, who married Bess L. Gilbert; Enid E. Duff, who is the wife of Edwin C. Brant of LaGrange; and Mildred C. Dickinson.

G. A. BRILLHART. For over thirty years G. A. Brillhart was identified with the business affairs and civic life of Kendallville. He was a very able merchant, but is also remembered because of his substantial qualities as a citizen, the liberal efforts he expended in behalf of church and other local institutions, and he well earned the esteem which followed his memory.

Mr. Brillhart, who died at his home in Kendallville, February 8, 1899, was born in Summit County, Ohio, November 28, 1835. He acquired a common school education and for a number of years was a successful teacher. While teaching he also worked as a bookkeeper for the merchants, doing this to pay his board. He finally left off teaching and became a bookkeeper for a firm at Liberty, Ohio. In that town in 1855, he married Miss Amanda Spangler.

A year after his marriage he again resumed teaching, and lived for several years at Edgerton, Ohio. In 1866 he came to Kendallville and here for thirty years was a leading implement and hardware merchant. He built up a large business and he also profited by his keen foresight, and his extensive knowledge of business and affairs. He was always kind and sympathetic, and gave liberally of his means for charitable work, especially under the auspices of the Methodist Episcopal Church, of which he was an active member. He was also a member and past noble grand of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, and in politics was a republican.

He was survived by Mrs. Brillhart, who died July 12, 1918. She was one of the noble women of Kendallville, a sincere worker in the Methodist Episcopal Church, and beloved by all who knew her, especially by the children, who had what amounted to a veneration for this good and kindly woman.

Mr. and Mrs. Brillhart had three children, but the only one now living is Ida L. Brillhart. Ida was reared and educated at Kendallville, and had a high school course. She married Jehu Miller, who was born and educated in Ohio. Mrs. Miller has one daughter, Gertrude, who was educated in the Indianapolis High School and attended college at Washington.

For the past nineteen years Mrs. Ida L. Miller has been a very successful business woman and has an office through which many important transactions in real estate and loans have been made. She is a member and liberal supporter of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

GEORGE M. WHITE. One of the prominent merchants of LaGrange, George M. White is a son of that old time and honored physician of the county, the late Dr. Edward G. White.

George M. White was born at LaGrange, September 28, 1865. His birthplace was the house he lives in today. He was educated in grammar and high schools and on April 1, 1887, engaged in the grocery business with his brother, Ira. They were associated for ten years, at the end of which period George bought out his brother and has conducted an individual business now for over twenty years. In politics he is a republican and is serving as a member of the Town Board.

In 1901 he married Mary Horning, a native of Lima Township.

Dr. Edward G. White, father of George M. White, was born in Wayne County, New York, March 22, 1830, son of Ira and Jane G. (Bennie) White, the former a native of Vermont and the latter of New York City. Doctor White was an infant when his mother died and in 1836 accompanied his father to Maumee City, Ohio. His father died there when Doctor White was twelve years of age and about a year later he returned to the State of New York. In 1845 he again made his home at Maumee City, and began learning the trade of printer. In 1847 he went to Columbus, Ohio, and for about four years worked in the offices of the State Journal and the Ohio Statesman. In the summer of 1850 he again visited his native state and the following winter took up the study of medicine in the Sterling Medical College at Columbus, Ohio, and had some of the most eminent physicians and surgeons of the time among his instructors. He graduated in February, 1854, practiced a few years in Licking County, Ohio, and in July, 1857, came to LaGrange, Indiana. Except for the period of the Civil War he was steadily engaged in practice and his services were appreciated over a wide extent of territory in and around LaGrange for more than forty years until his death in October, 1901.

Immediately after the battle of Stone River in 1863, Doctor White received a telegram from Governor Morton to gather as many surgeons as possible and report for special duty at Nashville and Murfreesboro. Having carried out this instruction with his characteristic promptness, Doctor White contracted as an acting assistant surgeon in the Union Army and remained engaged in those duties until the close of the war. In later years he was examining surgeon for applicants for pensions and was also examiner for the Knights of Honor and a number of other insurance companies. He also at one time held the office of trustee of Bloomfield Township.

In 1856 Doctor White married Agnes R. Murch, of Licking County, Ohio. She died in 1909. Their two sons to reach manhood are Ira R. and George M. Ira R. White was born at LaGrange, in June, 1861, graduating from the LaGrange High School in 1878, with the first class that had a formal commencement. He was in the drug business with Charles Allen, later with Seth McDonald, and finally sold out his interest in that partnership and bought a local grocery business and for ten years he and his brother George were partners. About 1897 Ira White moved to South Bend, Indiana, where for over twenty years he has been in the drug business. He married Kittie Brown and has a daughter, Jean, now the wife of William B. Duff, Jr., of LaGrange.

ROBERT WILLIAM MCCLASKEY was born at LaGrange, Indiana, on July 4, 1886. He is the son of John Edgar and Alta Ione (Crampton) McClaskey.

The McClaskey family originated in Scotland. The traditional ancestor married one of the daughters of the famous Robert Bruce, King of Scotland. The McClaskey clan were loyal supporters of the House of Stewart, which for years was the ruling dynasty of Scotland. A large majority of the male members of the family lost their lives at the battle of Flodden Field, where they vainly died in the cause of "Bonnie Prince Charlie" Stewart. The family were strict Presbyterians, and to gain greater freedom, most of the McClaskey family name moved to counties Antrim and Down, in Ireland.

In the eighteenth century several of this family immigrated from Ireland to America and settled in New Jersey, Maryland, and Virginia, and records show that those of this name participated on the side of the colonists in the American Revolution.

Jacob McClaskey, paternal great-grandfather of Robert William, was born on the Juniata River, in Perry County, Pennsylvania. He was the only child of his parents. His father died, the mother remarrying a Mr. Dean and having two children, Samuel and a girl who married John Straus. Jacob McClaskey grew up along the Juniata River in Pennsylvania and moved to Beaver County, Pennsylvania, where he married Margaret Lowry. Margaret (Lowry) McClaskey was the daughter of Robert Lowry, who had nine children: John, Frank, Robert (father of the late Judge Robert Lowry of Fort Wayne, Indiana), James, Alexander, one other son, Jane, who married a Beatty; Mary, who died unmarried; and Margaret, who married great-grandfather Jacob McClaskey.

In 1819 Jacob McClaskey moved to near Mansfield, Ohio, and then moved to Leesville, Crawford County, Ohio, where he was elder in the Presbyterian Church and a strict abolitionist. He here conducted a station on the "Underground Railroad," freeing runaway slaves. In his old age he lived with children in Steuben County, Indiana. He died January 6, 1871, aged eighty years, two months, ten days. His wife, Margaret (Lowry) McClaskey, died January 2, 1861, aged sixty-nine years, five months, twenty-five days.

Jacob McClaskey's children were: Jane, who married John Clements; Robert (paternal grandfather); Rebecca, who married Dr. John McKean; Lydia, who married Peter West; Mary Ann, who married Abram Hemery; Nancy, who married Thomas Parsons; and Julia Ann, who married Joseph Thomas.

The paternal grandfather, Robert McClaskey, was born January 15, 1815, in a log house which stood on what was then the spot where three counties in Pennsylvania joined, namely: Beaver, Butler and Mercer counties. When he was four years old his parents moved to near Mansfield, Ohio, and later to Leesburg, in Crawford County. There, in 1836, he married Hannah Dwinell. In 1844 he traded his farm in Ohio for 100 acres adjoining LaGrange, in LaGrange County, Indiana. He and his family, with their goods, came with teams and wagons to LaGrange, Indiana, in October, 1844, passing through the Black Swamp, near Van Wert, Ohio. The first court to be assembled in LaGrange was in session in the frame courthouse when they arrived. Robert McClaskey's house was located where Hotel Ruick now stands. He had a shoe shop where the Platts Marble Works is now located. There he employed several men and made most of the boots and shoes for the town. He gradually added to his farm until he had 200 acres adjoining the town on the east. He bought and laid out several subdivisions in the town. He was not forward in disposition but was a leader, very erect in bearing, being 6



feet 1 inch tall. He with Doctor Butler, Joe Wade, Zoph Scidmore and a few others started the first organization of the republican party in LaGrange County in 1856. In later life he built a large house on his farm on the hill to the east of LaGrange and resided there until his death, October 18, 1900. Robert McClaskey's first wife died at LaGrange and he was married in 1851 to Hannah (Humiston) Durand, the widow of Amasi Durand, a farmer who owned land adjoining LaGrange. The widow had two sons, George and Ira Durand, who lived with the McClaskeys after their mother's second marriage. Robert McClaskey's second wife died in 1885.

Robert McClaskey's children by his first wife were: Rachel, deceased, aged sixteen, in 1854; Julia, unmarried, now living in LaGrange; Margaret, who married Charles R. Moon and is living in St. Joseph, Michigan, a widow; Rebecca, who married Norman Sessions, both living at Hawks Park, Florida; Nancy Adeline, who married E. G. Machan, both living in Elkhart, Indiana. By his second wife Robert McClaskey had two sons: Miles Robert, who died in 1898, aged forty-six; he was a lawyer in LaGrange, Indiana; John Edgar, the youngest of the family and father of our subject.

John Edgar McClaskey was born at LaGrange October 23, 1854, and died there April 25, 1905. He grew up at LaGrange, taught school at Shipshewana one year, then attended Indiana University at Bloomington, and was graduated there in 1879. He belonged to the Phi Delta Theta fraternity. After graduation he returned to LaGrange and studied law in the office of ——— Glascoe, was admitted to the bar and in 1884 opened a law office for himself; 1886-1888 he served as prosecuting attorney of LaGrange and Elkhart counties. He was elected a member of the LaGrange school board and served eight years. He always took an active part in republican politics, starting when he was a boy as captain of the "Grant Sprouts," a local campaign organization of note. For several years he served as republican county chairman, and was a factor in district and state politics. As a young man he sang in a local campaign organization called the "Hungry Six." He was a lawyer of unusual ability, a ready speaker before a jury, and an exacting and profound reasoner. In 1900 he formed a law partnership with Frank J. Dunten under the firm name of McClaskey and Dunten.

Mr. McClaskey was married March 24, 1885, to Alta Ione Crampton. She still resides in LaGrange, Indiana. She was born on the home farm of her parents, in Van Buren Township, LaGrange County, of William and Emily (Cook) Crampton. The former served as county commissioner of LaGrange County and was a leading farmer. Extended mention of the Crampton family is given elsewhere in this history under heading of G. E. Crampton. The children of John Edgar and Alta I. (Crampton) McClaskey were: Robert William, Lura Emily, who resides with her mother in LaGrange; and Charles Edgar, who is engaged in the life insurance business at LaGrange, Indiana.

Robert William McClaskey grew up in LaGrange and was graduated from LaGrange High School in 1904. While in high school he took an active part in debating and public speaking and was editor of the high school magazine. He taught school several years in the county, at Mongo, Plato, Woodruff, and as an instructor in LaGrange High School. In the summers he worked for different concerns engaged in the publication of county histories and at one time is very proud to say that he worked for the Lewis Publishing Company, who are publishing this edition. Thus he saved enough money to put

himself through college. He was graduated from Indiana University Law School in June, 1913, one of the honor men of his class. While in college he belonged to the Delta Tau Delta fraternity and also to the honorary law fraternity, Phi Delta Phi. On January 18, 1911, he was admitted to the bar at Bloomington, Indiana, and practiced law one year there as a partner of Elmer Williams under the firm name of Williams and McClaskey. Subsequently he was admitted to practice in the Indiana Supreme Court and the United States District Court.

Robert William McClaskey naturally developed an interest in republican politics. In 1914 he was elected as representative from the LaGrange-Steuben district to the 1915 session of the Indiana State Legislature, and served on the Judiciary Committee which drafted the Indiana Workmen's Compensation Law. In 1916 he was re-elected to the 1917 session of the Legislature, where he served as chairman of the Insurance Committee and the "Plunder" Committee and acted as republican "whip" on the majority side of the house. He then engaged in the investment security business in Indianapolis and promoted, among other concerns, the Indiana Motor Company, of which he is president. This concern is one of the largest state distributors of automobiles and trucks in Indiana. In 1919 he became a member of the legal staff of the Indianapolis branch of the Travelers' Insurance Company.

Mr. McClaskey was married on June 1, 1914, to Louise Hite Ferrell. She is a native of Louisville, Kentucky, and a daughter of Louis H. and Dorsey (Weatherford) Ferrell, both from old Kentucky families. Robert William and Louise (Ferrell) McClaskey have one son, Robert Bruce McClaskey, born at Hutchinson, Kansas, on September 30, 1915. The McClaskeys live at 3510 North Meridan Street, Indianapolis.

JOHN A. SPERO was born at Applemanburg, in LaGrange County, September 28, 1854. In the course of a busy lifetime he has spent many years away from the scenes of his childhood, and there is probably not a resident of LaGrange County who is more widely traveled and has seen more of the many sided culture and activities of this country than Mr. Spero. Again and again, however, he has returned to what he regards as the garden spot of Indiana, and to-day he is enjoying a quiet routine of activities on the land where he was born.

Mr. Spero prefers the simplified spelling of his family name, though many of them spell it Spearow. His father, John Spearow, was born in Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, January 12, 1821, son of James and Susanna (Stauffer) Spearow. He came to Springfield Township, LaGrange County, with his parents in 1846, and in 1854 rented land from Benjamin Jones, and two years later went out to Polk County, Iowa, where he lived for many years. Then after a brief visit to LaGrange County he and his brother James set out over the western trail for Pike's Peak. He was gone less than a year. John Spearow in the fall of 1861 enlisted in Company H, Forty-Fourth Indiana Infantry. He was in service until honorably discharged at Nashville on account of disability on January 20, 1863. In the meantime he did a soldier's part in the battles of Fort Donelson, Shiloh and Perrysville. On returning home he worked four years for Peter McKinley and then bought a farm in Springfield Township. For a number of years he carried mail from Brushy Prairie to Kendallville and from Brushy Prairie to Lima, Indiana.

On October 24, 1853, John Spearow married Louisa J. Curtiss. She was born in Monroe County, New York, a daughter of Alanson and Paulina



(Hall) Curtiss, formerly of New York. She died March 1, 1879, the mother of three children, John A. and James H., residents of Springfield Township; and Schuyler C., of California. On June 13, 1880, John Spearow married Anna G. Maybee, a daughter of Cornelius Maybee, of New Jersey. John Spearow after leaving his farm in Springfield Township lived for some time at Appelmanburg, also at Wright's Corners, now Woodruff, and also had his home in Springfield Township, near the present site of Valley Bethel Church. For a number of years he was a resident of Kendallville, and while there was employed by Kriwvitz Brothers, millers. He died very suddenly while on a visit to the old Rogers homestead in Springfield Township. Alanson Curtiss was a brilliant subject, his father being a prominent lawyer in Ireland. Alanson was an old-time school teacher, attorney at law, justice of the peace, postmaster, and took an active part in public debates. He was an ardent believer in the pure democratic principles. His wife, Paulina (Hill) Curtiss, was born in Vermont. Their son John was killed in the battle of Shiloh by the side of John Spearow, father of John A. John A. Spero grew up in LaGrange County, and during his boyhood days worked at farming. He attended the old Red Eagle schoolhouse in Springfield Township, later the Mongo schools, and his last term of instruction was under the late Samuel Bradford, one of the best teachers LaGrange County ever had.

Mr. Spero was endowed with the gift of music, and that gift he improved by long study under some of the best masters, and for years he exercised his talents to cheer and entertain. As a boy he attended the old-time singing schools. During 1874-5 he was a student in the Fort Wayne Conservatory of Music. Later he took private lessons under Dr. Luther Orland Emerson of Boston, a cousin of Ralph Waldo Emerson, under Dr. H. R. Palmer of New York City, and still later was a student of D. C. McAlister, who prepared him to sing at the Columbian Exposition at Chicago in 1893. At intervals through all these years he was a teacher of music in Indiana, Michigan, Nebraska and Kansas. For two years he was associated with Mason Long in touring the states of Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana and Iowa. Mr. Spero organized the male quartet known as the "Hoosier Hummers," which sang at the Michigan State Prohibition Convention. Mr. Spero has composed the music for a number of song books in general use. He was a member of the Orpheus Club of Oakland, California, composed of 100 selected voices, the greatest male chorus on the Pacific Coast.

Mr. Spero left San Francisco just ninety days before the earthquake of 1906. He then went to Montana and participated in drawing for the Flat Head Reservation. His ticket bore the number 992 and entitled him to 160 acres, but he never filed on the homestead. He came back by way of Pike's Peak, climbing the old mountain over the same trail that his father and Uncle James had gone in the early '60s. Mr. Spero has spent much time in New Mexico, and in Florida looking after lands of his brother Schuyler.

In early life he learned the trade of painter, and followed it as a means of livelihood for forty-four years. He has done work on the finest residences and public buildings in LaGrange County. In his happy environment in the country in Springfield Township he has applied his energies successfully to the specialty of breeding fancy poultry, and his stock has won many prizes at the midwinter poultry shows. In politics Mr. Spero was for many years an active prohibitionist, but is now affiliated

as a republican. He is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows at LaGrange.

On January 1, 1878, he married Miss Alice Elizabeth Deal, who was born in Springfield Township November 29, 1857. Mr. Spero built the house now owned by Howard Perkins at Appelmanburg. He traded that to Doctor Sherrow for a drug business at Helmer, and after being in the drug business for a time traded for the Levi Deal farm in Springfield Township. Seven years later he traded that property for eighty acres, including the south half of the old Greenfield farm, and then traded with Dr. A. K. Hammond for property in Fort Wayne. On selling his Fort Wayne interests he bought the Brushy Prairie property, where he now resides, and which was his birthplace.

Mr. Spero and wife have two daughters: B. Inez, who was born February 2, 1881, at Appelmanburg, was educated in the public schools of that village and Helmer, and is the wife of Clyde E. Hammond, who is in the automobile business at Howe. Daisy Nevada, the second daughter, was born December 8, 1886, was educated at Appelmanburg and Helmer, and is the wife of Roy Vail, proprietor of the Omaha Tapestry Paint Company, a thriving local industry of LaGrange. Mr. and Mrs. Vail have a son, Ralph Spero Vail, born January 10, 1911.

Mrs. Spero was educated in the public schools and the Orland Seminary, taught several terms of district schools and has shared her husband's tastes in music. She was of much assistance to him in his musical career and accompanied him on concert tours. She is a daughter of Henry and Helen (Wade) Deal. Her mother was a daughter of Robert Wade. Henry Deal was born in Marion County, Ohio, February 22, 1832, while his wife was born in LaGrange County May 1, 1838. They were married January 1, 1855. Their two children were Alice E. and Willis H., the latter a prominent real estate man of Paulding County, Ohio.

Henry Deal came to LaGrange County in 1854 with his parents, Conrad and Elizabeth Deal. At the age of twenty-one he began learning the carpenter's trade and followed it until 1857, when he bought a farm of 120 acres in Springfield Township. He improved this land, and he later moved to Appelmanburg and built a fine residence and subsequently sold his farm. He and his son Willis attended the Centennial Exposition at Philadelphia in 1876. He held the office of township assessor for several years and was a trustee of Springfield Township. Henry Deal died at the Village of Appelmanburg December 28, 1913, and his widow is still living in that village.

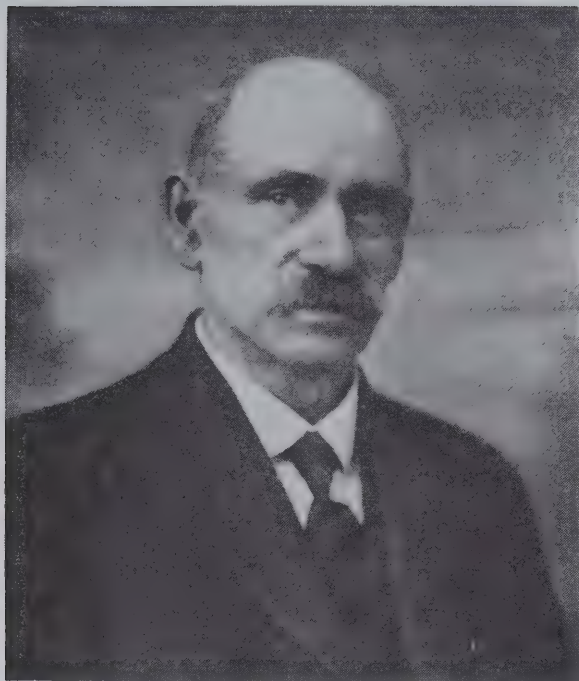
**BENJAMIN J. NORRIS.** There are several branches of the Norris family in Northeast Indiana, including the well-known Clay Township farmer and land owner, Benjamin J. Norris, and these different families trace their origin to Huntingdon County, Pennsylvania, where the Norrises have been prominent as land owners and farmers since prior to the Revolutionary war.

Benjamin J. Norris was born in Penn Township, Huntingdon County, July 10, 1854. His great-grandfather was Joseph Norris, who married Elizabeth Enyert. Their son, Joseph Norris, Jr., born in Huntingdon County, married Rachel Mason, a native of Bedford County, Pennsylvania. Joseph, Jr., also spent his life as a Huntingdon County farmer, and his children were Allison, Mary Ann, Jackson and Washington.

Allison Norris, who was born in Penn Township, married Elizabeth Hoover, a native of the same township and county, daughter of Ludwig







*Wm. J. Owen*



*Roma J. Owen.*



and Catherine (Grove) Hoover. Ludwig Hoover was a life-long farmer in Huntingdon County. By his marriage to Catherine Grove he had children named Elizabeth, Benjamin, Jacob, and Catherine, and for his second wife he married Mary Nickedemus, and had three children, David, John and Sophia. From Pennsylvania Allison Norris came to Clay Township of LaGrange County during the spring of 1876, locating on a farm in section 28. He lived there until his death on August 22, 1902, and his wife passed away December 11, 1902. Their family were Susanna, Benjamin J., Joseph, Martha, Horatius, deceased, and Harry and Anna, twins, the latter deceased. Allison Norris was a member of the Lutheran Church, while his wife belonged to the German Reformed denomination.

Benjamin J. Norris acquired his education in his native township and county and was about twenty-one years of age when in November, 1875, he came to LaGrange County. In the following spring he went on the farm with his father in section 28, and he lived there continuously and operated the land as a practical farmer until the spring of 1918, when he rented his land and moved to section 25 of Clay Township, just outside the corporation limits of LaGrange. He has a pleasant home for his declining years, and his prosperity is well deserved. He still owns a 160-acre farm in section 28. Mr. Norris has been honored with official position, having served nine years in the board of supervisors in Clay Township.

He married Anna Fink, daughter of Jacob and Antha (Hall) Fink. Mrs. Norris died February 21, 1918, the mother of three children: Jacob Earl, who married Alta Mehl; David Clem, who married Della Johnson; while the youngest is Belva May, still at home with her father.

CHARLES EUGENE TALMAGE lived a life of quiet and effective purpose and for many years was one of the prosperous farmers of Springfield Township, LaGrange County.

He was born on the homestead of his father, Elisha Talmage, April 18, 1856, and died on the same farm June 24, 1910. Other pages contain reference to his kindred and ancestry. All his life he was a farmer, owned the old homestead in Springfield Township, and found his chief interest in his home and farm. He was a republican voter.

March 30, 1876, he married Emma Jane Joyce. She was born at Burr Oak, Michigan, a daughter of Dr. James William and Abbie Jane (Sherwood) Joyce. Her maternal grandfather was Isaac Sherwood, a pioneer of LaGrange County. Mrs. Talmage had a brother, Charles Elliott, who is now living in Cass County, Nebraska. Charles E. Joyce married Grace Clizbee, by whom he had one son, James W., and for his second wife married Viola Calkins and their four children are Charles, James, Charlotte and Marjorie.

The old Talmage homestead is now owned by Mrs. Talmage and her daughter Lura, who is their only child. Lura was born January 27, 1877, and is the wife of Dr. Robert Wade of Fremont. Mrs. Talmage makes her home in Fremont. She was educated in public schools and the Orland Academy.

MILLARD F. OWEN became the first freight and ticket agent at Rome City, and for forty years held that position, and during that time his personal energies and influence have had as much to do with the upbuilding and broadening of Rome City as could be credited to any other one man.

Mr. Owen spent his early life in Michigan and is a native of Canada. He has an interesting ancestry. On his own account he has done much to add in-

terest to the early history of the family. A Canadian kinsman of Mr. Owen in a published work has had this to say: "This branch of the Owen family are noted for originality in devising methods, for love of variety in industrial pursuits, and a tendency to roam." Many of them have been inclined to mechanical pursuits and there were a number of millers among the Owens. A few of them have taken kindly to the soil, a rural environment not being in harmony with their tastes.

The original stock was an old and influential Welsh clan. Some of the more famous of the descendants were Dr. John Owen, the Non-conformist divine; Richard Owen, the great naturalist; Robert Owen, the distinguished organizer and social theorist; his sons Robert Dale Owen and Richard Dale Owen. About 1400 occurred the Owen Glenow's Rebellion, practically the last rebellion of the Welsh in the British Isles. This involved several members of the Owen family. Two and a half centuries later some of the Owens proved doughty Royalists, and held out to the last against Cromwell and his army.

It was as a result of the English revolution of that period that Ludlow Owen and his two sons Richard and George, came to America. Later generations were divided in allegiance, some of them being staunch Tories while others were identified with the Colonies in their struggle for independence. There were two brothers of the family, Jesse and Abner Owen, who were on opposite sides at the battle of Lundy's Lane in the War of 1812.

The younger of these brothers was Rev. Jesse Owen, whose father Epenetus moved from New York to Canada about 1825, and was connected with a firm which erected mills near Simcoe, Canada. Epenetus was soon afterwards killed in an accident in the mill. Rev. Jesse Owen was born at Chemung, New York, September 29, 1787. In 1807 he married Anna Winter. He moved to Canada in 1830. He was ordained a minister and was active in work until superannuated in 1852. He died in 1878 at the age of ninety-one. He and his wife had a large family of children, including Joel Winter Owen. Joel Winter Owen was born at the foot of Genesee Lake in New York state March 28, 1817, and died at Otsego in Allegan County, Michigan, March 3, 1902. He married Cynthia Kitchen of Province of Ontario, April 5, 1843, and she died in August, 1844. Their only son, Egbert A., who was born July 12, 1844, and died May 1, 1908, became a prominent business man and always remained a subject of the Queen.

August 14, 1850, Joel Owen married Mary Woodbeck. She was born in New York state, daughter of John and Jane Woodbeck, and died at her home at Otsego, Michigan, May 2, 1914. Joel W. Owen was first a cloth dresser by trade, but after his second marriage owned and operated a combination of milling interests including saw mill, grist mill, carding mill, fulling mill, and spinning looms. For many years he lived and was in business at Nanticoke Falls, Townsend, Norfolk County, Ontario. He was appointed a crown official, but later became involved in some way in the Canadian rebellion, and in 1857 he sought a new home at Plainwell, Michigan, where he established the first mill. He was both in the lumber and flour mill business in Allegan County. In later years he was a member of the Congregational Church, in politics was a republican, served as a member of the Town Council on the prohibition ticket and was elected a justice of the peace. Joel and Mary Owen had the following children: Millard F.; Cynthia J., now living at Otsego, Michigan, wife of Eber W. Sherwood; Jesse, born in 1858 and never married, has

had a varied and successful business career as a flour manufacturing expert and in the course of his business and for pleasure has visited almost every section of the globe; Cora, wife of William Jones, living at Otsego, Michigan.

Mr. Millard F. Owen of Rome City was the first son of Joel and Mary Woodbeck Owen. He was born at Nanticoke Falls, Townsend, Norfolk County, Ontario, July 4, 1851, and was six years old when his parents moved to Allegan County, Michigan. He lived in that county, in Kalamazoo County and Barry County during his youth, and received a common school education. At the age of twenty-one he had a responsible place in the flour mills and warehouse business of his father. He learned telegraphy at Otsego in the office of the old Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railway, and began his practical career with the Grand Rapids and Indiana Railroad, then known as the Continental Improvement Company. He worked up and down the road while it was in process of construction as an extra operator and agent until September 26, 1874. He was an operator and ticket clerk at Sturgis, Michigan, until December 16, 1874, at which date he was appointed the first freight and ticket agent at Rome City, Indiana.

During the long period of his service at this work Mr. Owen has given his best energies to building up and conducting the Sylvan Lake Resort. For years his official title during the summer months was superintendent of grounds. For many years he has been secretary-manager of the Rome City Row Boat Company. He was president and manager of the Rome City Steam Packet Company during its life, and also auditor of the old J. H. House Boat Manufacturing Company. He was auditor of the first telephone company at Rome City. He was first assistant secretary, then auditor, and then auditor and president of the Island Park Assembly Association. He has also been financially interested in the Rome City Ice Company and the Owen & Cobbs Ice Cream factory, and operated the Island Hotel and Restaurant from 1896 to 1916. He was interested in opening up and conducting the Spring Beach Hotel during its first years and was owner of the Sylvan Lake Hotel from 1901 to 1904. He was associated in the ownership of South Bluffs and Pleasant Point Cottage Plats, and for the last four years owned the Lakeside House.

While an active democrat, Mr. Owen has not been a seeker for official honors. However, he was honored with a place on the County Council four years and for one term was on the Orange Township Advisory Board.

Apart from his material achievements and experience Mr. Owen is a notable man for the diversity of his interests and avocations. He has accumulated a library of 400 volumes, mostly history, travels and scientific works. Of especial interest in his home locality is his compilation of forty volumes of "Rome City Scraps," including much valuable information concerning all this part of Indiana. In fact he probably has more information, the result of years of collecting, on that vicinity than can be found in any other connection in existence. For a number of years he has been compiling in manuscript form a continuous narrative gathered from these volumes covering a period of forty-four years. Mr. Owen possesses some very old publications, and books issued 100 years ago, and some nearly 300 years ago. He has also collected many implements and curios of the past, including wool and flax spinners, bronze lard lamps, tin lanterns, candle molds, forceps, pistols and other "painful instruments."

June 26, 1876, Mr. Owen married Mrs. Mary Houghton, daughter of William R. and Amanda Truesdale. She was born in December, 1850, at Norfolk, Ohio, and died at Rome City July 4, 1898. There are three living children of this marriage. Lura De, born April 11, 1877, at Rome City, married October 2, 1895, to Clement G. Routsong. Mr. and Mrs. Routsong were railway agents and telegraph operators for the Baltimore & Ohio until four years ago, and are now merchants at Wolcottville, Indiana. They have two daughters, Pauline De, born September 30, 1896, at Rome City, Indiana, and Maxine, born December 6, 1901, at Albion, Indiana. Jessie M., the second child of Mr. Owen, was born April 19, 1880, and is the wife of James W. Isley, manager of Isley lumber business at Dodge City, Kansas. Mr. and Mrs. Isley have one daughter and two sons, Philip Henry, Mary B., and Gene Walter. Vera T. Owen, third child of Mr. Owen, is a graduate trained nurse of Sioux City, Iowa, was assistant matron in a hospital at Seattle, Washington, until her health failed, and is now a bookkeeper with the Isley Company at Dodge City, Kansas.

May 24, 1903, Mr. Owen married Mrs. Roma J. Coates at Rome City. By her first marriage to Lintsford B. Coates, of Frederick, South Dakota, November 30, 1886, she has two sons, Glenn N., born in South Dakota, September 20, 1887, now train dispatcher at Fort Wayne for the Grand Rapids and Indiana and Boyd C. Coates, born August 31, 1899, at Frederick, South Dakota. Their father, Lintsford B. Coates, is buried at Otsego, Michigan. Glenn Coates was married April 6, 1910, to Bertha Gilbert and they have three daughters, Roma, born February 16, 1912, Helen M., born October 15, 1914, and Mildred Janet, born April 20, 1917. Boyd Coates married at Rome City May 19, 1909, Dell Sunday, and is now one of the firm of Burke, Coates & Burke, of Kalamazoo, Michigan.

The only son and child born to Mr. and Mrs. Owen was Meredith F., who died October 3, 1905.

Mrs. Owen is the oldest daughter of Hon. Samuel and Sarah (Coates) Johnston. Her father, a veteran of the Civil war, was born in Scotland, was a former representative on the South Dakota Legislature. Her mother was of a Kentucky family. Her father died at Houghton, South Dakota, August 12, 1908, and her mother at the same place October 20, 1901.

Mr. and Mrs. Owen are members of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He is a past master of Rome City Lodge No. 451 of Masons, of Kendallville Chapter No. 64, Royal Arch Masons, and he and his wife are active in the Eastern Star, and Mrs. Owen is a member of the Pythian Sisters.

Through her ancestor Asa Branch of Revolutionary fame, of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, she has established a valid claim to the society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, and is a member of Mary Penrose Wayne Chapter, Fort Wayne, Indiana. Her national number is 148,086.

Mr. Owen is also working on his side of the house which will result in his daughters receiving these high honors as well, through Lieutenant Epenetus Owen, his Revolutionary ancestor.

As Mr. Owen looks back upon his own history and that of his family he is reminded that the "great whirligig of human events brings about a wonderful variety of combinations and conditions in the affairs of families and men." Thus while he is descended from a family that has had a recorded history for centuries, there is now not a single male descendant of the name of Owen in his particular branch of the family.



FRANK P. SANDERS, in association with his father and other members of the family has played a varied, a long and prominent part in the business affairs of Wolcottville. He is president of the State Bank of Wolcottville, having been one of its organizers, and was elected president by the first board of directors.

The Sanders family was well known in DeKalb County before they moved to LaGrange County. Frank P. Sanders was born at Auburn, in DeKalb County, September 5, 1854, son of Samuel P. and Susan (Parnell) Sanders. His parents were both natives of England. His mother came to the United States with her parents, who settled in DeKalb County, where she grew up. Samuel P. Sanders came to the United States when a boy of thirteen, also lived in DeKalb County, was educated in private schools, and after his marriage settled on a farm near Corunna. A few years later he left the farm and engaged in the general merchandise business at Auburn, and the greater part of his life was spent in merchandising. From Auburn he moved to Wolcottville in 1870, and was the leading hardware merchant of that village until his death in 1885. He and his wife were very active members of the Baptist Church, and he was a republican voter without aspirations to hold office. Samuel Sanders and wife had twelve children, only three of whom are still living: George W., a business man of Wolcottville; Mary, wife of George Temple of Stroh, Indiana; and Frank P.

Frank P. Sanders was reared in Auburn, attended common schools there and at Wolcottville, and as a boy became associated with his father in business. He was made a partner under the name S. P. Sanders & Son, and after his father's death in 1885 he took over the personal management of the business. About that time he became associated with his father-in-law, Hon. John J. Gillette, though the business was still continued under the Sanders name.

The hardware implement and automobile business is still carried on under the firm name of F. P. Sanders & Sons, Harry and Russell being the active members.

Mr. Sanders married for his first wife Ida Bender of Akron, Ohio. She died in 1880, the mother of one son, Harry A. In 1884 Mr. Sanders married Grace L. Gillette. They have a son, Russell G., a graduate of Wabash College. Mr. Sanders also has two grandchildren. His wife is a member of the Baptist Church and he is affiliated with the Blue Lodge, Chapter, Council and Commandery of Masonry, and is Past Master of Ionic Lodge No. 380, Free and Accepted Masons. Politically he acts as a republican.

EUGENE O. FISHER. It would be appropriate to refer to Eugene O. Fisher as a champion farmer of LaGrange County. His products have served to make LaGrange County known all over the country and even abroad. His field crops have been exhibited in county fairs, in exhibitions at large cities and in some of the world's fairs, and scores of premiums and other awards have spoken convincingly of the quality of LaGrange County agricultural production and of his individual ability and success in co-operating with nature's forces.

Mr. Fisher, whose farming interests are in Clay Township, was born in Eden Township of LaGrange County, June 27, 1860, a son of William T. and Catherine (Nelson) Fisher. His father was born in Brown County, Ohio, in 1834. His mother was born in Eden Township of LaGrange County in 1839, daughter of Anthony Nelson, one of the first settlers in this part of Northeast Indiana. Anthony

Nelson, when all this country was an unkempt landscape of forest and prairie, blazed a trail from Elkhart Prairie to Emma Lake, which he named North Lake. Anthony Nelson married Sophia Summey, who came to LaGrange County in 1828. Anthony Nelson and wife lived for many years on the line between Eden and Clear Spring townships in LaGrange County, and both of them died in that locality.

William T. Fisher came to LaGrange County as a child with his father, Thomas Fisher, who located in Eden Township. The wife of Thomas Fisher died there in 1844 and he afterwards went to Arkansas and spent his last years. The children of Thomas and his first wife were: William, James, Van, John, Moses and Isaac. By a second marriage he had children named Joseph, George, Frances, Kansas, Evaline and Adaline. William T. Fisher grew up in Eden Township and had a public school education and spent his active life as a farmer. He owned the farm north of Walnut Corners in Clear Spring Township, but for about three years lived retired in LaGrange, where he died in August, 1910. His widow is still living at LaGrange at the age of eighty. William T. Fisher was very active in republican politics and he and his wife members of the United Brethren Church. Their children were three in number: Eugene, Bertha, deceased, and Orpha, wife of Allen Lepiard, a son of the LaGrange County pioneer, Robert Lepiard.

Eugene O. Fisher grew up on his father's farm in Clear Spring Township, and was educated in the schools of Sycamore and Walnut Corners. One of his teachers was Ira Ford. He also attended the LaGrange High School. For over thirty years he has been successfully identified with farming, and the scene of his operations is in Clay Township. For five different years Mr. Fisher's agricultural display was awarded premiums at the Indiana State Fair. He sent an exhibit of wheat, oats, timothy seed and tobacco, and maple syrup to the San Francisco Exposition in 1914. Altogether he had nineteen entries in that great fair, and was awarded twenty-one prizes. An exhibit of grains made by him at the International Stock Show in Chicago was awarded a premium for the best display. Many prizes have come to him on his farm products in LaGrange County fairs and corn school shows.

Mr. Fisher is a republican in politics but has been too busy with his farming to take an interest in politics as an office seeker. On March 4, 1885, he married Miss Clara Ford. She was born in Bloomfield Township of LaGrange County, a daughter of John R. and Louise (Price) Ford. Her parents settled in Clay Township in 1856 and later moved across the road to Bloomfield Township, where her father lived until his death on July 16, 1893, and her mother passed away March 28, 1907. Mr. and Mrs. Fisher are the parents of four children and have a number of grandchildren. Their children in order of birth are: Percy, Lyle, Dale and Roy Fern. Percy is the wife of Chauncey Hughes of Chicago and has two children, Evelyn and Catherine. Lyle, who lives at Eagle Grove, Iowa, married Gertrude Larson and their family consists of Jeanette, Dorothy and Robert. Dale is a resident of Steele, North Dakota, unmarried, and was drafted and served as a soldier in Camp Custer five months. The military hero of the family is the youngest son Roy Fern. In December, 1917, he enlisted at South Bend as a private, and received his training in this country at Camp Benjamin Harrison, Jefferson Barracks, Camp Custer and at Fort Worth, Texas. From Long Island he was

sent overseas to France in June, 1918, and remained abroad until his return to this country on June 27, 1919. He was a private in the 141st Infantry, with the famous Thirty-Sixth Division. The record of that division is one of the most brilliant of all the units composing the American Expeditionary Forces. He was ready for practically every duty call with the 141st Infantry, was in several phases of the battle of the Meuse, was at Belleau Wood, Chateau Thierry and the Argonne Forest. He was over the top three times in one day, and several prisoners were captured by him, and he was an expert at picking off snipers. Though never wounded he was gassed.

FRANK G. GILBERT, banker and one of the most widely known citizens of Pleasant Lake, was born in that town March 15, 1871, son of David S. and Millie (Grant) Gilbert.

His father was born in Lorain County, Ohio, in 1827, and his mother was a native of Urbana, Ohio. David S. Gilbert came to Steuben County with his parents and in 1849 at the age of twenty-two went overland to California. On returning to Steuben County he settled on Pleasant Lake, having a farm adjoining that body of water. He had much to do with the development of the town, laying out two additions, while his son Frank has also made another addition to the town. David S. Gilbert served as township trustee several times, also held the office of Justice of the Peace, and was an active republican, a member of the Masonic order and a Baptist. He died in 1891 and his widow in 1913. Their two children were Frank G. and Grace, the latter the wife of Clyde Jackson.

Frank G. Gilbert attended public schools in Pleasant Lake, also the Tri-State College, and mixed in with his commercial pursuits has had considerable experience in farming. At Angola he spent one year as bookkeeper with the Steuben County Bank now the Steuben County State Bank. He was in the railway mail service four years, also did clerical work for the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern at Pleasant Lake and for eight years was assistant cashier of the First National Bank of Angola. In 1914 he became one of the organizers of the First State Bank of Pleasant Lake and since that day has held the office of cashier. He also owns a farm in Steuben Township.

Mr. Gilbert is a republican, a member of the Royal Arch Chapter of Masons at Angola, and is active in the Baptist Church, being superintendent of the Sunday School at Pleasant Lake.

In 1899 he married Miss Iva Diller, daughter of John and Lucy Diller of Steuben County. They have one daughter Ruth, born in September, 1900, graduated from the Pleasant Lake High School in 1918, and is now a student in the Tri-State College.

WILLIAM H. SHORT, M. D. in addition to his professional prominence is president of the LaGrange State Bank. He was born in Eden Township of LaGrange County.

His father Thomas Short was born in Pennsylvania, April 8, 1820, son of James and Frances (Gilbert) Short, natives of Ireland. The family moved to Ohio when Thomas Short was a boy and the father died there. In 1841 Thomas Short came on foot to Indiana and bought eighty acres of wild land in Eden Township. He made a permanent settlement there the same year and on January 13, 1842, married Margaret Larimer. She died September 28, 1877, the mother of eleven children. In 1880 Thomas Short married Mrs. Mary Murray. He was a democrat in politics, and a member of the Presbyterian Church.

Doctor Short grew up on his father's farm, attended the Collegiate Institute at Ontario two years, spent one year in college at Adrian, Michigan, and read medicine with Doctor Larimer, his uncle. He attended his first course of lectures at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in the winter of 1866-67, and finished his course in 1869. For half a century he has been a member of his profession in LaGrange and for a number of years practiced with his brother Dr. John L. Short.

Doctor Short was one of the organizers of the LaGrange State Bank in 1903, and has been president of the institution from the beginning.

WILLIAM WATTERS, who made an honorable record as a soldier in the Union army during the Civil war, has been a resident of LaGrange County for over half a century, and is one of the prominent farmers and a former county treasurer. His home is in Clear Spring Township.

He was born in Mifflin County, Pennsylvania, November 20, 1839, and paid his first visit to Indiana in 1859. He returned to Pennsylvania, and from that state enlisted for service in the Union army. He was all through the war and yet never had a sick day all the time. During 1866 he was engaged in railroading, and then came to LaGrange County. On February 18, 1886, he married Miss Catherine Yoder. They settled in Clear Spring Township, and since 1881 Mr. Watters has lived on his present farm, comprising 223 acres. Beginning with small means, successive years brought him abundant prosperity and also a high place of achievement in his community. He was elected and served five years as assessor of Clear Spring Township, and as county treasurer he served from 1902 to December 31, 1906. While county treasurer he lived at the county seat, but with that exception has lived on his farm. He is a stockholder in the Farmers State Bank at Topeka.

Mr. and Mrs. Watters have four living children: Samuel, trustee of Clear Spring Township; Myron F., a graduate of the common schools and a farmer; Albert, now a farmer, is a graduate of high school and the Tri-State College at Angola; and Nora, unmarried. Mr. Watters is a charter member of the Lodge of Odd Fellows at Topeka, a member of the Grand Army Post, and a republican.

JOHN R. DOLL has spent his career chiefly as an agriculturist, has had experience as a farmer in Ohio, Michigan and Indiana, and for a number of years has had a pleasant home and fine farm of 128 acres in Spencer Township of DeKalb County.

Mr. Doll was born at East Greenville in Stark County, Ohio, June 18, 1864, a son of Ignatius and Catherine (Rudy) Doll. His father was born in Stark County and his mother in Pennsylvania. The grandfather, Joseph Doll, was for many years a justice of the peace in Stark County. Joseph Doll married Polly Kitt, who has the distinction of being the first white child born in Stark County, Ohio. Her father, Jacob Kitt, settled in that part of Eastern Ohio in 1805. Mr. Doll's mother, Catherine Rudy, was reared from early girlhood in Stark County, and after she and her husband married they settled on a farm and in 1867 moved to Canton, the county seat, where she is still living. Ignatius Doll died at Canton. Both parents were active members of the Lutheran Church, and Ignatius was a republican. There were five children, four still living: George W., of Massillon, Ohio; Charles W., of Gibson, Colorado; John R.; and Jennie M., wife of Charles Hammer, of Canton, Ohio.

John R. Doll from the age of three years lived at Canton, Ohio, until 1882, and acquired his education





WILLIAM WATTERS





in the public schools there. On leaving Ohio he followed farming in Kent County, Michigan, until 1894, and in that year located at Spencerville, Indiana.

December 24, 1895, Mr. Doll married Vienna Shilling, daughter of Solomon and Esther (Bliler) Shilling. This is one of the old and prominent names of DeKalb County. Mrs. Doll was born on the old Shilling homestead in Spencer Township and educated in the common schools. Mr. and Mrs. Doll have three children: Esther K., George R. and Alice J. These children have received good school advantages, Alice being still a student in high school. The family are members of the Lutheran Church and Mr. Doll has been a liberal supporter of the church and its allied causes. He is a democrat in politics and is a stockholder in the Farmers and Merchants Bank at Spencerville.

CHARLES F. HOLSINGER of Wolcottville has been one of the busiest farmers in that section of Northeast Indiana for many years, and yet has found time to cultivate and exercise many interests outside of his money earning business. He has given due time to the best interests of his community, is active socially, is proud of his home and family and thoroughly believes that he lives in the garden spot of America. He is a great lover of the lakes of Northern Indiana, and has a summer cottage at Rome City, convenient to the sporting haunts of the region. Mr. Holsinger is widely known as a trap shooter and fisherman.

He was born in Noble County, February 17, 1853, son of John and Mary A. (Stroman) Holsinger. His father was born in Stark County, Ohio, January 9, 1817, and died July 21, 1885, after a very successful career in Northeast Indiana, though he came here a poor man. Charles F. Holsinger received his education in the common schools, attended the Wolcottville High School, and lived at home to the age of twenty-one. During the years 1871-72-73 he taught school in Noble County. He then rented his father's farm in Orange Township for two years, having his brother as a partner. In 1876 he bought a farm in Johnson Township of LaGrange County and lived on it until 1883. In that year he returned to the old homestead and in 1885 upon his father's death acquired 230 acres of the old farm. For over thirty years that was the scene of his activities as a farmer he made the place pay by his progressive management. Mr. Holsinger for many years was a breeder of Holstein cattle and his stock won many premiums at the fairs of Northern Indiana and Ohio. On December 12, 1918, he moved to his town home in Wolcottville and has sold his farm to his sons.

November 20, 1873, Mr. Holsinger married Elizabeth A. Garmire. To this union four children were born: Jesse G., Ray C., Grace Barbara, and Fred W. The mother of these children died May 29, 1889. September 28, 1890, Mr. Holsinger married Mary Lenora Myers, who was born September 1, 1865, a daughter of Benjamin F., and Savilla (Myers) Myers. Her father was born in Noble County, Indiana, September 19, 1843, and her mother in Ohio. Mrs. Holsinger was educated in the common schools and in the Methodist College at Fort Wayne, Indiana. She is the mother of three children, Rhua May, Niel F., and Waldo F., the last named being deceased.

Mrs. Holsinger is an active member of the Evangelical Church and its Sunday School. Mr. Holsinger is a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows and he and his wife are members of the Rebekahs. He is also affiliated with Rome City Lodge of the Knights of Pythias and his wife is active in the Pythian Sisters, of which she is past

chief and member of the Grand Lodge. In politics Mr. Holsinger has been a stalwart republican and has served as delegate to both the county and state convention and as a member of the County Central Committee.

JESSE G. HOLSINGER, son of Charles F. Holsinger and Elizabeth A. Garmire, was born November 8, 1876. He attended the public schools of Orange Township, completed the course in the Southwestern School of Telegraphy at St. Louis, Missouri, and was afterward employed as train dispatcher for the Wabash Railroad at Montpelier, Ohio, for twelve years. He married Orra M. Marshall, of Rome City, Indiana, November 25, 1897. Orra M. Marshall was born September 6, 1877. One son was born of this union in August, 1898, but died in infancy. A daughter, Elizabeth J., was born March 23, 1902.

Ray C. Holsinger was born July 28, 1881. He was educated in the Orange Township public schools, completed the commercial course at Angola, Indiana, and attended college at Marion, Indiana. He has been employed on the Wabash Railway since March, 1902, as agent at various stations, last five years having been located at Aetna, Indiana, where munitions for the allied countries were manufactured. He married Elsie Henning, of Hudson, Indiana, on November 9, 1903. To this union one daughter was born, Frances Lenore, on April 29, 1908. She died in infancy. There are also two sons, Richard, born March 20, 1912, and Carl, November 12, 1913. Elsie Henning Holsinger was born at Hudson, Indiana, January 5, 1882, and educated in public schools in Hudson, Indiana, and also attended college at Angola, Indiana. She is a member of the United Brethren Church and has also been taking an active part in Red Cross work and various charitable institutions while at Aetna, Indiana.

Grace Barbara Holsinger, third child of Charles F. Holsinger, was born at Rome City, Indiana, November 4, 1884. After graduating from the Rome City High School she took a special course in the Toledo (Ohio) Manual Training High School, and later graduated from the Thomas Normal Training School of Detroit, Michigan, and then took additional work in domestic science and home economics in the University of Chicago. She taught at the Clarkston (Mississippi) Academy and at the Asheville (North Carolina) Normal and Collegiate School for Girls. On November 9, 1909, she married Harry G. Hedden, then of Chicago, Illinois, son of the late Stephen Douglas Hedden, of Kendallville and Fort Wayne, Indiana. The husband was born in Delaware County, Ohio, November 23, 1882. Left motherless in infancy, he lived with the late Mr. and Mrs. John Finch until about twelve years old. Then he went to live with his father, who had married again and located in Kendallville, Indiana. He attended the Kendallville High School and also the Drake University Academy and College of Liberal Arts, Des Moines, Iowa. He is now an advertising writer (with Conner Advertising Agency) in Denver, Colorado. Virginia Lenore Hedden, first child of this couple, was born in Denver, Colorado, August 8, 1913. She died in infancy. Barbara Eudora Hedden was born February 15, 1917, also in Denver, Colorado. Robert Ray Hedden was born at Denver, Colorado, July 19, 1919.

Fred W. Holsinger, son of Charles F. Holsinger, was born at Rome City, Indiana, May 28, 1889. He attended the Orange Township public schools. After completing the high school course at Rome City he attended college at the Ohio Northern University at Ada, Ohio. He has been employed for the last nine

years in the railway mail service on the New York Central Lines. He married on February 19, 1911, Eva Grace Ressler. She was born at Brimfield, Indiana, July 18, 1885, and educated in Orange Township public schools and attended college at the Valparaiso University at Valparaiso, Indiana. She taught school in the Rome City public school for eight years. To this couple one son was born, Max Frederic Holsinger, born March 21, 1915. They reside at Kendallville, Indiana.

Rhua May Holsinger was born November 1, 1892. She was educated in the Orange Township public schools and graduated from the Rome City, Indiana, High School. On September 25, 1913, she married Ernest Dale Osborn, of Brimfield, Indiana. They were married by Rev. John W. Miller at Albion, Indiana. Ernest Dale Osborn was born at Wawaka, Indiana, May 16, 1892, graduated from the Rome City High School and is now employed at Detroit, Michigan, in the manufacture of automobiles. To this couple one son and one daughter were born. Ernest Holsinger Osborn was born April 21, 1914. Their daughter, Roberta Lenore Osborn, was born March 10, 1916.

Neil F. Holsinger was born at Rome City, Indiana, May 27, 1894. He was educated in the Orange Township public schools and graduated from the Rome City Commissioned High School. He was married to Georgia E. Brown, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, January 13, 1916, by Rev. J. H. Reese. Georgia E. Brown was born at Payne, Ohio, January 10, 1898. She was also educated in the public schools. To this union one daughter and one son were born. Mary Frances Holsinger, their daughter, was born December 23, 1917, and Donald Harry Holsinger, their son, was born June 23, 1919. They reside at Rome City, Indiana, but for the last five years have been actively engaged in farming.

**SCHUYLER COLFAX SPERO.** Loyalty to home land is taken pretty much for granted, and a more discriminating test as to the claims a certain district has upon the affections of men is a continued interest on their part after they have cast their lot with other communities. A former resident of LaGrange County whose experience has made him almost a cosmopolitan, and who retains a sincere and loving interest in Northeast Indiana is Schuyler Colfax Spero, for many years an active newspaper man and for a quarter of a century a resident of the Pacific Coast.

Mr. Spero was born in Springfield Township, LaGrange County, September 28, 1870, son of John and Louisa J. (Curtis) Spero, the former a native of Lancaster County, Pennsylvania, and the latter of Monroe County, New York. Both families are widely known in Northeast Indiana. In the paternal line Mr. Spero represents old Pennsylvania stock, possibly of Holland origin, while through his mother he is of New England ancestry. The first schools he attended were the White Eagle and Applemanburg district schools. Later he was a student in the grammar and high schools of Kendallville, and also for two terms benefited by attendance at the Teachers' Normal and by a course in a business college. He was a teacher in both LaGrange and Noble counties. For several years he was a clerk with the Lake Shore & Michigan Southern Railway Company at Kendallville and at Byron, Ohio. He then took up agency work, and traveled through several portions of Indiana, Ohio and Michigan. Through the influence of a friend he accepted an offer to take up newspaper work in San Jose, California, and thus in the fall of 1893 severed his associations with Northeast Indiana. In 1897 he joined the forces of

the Morning Call at San Francisco and was with that paper for thirteen years. Beginning with 1911 he spent more than two years with the Los Angeles Times, then for five years was on the Oakland Tribune, and at present is connected with the San Francisco Daily Bulletin. His duties as a newspaper man have given him a broad knowledge of personal contact with California, New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada, Oregon and Washington. He made an excursion to the Grand Canyon of the Colorado in Arizona and an article concerning same appeared in the Santa Fe Railway Employees' Magazine. He is gifted with a ready pen, and frequently has pleased his old friends back home by the contribution of a poem or article for Indiana papers. His memory of and interest in the good old country of Northeast Indiana improves with age. He is an untiring worker in whatever he does, and his boyhood industry enabled him to acquire a good education and has stood by him in all the successive tests of his progress.

Mr. Spero is a republican without radical partisanship, and is more particularly interested in all the sound principles of Americanism. He joined the Independent Order of Odd Fellows in 1891, is still in good standing in that order, and before leaving Kendallville reached the position of high priest of the Encampment. In religion his essential faith is comprehended in the Golden Rule and the gospel of Good Cheer.

At Salinas, California, September 16, 1896, Mr. Spero married Anna F. Kalfus, daughter of Dr. Henry and Elizabeth (Birkhead) Kalfus of Louisville, Kentucky. Her ancestry includes some of the old time and prominent families of Virginia. Her parental grandfather was Henry F. Kalfus, Sr., who married Matilda Harrison, sister of Dr. Burr Harrison and daughter of Cuthbert Harrison of Bardstown. The Harrisons and Henry Kalfus, Sr., served many terms in the Kentucky Legislature. Mrs. Spero's mother was an only daughter of Dr. Joseph F. Birkhead. Mrs. Spero graduated from some of the best schools of her native state and soon after her father's death she, her mother and brother, went to California. She was one of the first suffragists south of the Mason and Dixon line. She was a member of the faculty of the Louisville Girls' High School and one of the organizers of its Alumnae Association, also one of the founders of the Castalian Literary Club of Frankfort, which still exists under another name. She has done much club work as member and president and was a delegate to the Biennial Federation of Clubs at a Denver meeting. She published and edited Report, a society and literary journal in San Jose, California, for five years. She has always been a student. She graduated from the University of California in 1912 with her two children, majoring in law. The children were both admitted to the bar, but the son died soon afterward. The daughter, Italia de Jarnette, is the wife of Dr. W. W. Hollingsworth, professor of political science in Washington University, at St. Louis. Mrs. Spero devotes much time to study and writing and has published stories and poems.

HON. EDWARD R. MAY graduated at Yale College in 1838, and although one of the youngest of his class, he had acquired a reputation which gave promise of future distinction. After leaving college, he was for two years engaged in teaching school in the East. Having at the same time, entered upon the study of law, he was in due time admitted to the New London County bar, in Connecticut. Influenced by the hope of benefit to his health, he removed to Angola, Steuben County, Indiana, and was admitted to the bar in 1843. By



skill in his profession, and by heartily identifying himself with the public interests, sustaining and promoting the cause of education, of temperance, and the institutions of religion, he rapidly acquired position and influence. He was a member of our State Legislature. He was also a member of the State Constitutional Convention. He went from Angola to California in the year 1852, and returned the same year, when his forecasting mind fixed upon St. Paul, Minnesota, as a point of commanding importance in the future Northwest. He had hardly located there when, August 2, 1852, after only a few hours illness he died of cholera.

LITTLETON M. SNIFF, college president. Born in Hocking County, Ohio, November 30, 1849. Son of Isaiah and Elizabeth Moore. A. B. Ohio Northern University, Ada, Ohio. A. M. 1881. Married to Elvira M. Vandervort of Waldron, Michigan, August 25, 1872.

President Tri-State College, Angola, Indiana, 1885, until present time. Prohibitionist in politics. Member, Christian (Disciples) Church. Odd Fellow. Home, Angola, Indiana. (Copied from "Who's Who," 1918-1919.)

WILL H. McEWEN, editor and proprietor of the Albion Democrat, is a native of Noble County, Indiana, born on a farm in the Township of Jefferson, December 26, 1865. His parents, Hannibal F. and Minerva (Bowman) McEwen, were brought to Noble County in their childhood, the former dying when Will H. was a lad ten years of age. Deprived of a father's counsel and care, young McEwen was reared by his mother, who instilled into his youthful mind many valuable lessons, which have had a decided influence in moulding and directing the subsequent course of his life. After completing the common school course, he entered the Northern Indiana Normal School at Valparaiso, from the penmanship department of which he was graduated in 1884, and the following winter was employed as instructor in all kinds of writing and fine pen work. Animated by a desire to increase his scholastic knowledge with the object in view of preparing himself for the teacher's profession, he spent the next year in the above mentioned institution, and the following autumn began his pedagogical labors in Noble County. Mr. McEwen alternated teaching with attending the Valparaiso School and the State Normal School at Terre Haute, and while a student made rapid and substantial progress, becoming one of the most thorough and competent teachers in the County of Noble. Not caring to devote his life to educational work, he discontinued teaching in 1888 and turned his attention to merchandising, purchasing a stock of groceries in Albion and continuing in that line of trade for a limited period only. Disposing of his business, he next opened an insurance office at the county seat, and to this he devoted his time and attention until 1894, when he was appointed postmaster at Albion by President Cleveland.

Mr. McEwen entered upon the discharge of his duties in the spring of that year and served until May 1, 1898, proving a most faithful, efficient and popular

official. In January, 1897, he entered into partnership with Henry C. Pressler, and purchased of O. H. Downey the Noble County Democrat, of which he assumed editorial management, his associate looking after the business interests of the plant. Under the joint control of Pressler and McEwen, the Democrat continued to make periodical visits until May 1, 1898, at which time the latter purchased his partner's interest and became sole proprietor. He soon changed the name to the Albion Democrat, and supplying the office with new material, greatly improved the paper in its mechanical make-up and the quality of its literary matter, making it not only the recognized official organ of the local democracy, but also one of the brightest and most newsy sheets published in the northern part of the state. Since taking charge of the Democrat, Mr. McEwen has demonstrated decided ability as a newspaper man, both as a clear, keen, incisive writer and business manager. The circulation has continually increased, liberal advertising patronage has been secured, and with many new and approved appliances, the paper visits its numerous patrons, a model of typographic art and an exponent of orthodox democracy of the Jefferson school. Editorially it lost nothing when compared with the majority of local papers published in the state, and in the hands of the present proprietor it certainly will continue what it has been in the past—a clean, dignified model family newspaper, filled with the latest general news and all the interesting local happenings of Noble County.

Mr. McEwen has a laudable ambition to make the Democrat worthy of popular favor, and to this end he spares no reasonable efforts to procure for its columns the best reading matter obtainable. While democratic in its political aspect, it is also designed to vibrate with the public pulse and to be a reflex of the current thought of the age. With a large and increasing circulation and a lucrative advertising patronage, the Democrat, under the editorship of Mr. McEwen, is destined to play an important part in the political affairs of Noble County.

Mr. McEwen was married December 25, 1889, to Florence B. Franks, for some years one of Noble County's most popular and efficient teachers, and daughter of Abram and Maria Franks, the marriage ceremony taking place at her parents' home in Elkhart Township.

For two years Mr. McEwen served as town clerk of Albion, and discharged the duties of the position in an able and praiseworthy manner. He is a member of the Knights of Pythias Lodge in Albion, and of the United Brethren Church. With the exception of a few months in Chicago, he has spent his life within the geographic limits of Noble County, and for the past thirty-two years has been an honored citizen of Albion. To the best of his ability he has aided the progress and advancement of the city, faithfully performing his duties of citizenship, and discharging with commendable fidelity every trust reposed in him by his fellowmen. His position in the esteem and friendship of the community has been long assured, and he does honor to the county, which is proud to claim him as a native son, and in which his life work thus far has been accomplished.





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